

NUI MAYNOOTH PRESIDENT'S REPORT



THE SUNDAY TIMES 'UNIVERSITY OF THE YEAR 2008'
AWARD REFLECTS THE PRIORITY WE PLACE ON ENSURING
THE BEST POSSIBLE STUDENT EXPERIENCE AT NUI
MAYNOOTH – THE EXCELLENT ACADEMIC EXPERTISE,
INNOVATIVE AND DIVERSE DEGREE PROGRAMMES,
AND A DYNAMIC SOCIAL AND SPORTING SCENE.

NUI MAYNOOTH PRESIDENT'S REPORT 08/09



NUI MAYNOOTH
Ollscoil na hÉireann Má Nuad





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PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD



AS IRELAND'S SMALLEST YET FASTEST GROWING UNIVERSITY, WE ARE EDUCATING 7,000 STUDENTS, INCLUDING 1,000 AT POSTDOCTORAL LEVEL, ACROSS 300 WIDE-RANGING COURSES.

Memorable Milestones

The 2008-2009 academic year could not have begun any better as NUI Maynooth was awarded the Sunday Times 'University of the Year 2008' title from among 22 third level universities and institutes in Ireland. According to a detailed analysis across 26 criteria, the accolade was bestowed due to the University having the highest level of research per academic, achievement of first place for graduate employment and an outstanding record in providing the best access programme for disadvantaged students in the country (20% of the full-time student population is registered with our Access Office).

This award reflects the priority we place on ensuring the best possible student experience at NUI Maynooth – the excellent academic expertise, innovative and diverse degree programmes, and a dynamic social and sporting scene. An ability to adapt to current circumstances has also contributed to our success; we liaise closely with schools to gauge what students are interested in and what jobs are needed for the economy. For example, since September 2009 we are implementing new programmes focusing on continued employment and giving people who have lost jobs, or those still working, an opportunity to upskill or change career direction. In a year when a record intake of students was registered, with an 18% increase in the numbers nominating NUI Maynooth as their first choice for third level, we also progressed three places in the Sunday Times' league table to a position in the four top universities nationwide. As Ireland's smallest yet fastest growing University, we are educating 7,000 students, including 1,000 at postdoctoral level, across 300 wide-ranging courses.

Many other milestones were reached during the past year. Along with the largest ever increase in CAO first preferences, we enrolled a record 270 mature students. We celebrated a decade of the MBNA sport scholarships and of the Maynooth Access Programme (MAP), 15 years of the popular Clubs and Societies Awards and 25 years of service by over a dozen dedicated staff members. Our academics succeeded like never before, winning sought-after awards, fellowships and appointments to key positions in important national, European and international initiatives. The electronic efforts of the Access Team were rewarded through the selection of Best Third Level Website for MAP. The workshop on diaspora strategies was the first of its kind in Ireland, while muscular dystrophy research has given the first glimmer of hope for a therapy for this disease.

18%

Increase in the numbers nominating NUI Maynooth as their first choice for third level.



CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT PLAN

HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING

Completion 2010

350 students, 200 staff and researchers

NIRSA, NCG and An Foras Feasa

350-seat lecture theatre

NEW LIBRARY

Completion 2011

Double existing capacity

Latest IT infrastructure

NEW STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

Completion 2011

400 additional beds

Leisure facilities

A Campus for the Future

The 10-year €200 million Campus Development Plan has gathered pace with announcements made on three fronts in particular. Introducing plans for the new library, Minister for Education and Science, Batt O'Keeffe spoke about the extension to the present facility necessitated by the steady growth in student numbers. Upon completion in 2011, the new building will more than double the current capacity to accommodate 1,200 readers at any one time and will be equipped with the latest IT infrastructure. This state-of-the-art library will create a strong link between the North and South campuses and act as the 'social spine' of the University.

In another commitment to create an ideal environment for modern research, teaching and learning, the groundbreaking ceremony officiated by the Minister in April 2009 marked the start of construction of the new €15 million interdisciplinary research centre on the North Campus. The humanities and social sciences building, to be completed by mid-2010, will house 200 staff and researchers, and the renowned institutes of NIRSA, NCG and An Foras Feasa within its 4,500 sq.m. confines. The facility will be furnished with a 350-seat lecture theatre and spacious student social area. In response to increasing demand from domestic and international applicants, accommodation is also being extended with the design team for phase three of the new student premises appointed this year. The apartments, due to be ready in early 2011, will add 400 units to the existing stock of 900 and will include leisure facilities.

Strategic Development

The past year has seen a further focus on our strategic development. Internally, we have gone through a rigorous review process to produce an updated Strategic Plan. In taking account of existing legislation and Government guidelines as well as good governance practice, we are prioritising actions including implementing an annual business plan with key performance indicators and evaluating institutional and individual performance. On the structural side, we carried out some reorganisation of University units. The new Office of Vice-President of Research contains three separate but related functions, namely Research Support, Commercialisation and Graduate Studies. In brief, the respective roles are to: provide guidance on grant applications and proposal preparation; promote all commercialisation of research; and progress fourth level programmes with an increasing emphasis on structured PhD programmes. The Quality Promotion Office now incorporates a Centre for Teaching and Learning, tasked with enhancing specific initiatives and managing strategic projects funded under the National Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF2).

In a bid to place higher education at the core of strategies to establish Dublin as a Learning City-Region that will advance the Government's programme for building Ireland's smart economy, a new Dublin Region Higher Education Alliance has been established. Comprising eight Dublin-area institutions, the management committee of the Alliance is being chaired by our Deputy President, Professor Jim Walsh as of June 2009.

↑
[Professor John Hughes, President NUI Maynooth and Minister Batt O'Keeffe at the groundbreaking ceremony of the new Humanities & Social Sciences building.](#)

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[Research Magazine Issue 1.](#)



Research Strides

Externally funded research expenditure rose to €22 million in 2007–08 and new awards worth over €34 million were received – a record figure for the second year running. Four SFI Investigator and 21 SFI Research Frontiers awards secured by our academics represented 10% of the total funding for 2008–09. And in winning 10% of the IRCSET Postgraduate Scholarship Scheme funding, worth €12 million, 15 of our top students demonstrated how we continue to punch above our weight. The prospective postgraduates are commencing their research in October 2009 in disciplines such as biology, chemistry and mathematics.

The new year heralded the first edition of Research magazine; a biannual publication showcasing the most innovative and groundbreaking research projects and advances taking place on campus. The inaugural issue delves into topics such as using sensors to create intelligent road systems and using mathematics to optimise medication. The magazine reflects our contribution towards fostering a knowledge economy and our commitment to communicating the real world applications of academic research to a variety of audiences. In a move to make available exceptional resources for computational researchers in the University and partner institutions, NUI Maynooth launched a High Performance Computing Facility in conjunction with the Irish Centre for High End Computing in May.

2009 also brought with it a newly created position of Dean of Graduate Studies, to which Dr Honor Fagan was appointed. The key priorities within her remit are to deliver on the national objective of doubling research doctorate graduates by 2013 and to provide these individuals with knowledge sets appropriate to a recovering economy. The ultimate target at NUI Maynooth is to grow the numbers from one fifth of the overall student population to a quarter. To this end, our research postgraduate degrees have been restructured to incorporate generic skills programmes and to improve their overall quality. All postgraduates are availing of core modules with generic, transferable skills to address the link between their research and the needs of society.



Industry & International Connections

We are acutely aware of the part which the third level sector must play in fostering a high tech, knowledge-based future for Ireland in order to remain globally competitive. As a result of our pursuit of industry relevant research and close cooperation with industry over the past year we have signed eight licence deals and 17 new research collaboration contracts, filed 15 patents, spun two companies out from the University and secured €2.2 million in commercialisation funds. And there are currently over 30 technologies in the pipeline with real commercial potential.

Victory in two of the three categories of the Enterprise Ireland ICT Awards was testimony to our concerted commercialisation endeavours. Both Professor John Ringwood and Dr Ronan Farrell, recipients of the Informatics and Industrial Technologies Awards respectively, have built strong alliances with industry and are recognised for their academic excellence and ability to solve real world problems. In a similar vein, the development of new revenue streams, jobs and Irish success stories through the twinning of industry with academia was the rationale behind the Commercialisation Office's inaugural NUIM Connect event. Over 250 business executives came to Carton House in early April to learn about accessing research support through NUI Maynooth and Enterprise Ireland. The IVI Consortium Competence Centre, which is developing and testing new ways to more firmly align IT investments with business results, received a boost from the Irish Government in June this year with an award of €1 million.

Building on relations with the Far East, Professor Lawrence Taylor, Dean of International Education, and the President participated in the Enterprise Ireland Trade Mission to China led by An Taoiseach Brian Cowen. During the visit, Minister Batt O'Keeffe performed the official launch of the NUI Maynooth-Peking University Sino-Irish Joint Research and Education Centre. The University was strongly represented at the week-long workshop for the Irish-African Partnership for Research Capacity Building held in Uganda. This three-year pilot programme, funded by Irish Aid and Universities Ireland, is a high-level partnership between Ireland's nine universities and four counterparts from Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda, aimed at adopting a coordinated approach to research capacity building for poverty reduction. Back on European soil, two agreements for academic exchange and cooperation were signed between NUI Maynooth and the University of Alcalá in Spain and the University of Catania on the coast of Sicily. It is hoped that the student and staff exchanges between these institutions and ourselves will promote research collaborations and possibly joint teaching programmes.

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[Professor John Ringwood following the presentation of Enterprise Ireland's Industrial Technologies Commercialisation Award 2008.](#)

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[Pictured at the Connect 2009 event in Carton House are \(l-r\): Dan Flinter, Chairman of the Governing Authority, NUI Maynooth; Professor John Hughes, President, NUI Maynooth; and Dr Chris Horn, Iona Technologies.](#)



New People and Programmes

Global Director of IT Innovation and Research at Intel and Co-Director of IVI, Dr Martin Curley has been appointed as Professor of Technology and Business Innovation. Dr Curley brings with him a wealth of knowledge and experience in the IT sector and his recruitment further strengthens the University's place at the forefront of university-industry collaboration in Europe. Joining the Economics, Finance and Accounting Department from the London School of Economics is Professor Gregory Connor, a formidable academic most notably in the area of risk management systems and portfolio risk management. In line with the unique courses designed to develop the competence of practitioners in mediation and conflict intervention, Bertie Ahern TD, former Taoiseach, has assumed a role of Honorary Adjunct Professor of Mediation and Conflict Intervention in the School of Business and Law.

Our influence on the European stage was enhanced through the selection of Damini Kumar, Programme Director of Product Design at the University, as Ireland's Ambassador for the 2009 European Year of Creativity and Innovation. An award winner and one of the 'Top 100 Women in the World', Ms Kumar joins a notable cast of individuals nominated by the European Commission to help foster these principles throughout society. She inspired the inaugural Irish initiative to mark the year – Imagine 2009 – a secondary school competition where students were challenged to design objects for a classroom of the future.

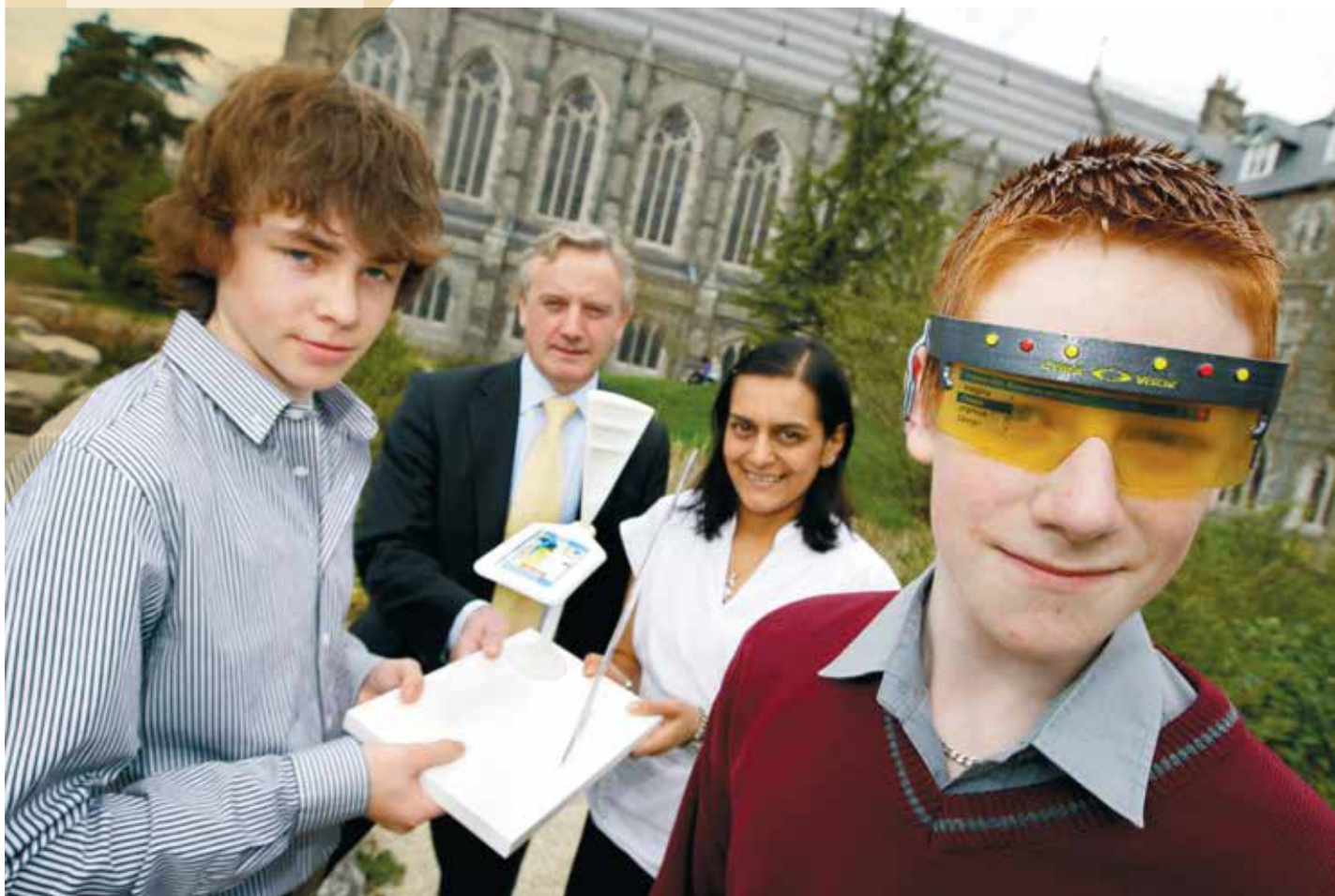
Three new Masters of Science degrees were introduced – in Climate Change, Geographical Information Systems, and Society and Space. Other timely and topical postgraduate offerings are the MSc in Economics and Financial Risk Analysis and the MA in Mediation and Conflict Resolution. The University has also commenced several courses aimed at preparing future leaders for the challenges they face in different sectors, namely through the Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Leadership for teachers and a postgraduate course in Strategic Leadership for senior Defence Force officers.

It has indeed been a momentous time for us all here at NUI Maynooth and I hope that you enjoy reading more about just why we were selected as Irish University of the Year.

Professor John G. Hughes
President

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YEAR
IN REVIEW



BRAINCHILD OF THE PRODUCT DESIGN EXPERTS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING, THE IMAGINATE 2009 COMPETITION CHALLENGED SECONDARY SCHOOL PUPILS ACROSS IRELAND TO UNLOCK THEIR CREATIVE GENIUS BY DESIGNING AN OBJECT FOR THE CLASSROOM OF THE FUTURE.

2.1 THE EVENTS

Welcome to NUI Maynooth

The annual **University Days** in April and June this year welcomed over 750 attendees who came to learn about the courses and subjects on offer at NUI Maynooth. These information days, organised by the Admissions Office, allowed individual Faculties and Departments to present their academic offerings through short sample lectures. The **Postgraduate Open Evening** held in May attracted 200 people interested in hearing about Higher Diploma, Masters or PhD options. Hosted by the Graduate Studies Office, the Departmental stands along with a series of talks informed guests about the application process and securing funding. Over 120 **guidance counsellors** came to the campus in September 2008 to update themselves on developments in courses, campus facilities, procedures for disability and sports.

Science Explorations

Brainchild of the Product Design experts at the Department of Electronic Engineering, the **Imagine 2009** competition challenged secondary school pupils across Ireland to unlock their creative genius by designing an object for the classroom of the future. 1,600 students registered for the competition with the winners, selected by judges and over 40,000 public votes, presented with a prototype of their designs (a Zen Workstation and Cyber Visor) among other prizes.

In the most comprehensive picture ever produced of how dinosaurs evolved, academics in the Evolutionary Biology Lab used the University's new High Performance Computing facilities to produce a **dinosaur supertree** showing the most likely pattern of evolution for 440 of the 600 known species. This international study, led by the University of Bristol, showcased NUI Maynooth's leading expertise in biological computation.

Professor Susan McKenna-Lawlor witnessed her Experimental Physics Group's contribution blast off into space from Dhawan Space Centre in India. On board the sophisticated spacecraft borne by a 216 tonne rocket was the **Near-Infrared Spectrometer SIR-2**, whose development and testing the group had worked on over several years with the Max Planck Institute for Solar System Science in Germany. The analysis of measurements carried out from SIR-2 is anticipated to yield important insights into the chemical and mineralogical makeup of the lunar surface. Due to its niche expertise, the Terahertz Optics Group has been heavily involved in the optical system design, verification and calibration of the **Heterodyne Instrument for the Far-Infrared (HIFI)** on board the space telescope Herschel and of the **High Frequency Instrument** on cosmic background mapper Planck. Launched by the European Space Agency on an Ariane 5 rocket, these instruments are being used on ambitious missions to unveil the secrets of the darkest, coldest and oldest parts of the Universe.

Held in Ireland for only the second time, the **35th Annual European Meeting on Atmospheric Studies by Optical Methods** assembled 64 scientists, engineers and graduate students from 11 countries. The Department of Experimental Physics invited renowned speakers to give presentations on new results from ground and space-based observations, theory, techniques and experiments.

Hosted by the Hamilton Institute, the **2nd International Workshop on Systems Biology** engaged a wide range of researchers and students from experimental, computational and theoretical backgrounds. Seen as a key element of life sciences, systems biology is set to play an increasingly important role in understanding living organisms.

Classed as a world leader in his work on the unique system of developing and growing key proteins in tobacco plants, which could lead to a vaccine for HIV/Aids, Professor Phil Dix from the Biology Department was featured on **The Investigators**. The RTÉ series looked at some of the most interesting projects being conducted by leading Irish scientists and assessed what the impact may be on our future lives.

← [Imagine 2009 winners Zachery Holmes \(Senior Cycle\) and Brian O'Neill \(Junior Cycle\) pictured with prototypes of their designs along with Professor John Hughes, President and Damini Kumar, Director of Product Design at NUI Maynooth and the European Union's Ambassador for Creativity and Innovation.](#)



Profile

Neil Trappe

Lecturer, Department
of Experimental Physics

Neil Trappe has been contributing to the Department of Experimental Physics for a decade, initially as a PhD student researching long wavelength optical analysis techniques, supervised by Professor J.A. Murphy. This study included the optical analysis of a spectrometer instrument (HIFI) for a European Space Agency satellite project. Neil continued in this particular research area after completion of his PhD in early 2002 through a postdoctoral position which lasted a further year and a half.

Currently, Neil is employed as a Lecturer in the Department engaging in both teaching and research roles. His responsibilities include being first year coordinator and, having graduated two PhD and three MSc students since 2003, he presently supervises three PhD students. In terms of his own initial academic qualification, Neil graduated with a first class honours BSc in Applied Physics from the University of Limerick in 1998.

Neil has persevered in his research interests in the field of far-infrared space optics, and is committed to a number of international initiatives including the HIFI instrument for the Herschel Space Observatory which was successfully launched in May 2009. 'This is the first dedicated space project solely for far-infrared astronomy and will therefore carry out unique observations of the cold universe and specialise in understanding star and planet formation.' This research is being undertaken in collaboration with the Space Research Organisation of the Netherlands and is funded nationally with a Prodex award through Enterprise Ireland.

In parallel to this pioneering programme, Neil is also heavily involved in the optical analysis of two frequency channels of ALMA (Atacama Large Millimetre Array) being commissioned in Chile. He explains that it is the world's largest and most expensive astronomy venture, where 50 twelve metre antennas will operate as an interferometer dedicated to revolutionising the area of far-infrared astronomy as it will give unprecedented sensitivity and resolution to a novel area of the science. 'By providing scientists with detailed images of stars and planets being born in gas clouds near our solar system, and detecting distant galaxies forming at the edge of the observable universe, it will let astronomers address some of the deepest questions of our cosmic origins.' This study is being done in conjunction with a Dutch research group funded through NOVA (Nederlandse Onderzoekschool Voor Astronomie) and Chalmers Technical University in Sweden. At a domestic level these activities have been supported through two Science Foundation Ireland Research Frontiers Programme grants since 2005.

Neil believes that the research infrastructure at NUI Maynooth is renowned at an international level and is building on a strong astrophysics research heritage, something that attracted him to the University in the first place. 'NUI Maynooth and its far-infrared research group are globally recognised for their speciality in developing modelling tools for astronomy instrumentation and I hope to continue playing a central role in future astrophysics adventures.'

Humanities Highlights

In keeping with the International Year of Languages and the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue, the Language Centre opened the **National Centre for Plurilingualism**. The raison d'être for Belra is the proliferation of languages now spoken in Ireland, estimated to be 200, and the fact that over 50% of the student body of many schools do not speak English as a first language. The aim of the centre is therefore to assist schools and teachers at both primary and secondary levels through translation services and an advice centre on language matters.

The world of cinema featured strongly in the Centre for Media Studies' programme over the past year. It once again ran **Films for All** in conjunction with Kildare County Council and the public library, and hosted a symposium on **Irish Cinema Institution** with a keynote address about Irish film distribution in the international context. Also, Dr Denis Condon went on air on RTE's 'Pat Kenny Show' to talk about his book, *Early Irish Cinema 1895-1912*. The annual two-day **Irish Media Research Network Conference** focused on the relationship between critical social theory and media studies among other topics. In cooperation with Sussex University, a research symposium on the **European Crisis of Multiculturalism** welcomed speakers from Ireland, the UK, France, Denmark, the Netherlands, Spain and Germany.

Receiving a special commendation in the American Conference for Irish Studies Awards for her book, *Catholic Emancipations: Irish Fiction from Thomas Moore to James Joyce*, Dr Emer Nolan from the Department of English spoke at a multidisciplinary conference on the life, works and legacy of Thomas Moore held at NUI Galway.

Organised by An Foras Feasa and the University Library, the **Foras Feasa Open Day** on 'Digital Humanities' took place in the Spring. A series of events were held on the theme, including a seminar on Digital Humanities Education, the launch of an exhibition featuring work by undergraduates, postgraduates, postdoctoral fellows and local transition year pupils, and the inauguration of the Irish Confraternities Database. The latter was developed as part of the IRCHSS-funded project on Irish Confraternities 1775-1965 led by Principal Investigator Professor Colm Lennon from the Department of History.

Department of French members Dr Michael O'Dwyer and Dr Éamon Ó Ciosáin along with Siobhan Ní Fhoghlú from Oifig na Gaeilge were prominent contributors to a programme on the town of Maynooth broadcast as part of the TG4 series *Ar Bhoithrín na Smaointe*.



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Pictured at An Foras Feasa Open Day are (l-r): Cathal McCauley, Librarian; Professor John Hughes, President; Professor Colm Lennon, History Department; Professor Margaret Kelleher and Dr John Keating, An Foras Feasa; and Dr Maurice Bric, Chairperson, IRCHSS.

IN KEEPING WITH THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF LANGUAGES AND THE EUROPEAN YEAR OF INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE, THE LANGUAGE CENTRE OPENED THE NATIONAL CENTRE FOR PLURILINGUALISM.

Science & Society

The Department of Adult and Community Education has joined forces with the Geography Department's climate change institute (ICARUS) and crop scientists from Biology to represent the University in the **Transformative Education Network**. Funded by Irish Aid and the HEA, the project brings together Irish universities and bodies such as Trócaire with counterparts in Malawi and Zambia to establish educational programmes enabling local communities, farmers and scientists to develop responses to climate change in the most vulnerable communities in Africa.

Celebrating a decade of funding by the HEA's Programme of Research in Third Level Institutions (PRTL), NIRSA hosted a conference on **Research and the Region**. The 100 delegates explored how social science research serves society and the economy according to the Institute's research clusters of planning environments, building knowledge societies and sustaining communities.

In an effort to serve the international diaspora through sharing best practice in the formulation and implementation of policies and identifying new ways for States to engage with their emigrants, NIRSA and the Department of Geography led a two-day workshop on **Diaspora Strategies**. The theory at the University is that a holistic symbiotic relationship between Ireland and its diaspora will present reciprocal economic opportunities as well as social and cultural enrichment. Global experts from Australia, Chile, Jamaica, Lithuania, New Zealand and Scotland joined members of the World Bank, Irish officials, academics and policy-makers at the first forum of its kind in Ireland.

'**42 years of the Gardaí in court**' was the title of the inaugural professorial lecture given by the Honourable Justice Mr Paul Carney, Adjunct Professor of Legal Practice. Solicitors, barristers and judges were among the 100 guests who heard about the improvements which the Justice had seen in the police force during his time working in the judicial system.

The **Combat Diseases of Poverty Consortium** had a busy first year with awareness-raising events around World Aids Day and World Malaria Day in addition to the on-going guest speaker series. A week of seminars, lectures and presentations centring on HIV/Aids and health in the world generally coincided with the CDPC's first anniversary in December. Students highlighted the facts about malaria through a series of innovative actions including a tag game rendering the campus 'malarial' for one week in April. One of the notable guest speakers was Dr Elizabeth Pisani, author of *The Wisdom of Whores: Bureaucrats, Brothels, and the Business of AIDS*.



IN AN EFFORT TO SERVE THE
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Professor John Hughes,
President and The
Honourable Mr Justice Paul
Carney, Adjunct Professor
of Law at NUI Maynooth.



Profile

Anastasia Crickley

Head of Department
of Applied Social Studies

Anastasia Crickley is a person committed to change for the better. When she came to the Department of Applied Social Studies, it was clear to her that professional educators could only acquire academic excellence through continued involvement with people on the ground. 'We're an unusual Department with one foot in the academy and the other in the community, challenged to belong and provide excellence in both and to maximise the influence each can have on the other.' As Head of Department, Anastasia relishes the role of supporting the dedicated and innovative staff and stakeholders in working towards their mission of contributing to national and international human rights, social justice and equality.

Originally from a rural working class background where education and community participation were paramount, Anastasia started as a part-time lecturer on the former Diploma in Community Work in 1983. She was instrumental in the development of the current Department with its various degrees, postgraduate programmes and outreach initiatives. As Ireland's first university to offer professional education and training in these disciplines, NUI Maynooth continues to play a leadership role in their development. 'We've successfully encouraged people from minorities and marginalised and disadvantaged communities, often with no previous opportunities, to attend third level education. For example, our earliest Community and Youth Work graduating class of 1987 included the first known Traveller to qualify at third level. Many other Travellers and those from the new minorities who are part of modern Ireland have graduated since then and a quarter of the places on our social science degree are reserved for mature students. I feel that we have uniquely combined access with excellence across the range of our facilities.'

Anastasia is a firm believer in contributing to the institution or workplace of which she is part. Hence, her present position as elected staff member of the Governing Authority and long-term record in Equality Intercultural Diversity and other anti-racism initiatives at the University. Externally, her efforts have earned her the honour of being one of President Mary McAleese's appointees to the Council of State for 2004 to 2011.

Anastasia helped found the National Travellers Resource Centre (Pavee Point), National Travellers Women's Forum, Migrants Rights Centre Ireland, and Irish Commission for Prisoners overseas. She was active in local and community development initiatives including Pobal (previously ADM) and early national social partnership negotiations. She also chaired the National Consultative Committee on Racism and Interculturalism.

In line with her long-held belief about the importance of international and European knowledge-sharing, Anastasia was involved in establishing the European Network against Racism. She was a Government appointed independent expert on the board of the European Union Monitoring Centre on Racism and is the first chairperson of its successor, the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency. 'I invested a lot of time and thinking in 2008 in pioneering a robust organisation, with a respected staff and board, recognised for its substantial research and recommendations which are increasingly being used by national and European policy-makers and NGOs.'

From 2004 to 2008, Anastasia was Personal Ambassador of the Chairman in office of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe on Racism and Discrimination, a role which allowed her to realise the right of civil society organisations in articulating concerns and to support governments' efforts in addressing racism and discrimination. From her involvement with these groups and the Council of Europe, Anastasia has been instrumental in enhancing co-ordination of effort and joint human rights initiatives through a high level group, which also includes the UN High Commissioner on Human Rights.

In the coming year Anastasia's goal is to 'bring it all back home' by integrating her knowledge and experiences gained abroad into the work of the Department, and reinforcing links between Irish NGOs and academics with related global concerns. She is particularly involved with steering new Departmental initiatives, including an MA in Community and Youth Work (2009), a BA in Community and Youth Work and a joint BA in Public Policy (2010), as well as contributing to community and youth sector responses to very challenging times. Her writing and research will consequently be focussed on these areas.





Profile

Dr John Cullen

Lecturer, Department
of Business & Law

Dr John Cullen has been at the newly formed Department of Business and Law for just over a year, lecturing across a wide range of subjects concerned with leadership; organisational behaviour; personal development; organisation theory; human resource management; and business, ethics and society.

'Business and management studies are pretty dynamic in all of their guises. Because we're dealing with practical applications of theory in enterprising environments, which directly impact on how people and organisations work, it's important that we keep an open dialogue with actual managers and the business community to ensure that we understand their needs, and to guarantee that our graduates can make a tangible impact in business and society. Therein lies John's goal to further increase the discourse between students and business managers in the real world.

Given that business and management draw from a range of disciplines, such as psychology, economics, sociology, anthropology, philosophy, geography and history, the new Department is very clear about its role within the broader university framework. 'It's great to have an opportunity to collaborate with these Departments, particularly as NUI Maynooth has such a world-class reputation in these fields.' John is looking forward to delivering some new degree modules and developing some research ideas over the coming year.

John's CV reads of diverse roles as press officer, policy project manager, health information service manager, head of library services, management researcher, research consultant and lecturer. The common strand throughout his entire career has been research: 'All of the commercial, public sector and NGO environments which I've worked in have changed as a result of economic and technological reasons. Management research is a constantly evolving field so it's good to have a varied background to draw on when you're lecturing to students.' Indeed, John enjoys bringing some of his published research to the classroom as he admits that students ask questions and inspire ideas that editorial boards sometimes fail to spot. He is also a member of the new Faculty of Social Sciences Research Sub-committee.

On the University's uniqueness, John cites the intimacy between students and staff due to its relatively small scale, and the genuine intellectual culture that is focused on developing new knowledge, which affords students the potential to explore learning across a variety of environments. 'My traveling experiences have revealed that NUI Maynooth academics are admired for their thought leadership around the world!'

As someone who once ran a library, John describes the University's as one of the brightest, most accessible and truest learning locations around. 'And the gardens, grounds, old and new buildings mean students can experience an academic culture that is built on longstanding traditions but with its eye firmly on the future.'

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Pictured at the launch of *Irish Farming at the Millennium: A Census Atlas* are (l-r): David Meredith, Minister Eamonn Ó Cuív, Dr Caroline Crowley, and Professor Jim Walsh, Deputy President NUI Maynooth.



Faculty Publications

The first signs of hope for a therapy that could reverse the symptoms and increase the life expectancy associated with **muscular dystrophy** are emerging thanks to new research by the Department of Biology. In partnership with the University of Australia, Professor Kay Ohlendieck published results that prove the efficiency of an innovative gene therapy for the treatment of the disease. As the most common gender-specific inherited disease in Ireland, currently affecting 400 sufferers, the year-long collaboration was funded by Muscular Dystrophy Ireland, the Health Research Board and Science Foundation Ireland. Addressing another challenge of our time, the Department of English has brought out ***Facing the Other: Race, Gender and Social Justice in Ireland***, co-edited by Dr Moynagh Sullivan.

Tracing the growth of Dublin city from 1610 to 1756 is the Department of History's ***Dublin Part II*** issued by the Royal Irish Academy. With references to over 2,000 sites, the latest in the *Irish Historic Towns Atlas* series charts the city's expansion from small town to large cosmopolitan centre.

A major research report focused on the impact and future of rural restructuring policy and practice throughout Ireland was released by the International Centre for Local and Regional Development (ICLRD) with funding from the HEA. The report, ***Rural Restructuring: Local Sustainable Solutions to the Rural Challenge***, is based on the experiences of three rural communities and, among other recommendations, emphasises the role of collaborative spatial planning in addressing the needs of both rural and urban communities which are increasingly interconnected in a globalised economy. Caroline Creamer of NIRSA was part of the ICLRD research team.

On a related theme, Minister Eamonn Ó Cuív launched ***Irish Farming at the Millennium: A Census Atlas*** funded by Teagasc. The book explores farming in the country during the 1990s and provides a comprehensive assessment of the impacts and implications that the 1992 reforms of the Common Agricultural Policy had on the sector. Co-author of the book, Professor Jim Walsh, Deputy President of NUI Maynooth believes that this will become the standard baseline study for future research into farming, agriculture and rural issues in the twenty-first century.



→
[Professor Paul Moynagh,](#)
[Director, Institute](#)
[of Immunology](#)

2.2 THE REWARDS

Staff Prizes

Minister for Science, Technology and Innovation, Dr Jimmy Devins TD presented Professor John Ringwood with the **Enterprise Ireland Industrial Technologies Commercialisation Award** for his work with Wavebob. Together with this Maynooth-based company, the system modelling and control researcher is helping to harness the power of Ireland's seas through the development of computer control technology for wave energy devices. Also sponsored by Enterprise Ireland, Dr Ronan Farrell, Director of the Institute of Microelectronics and Wireless Systems was honoured with the **ICT Commercialisation Award** for 2008. Described as a 'true example of a technology pioneer', the award was in recognition of Dr Farrell's telecommunications technology development and its successful transfer to a new technology company called Socowave.

To celebrate 100 years since the foundation of the National University of Ireland, **NUI Centennial Prizes for Academic Publishing** were awarded for outstanding contributions in different areas. Professor Paul Moynagh, Director of the Institute of Immunology, scooped the prize in the medical and health sciences category. Professor Moynagh has built up a distinguished academic career examining the neurological and chemical effects of inflammation of the brain. The selection panel commended the excellence of his record in publication in terms of the body of work produced, the quality of the journals in which he published and the overall impact of his research. Dr William Desmond of the Department of Ancient Classics was awarded the prize within the languages, literature and linguistics class for his book *The Greek Praise of Poverty: Origins of Ancient Cynicism* published in 2006. The panel pointed to Dr Desmond's excellent handling of the scarce sources used and his original and compelling prose style.

Thomas Naughton, member of the Computer Vision and Imaging Laboratory at the Department of Computer Science, has received an **IEEE award** for co-authoring a scientific paper on *Three dimensional imaging and processing using computational holographic imaging*. The world's leading professional association for the advancement of technology acknowledges this emerging field with potential applications for 3D television, 3D medical imaging, information security and manufacturing. Naughton, a senior lecturer and Marie Curie Fellow from the University of Oulu, Finland, is also leading an eight-partner European Commission project on digital holography called Real 3D.

A **global health research award** of €391,000 has been granted to Drs Jamie Saris and Fiona Larkan of the Anthropology Department and the Combat Diseases of Poverty Consortium. *Understanding barriers to access and adherence to antiretroviral treatment for HIV and AIDS in the Western Cape, South Africa* is being funded by the Health Research Board and Irish Aid. As part of the Consortium's work, two MSc students in Immunology and Global Health trained in Kenya for three months while Ugandan trainees spent time in the University's immunology laboratories.

As a tribute to his enhancement of the national heritage, Séamus MacGabhann was chosen as **Ardollamh of Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 2009** by Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann. With 34,000 members in 16 countries, Séamus was praised for his contribution to the organisation and cultivation of Irish heritage at this 200,000-strong event.

During the past year, the University was on winning form with its websites. www.access.nuim.ie won **Best Third Level Website** at the 2008 Moviestar.ie Irish Web Awards. The Maynooth Access Programme site was designed with the expectations of visitors such as potential students, current staff and students, the sector, families and community groups foremost in mind. A joint project between the Education Department, the French Embassy and the National Centre for Technology in Education produced a web portal to improve the quality of language learning and teaching in Irish schools. Due to its creativity, innovation and success, www.french.ie was among the recipients of the prestigious **Language Label 2008** award. TG Beo proved its value as an electronic support programme for Leaving Certificate pupils when it was given an eGovernment Award for its use of technology.



Student Achievements

15 high achieving students from NUI Maynooth have been awarded funding under the **Irish Research Council for Science Engineering and Technology (IRCSET) Postgraduate Scholarship Scheme**. The total granted in this highly competitive and prestigious scheme for postgraduate researchers will amount to nearly €12 million and cover living costs as well as tuition fees, travel to conferences and training in transferable skills. The prospective postgraduates will commence their research in areas such as biology, chemistry and mathematics from October 2009. The fact that the number of successful NUI Maynooth students accounts for 10% of all awards made is another indicator of it punching above its weight.

Karen O'Hanlon, BSc and Dr Eric Downer scooped double honours in the biomedical sciences section at the 2009 **Royal Academy of Medicine in Ireland** meeting. A second year PhD student in the Department of Biology, working under the supervision of Professor Sean Doyle, O'Hanlon was awarded the Donegan Medal for research excellence. Her presentation into the function of highly unusual enzymes in the pathogenic fungus *Aspergillus fumigatus* was based on state-of-the-art molecular biology techniques for disrupting gene function and is greatly facilitated by access to the insect virulence model system, which has been developed and pioneered by Dr Kevin Kavanagh at NUI Maynooth. The new and hotly contested Early Career Award was given to postdoctoral researcher Dr Eric Downer from the Institute of Immunology.

Sorcha de Brún, a PhD student in Roinn na Nua-Gaeilge, won the **Máirtín Ó Cadhain Short Story Competition** for her story *An Scoilt* (The Cleft). Recipient of a John and Pat Hume Scholarship and no stranger to winning awards for her work, de Brún's prose and poetry written for young people will be published by Government Publications and will be on the syllabus for Gaeltacht and all-Irish speaking schools.

The annual scholarship events held in the last quarter of the year had fresh impetus. 111 students who attained at least 500 points in their Leaving Certificates were successful in their bids for **Entrance Scholarships** to the University – a 20% increase in numbers compared to 2007. The **Prizes and Scholarship Awards** ceremony generated the usual excitement with acknowledgements for the special achievements of students, including the inaugural Fr Michael Melvin Prize for the highest overall grade in Media Studies. 14 students received **MBNA Scholarships** in 2008 for their outstanding performances in gaelic games and presentations were made to President John Hughes, Tom Maher, GAA Development Officer and Micheal Ó Muircheartaigh by Will Curley, President of MBNA to mark 10 years of the sponsored scholarships at the University.

September saw over 1,500 students conferred with degrees ranging from BAs, MAs and Postgraduate Diplomas to PhDs. The BSc Finance and Venture Management and BAs in Music Technology and Media Studies along with three other degrees were awarded for the first time. The success of the former bachelor is proven in the jobs and opportunities in industry and state agencies already presented to the graduates, while the first graduating class of media studies can look forward to using their language skills in a media environment that increasingly needs bilingual producers and journalists.

The following month, some 450 students were conferred on campus, including Dr Martin Curley who received a Doctor of Philosophy (Arts) for his thesis *The IT-CMF, a theory for continuously improving the value delivered from IT capability*. The ceremony also awarded the first cohort of postgraduate diplomas in higher education delivered through the recently established Centre for Teaching and Learning. A few weeks later, 170 graduates received their degrees, diplomas and certificates at the Kilkenny campus.

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[Pictured at the GAA Ball are \(l-r\): Tom Maher, GAA Development Officer; Michael Newman, Captain of the Freshers team for the League; Conor Brophy, Captain of the Freshers team for the Championship; Noirin Kirwan, Captain of the Ladies Football team; and Professor Jim Walsh, Deputy President, NUI Maynooth.](#)



↑
[CMDT Paraic O' Gallchoir](#)
 (Bandon); [CMDT Kevin](#)
[Higgins](#) (Cork City);
[LT CMDR Martin Counihan](#)
 (Rochestown); and [LT CMDR](#)
[Robert O'Leary](#) (Monkstown).

↗
[Ciara Hadden](#) (Dundalk);
[Geraldine Carthy](#)
 (Maynooth); and [Aisling](#)
[McDaid](#) (Donegal).

→
[Dr Tianji Li](#), who recieved
 a PhD in Engineering,
 with his daughter [Jinghan](#)
 (7 months) at a conferring
 ceremony at NUI Maynooth.



External Appointments

NUI Maynooth staff who are excelling in their respective fields have been appointed to important national, European and international bodies, while renowned new recruits are bringing their diverse talents to the University. In total, 20 academic and 18 non-academic posts were filled and 18 positions re-graded over the past year.

It was only fitting that in the European Year of Creativity and Innovation **Damini Kumar**, an award-winning and recognised role model in this area, was selected by the European Commission to be Ireland's representative. While her day job is Programme Director of Product Design in the Department of Electronic Engineering, this prestigious role is to help foster the principles of innovation and creativity at all levels of European society.

Having previously served as a member of the Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences, **Professor Margaret Kelleher** was nominated as its national representative on the Standing Committee for the Humanities of the European Science Federation. As Director of An Foras Feasa, the Institute for Research in Irish Historical and Cultural Traditions, Professor Kelleher is well placed for her new assignment to advance collaboration and coordination in research in the humanities and to foster transnational, transdisciplinary research.

A new Expert Group on Resource Allocation in the Health Sector, established by Minister for Health Mary Harney and chaired by the Economic and Social Research Institute, has engaged **Professor Rowena Pecchenino**, Head of the Department of Economics. Chosen for their skills in 'sophisticated scrutiny', the Group is tasked with examining the highly complex area of how the existing system of resource allocation within the Irish public health service can be improved to better support the health reform programme.

Professor Rick Middleton of the Hamilton Institute was elected as President of the IEEE Control Systems Society (CSS) for 2011. With more than 350,000 members in over 150 countries, the IEEE is a scientific, engineering and professional organisation dedicated to the advancement of theory and practice of systems and control in engineering. In another Presidential post, of the International Linear Algebra Society (ILAS), is **Professor Steve Kirkland** who joined Hamilton as a SFI Stokes Professor in July 2009. This body was founded in 1989 with the goal of developing new insights into matrix analysis and the various aspects of linear algebra and its applications, and currently has over 400 members worldwide.

Finally, **Professor John Sweeney** has been sworn in as the new President of An Taisce. Regarded as Ireland's leading expert on climate change, he is a member of the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which was jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007 along with former US Vice-President Al Gore. Professor Sweeney has been a lecturer at the Geography Department since 1978, specialising in climatology and environmental resource management, and is presently leading a number of research projects examining various aspects of climate change in Ireland.



↑
[Professor John Sweeney,](#)
[President of An Taisce.](#)



←
[Professor Rick Middleton,](#)
[Hamilton Institute,](#)
[NUI Maynooth.](#)



→
[Professor Rowena](#)
[Pecchenino, Head of](#)
[Department of Economics,](#)
[Finance and Accounting.](#)



↓
[Professor Steve Kirkland,](#)
[Hamilton Institute,](#)
[NUI Maynooth.](#)



Profile

Michael Dunne

Head of Department
of Philosophy

Michael Dunne is currently Head of the Department of Philosophy, a position which came about unexpectedly following the tragic and untimely deaths of Professor Thomas Kelly and subsequently Professor John Cleary. Michael lectures in the philosophy of religion and medieval philosophy, while his main research interests lie in the latter area, specifically Irish medieval philosophers.

According to Michael, the easiest thing about his job is the teaching and he particularly enjoys the challenge of lecturing to large groups in big theatres, which he likens to a one-man show with some good humoured questions from the audience. Planning for the future is a harder proposition: 'We're trying our best to keep the show on the road but funding for third level is going to be a major problem as a result of the recession. It will be very difficult to explain to students why there are fewer resources to go around.'

Before coming to NUI Maynooth, Michael taught in a number of third level institutions in Ireland for a few years, having previously spent seven years in Italy as a research assistant and writing his PhD. In line with his academic interests, Michael was elected President of the Irish Philosophical Association in 2008. This role keeps him busy due to the organisation of two annual conferences along with the publication of the Association's Yearbook.

Michael has many memories from his 10-year term at the University but the one which stands out the most was a surreal moment when he was returning from the 2001 Autumn Conferings. 'I met someone who told me a wild story about planes crashing in the middle of New York – I thought they had gone mad! The date was 9/11.'

Michael is enthusiastic about the future as his Department will start to offer an evening certificate course in philosophy at the Kilkenny Campus and at Maynooth from October 2009. This is an exciting prospect for Michael as it will give certain people a chance to study the topic who might otherwise never have done so. He also hopes to visit China on the back of an invitation to give some lectures at the Sun Yat-Sen University in Guangzhou city.

Considering the unique selling points of NUI Maynooth, Michael points to the fact that it is in a University town where students feel very much at home. 'The buildings in the south campus are really beautiful – my children think the place looks like Hogwarts!' The other plus factor for him is the extreme diversity yet inclusiveness of the student population which makes for very interesting discussions both in the classroom and in tutorials.

Internal Affairs

In a move to further NUI Maynooth's position at the forefront of university-industry collaboration in Europe, **Professor Martin Curley**, Global Director of IT Innovation and Research at Intel has joined the University. As Professor of Technology and Business Innovation, he will pioneer advanced research in the area of IT innovation and entrepreneurship, working to improve predictability, probability and profitability from IT innovation investments. A Dublin native, Professor Curley brings with him a wealth of knowledge and experience in the IT sector, not to mention two published books and over 100 lectures on the subject across five continents.

Another world renowned professor, this time in the finance field, has entered the Economics, Finance and Accounting Department from the London School of Economics where he was a Professor of Finance for over six years. **Professor Gregory Connor** is one of the foremost academics in the area of risk management systems and portfolio risk management. He was previously the Director of Research at Barra Inc. and was Assistant Professor of Finance at the University of California at Berkley and at Northwestern University.

Dr Honor Fagan has been brought on board as the Dean of Graduate Studies. Under her leadership, the Graduate Studies Office will promote and develop fourth level programmes in the University (both taught and research) with an increasing emphasis on structured PhD programmes. Also chosen as a Dean, of Social Sciences, is **Dr Robert Galavan** who is Head of the Business and Law Department.

In maintaining the excellent 'Maynooth Experience', **Niamh Lynch** has been appointed Director of Student Services. She assumes responsibility for the line management, coordination, strategic planning and guidance in the development and promotion of the wide range of student support services and activities. Strengthening another student facility is the new University Librarian. **Cathal McCauley** has an extensive background in this area and has ambitious plans to harness new technologies and service models to enhance the library experience for readers and staff.

On the administrative side, the Centre for Teaching and Learning, launched in 2008 as part of the reorganisation of the Quality Promotion Office, welcomed a Manager in the form of **Dr Úna Crowley**. Another boost to the team is the recruitment of **Jacqueline Sykes** as Human Resources Manager. Finally, **John Hayes** has been commissioned as the new Head of Security to take over from **John McElligott**. Over his eight years at the Security Office, the latter John developed a major programme of installing access control and CCTV on campus. A former Garda, both staff and students held him in high regard and admired the manner in which he managed events on campus.



Farewell Tributes

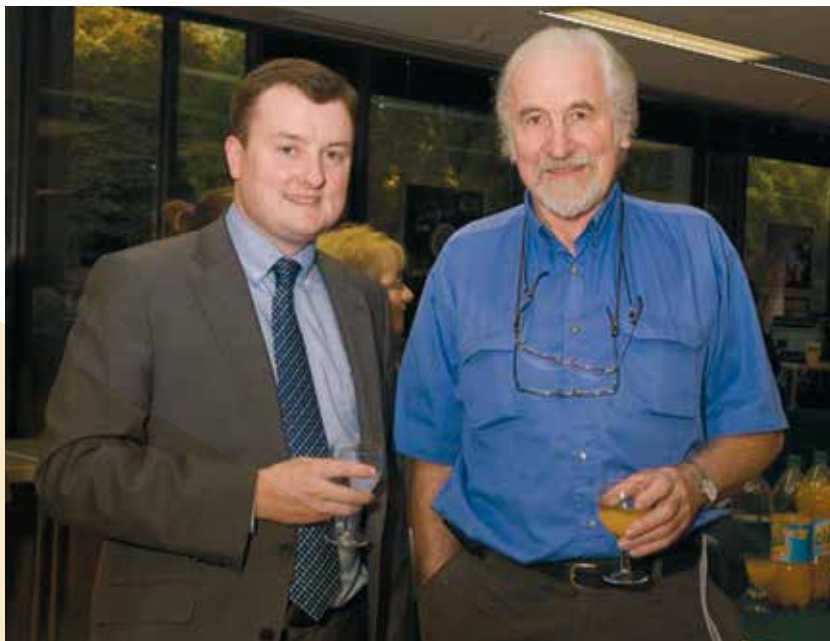
The University paid tribute to a number of long-serving staff members in the past year. A special event entitled 'Years of Inspiration to Students of Economics and Finance' was dedicated to **Professor Paddy Geary** on his retirement. Over 100 high profile alumni, former and current students, and staff showed their appreciation for the invaluable knowledge and insights which he had imparted. Professor Geary will be remembered as the founder of the Department of Economics, Finance and Accounting, who developed its suite of programmes including the first BA Finance in Ireland. In his later role as the first Dean of International Relations, he forged links with foreign universities and strengthened NUI Maynooth's international reputation.

Professor Tigran Tchakian MRIA was one of only two members of academic staff at the Department of Mathematical Physics in St. Patrick's College Maynooth in 1971 and became Associate Professor in 1994. With Emeritus status presently, he is focusing on his own Research Associateship at the School of Theoretical Physics in the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies. Other notable retirements were those of **Dr Seamus Ó Síocháin**, Department of Anthropology and **Dr Maeve Martin** of the Education Department. These individuals along with over a dozen others gathered for the **Presidential Lunch** held to thank staff and retirees who had devoted 25 years of service to the University.

On his retirement, **Dr Harry McCauley** had been a member of the Philosophy Department for more than three decades, served as secretary of the Irish Philosophical Society for a number of years and was also on the College Executive Council. His legacy of commitment and contribution lives on through his son, Cathal. This same Department suffered another great loss, that of **Professor John Cleary** who died during a liver transplant operation at Easter. Professor Cleary served the University diligently and tirelessly since 1991 and was honoured with election to the Royal Irish Academy in 1997. He was greatly admired for his sensitive and skilful stewardship of the Department following Professor Thomas Kelly's untimely death in 2008. The large gathering at the funeral of **Maurice Dunne** was testimony to his wonderful work in the campus gardens which he had tended since 1961. He died peacefully on his 70th birthday.



←
Professor Martin Curley,
Director, Intel Labs
Europe, Global Director, IT
Innovation and Research,
Intel and Professor of
Technology and Business
Innovation, NUI Maynooth
with Professor John
Hughes, President.



↑
Professor Paddy Geary,
Cathal McCauley,
University Librarian
pictured with his father,
Dr Harry McCauley,
Philosophy Department.



Profile

Mark Reilly

QS, Campus Planning
& Development Office

Mark Reilly is a quantity surveyor in the Campus Planning and Development Office tasked with managing the cost of construction for all major capital projects and minor works proposed for the University, from feasibility stage through to completion.

The past two years at NUI Maynooth have crowned a twenty-year career for Mark in this profession, previously working in the private sector in Ireland, the UK, Australia, Vietnam and Malaysia. 'I've been involved in some very interesting projects ranging from a site-based job in Kuala Lumpur to construct an 80,000-seater outdoor stadium and sports village for the Commonwealth Games to a major fit-out of a leading European bank in London. Here at home, I worked on the renovation and refurbishment of the Pugin-designed convent, which was converted into an award-winning civic office and library development in Birr, as well as on the very first buildings to appear in the IFSC.' Mark's skills have evolved over the years to include other responsibilities such as project management and risk management.

The Office has had a busy past year with the implementation of the Campus Masterplan well under way. Designed by renowned architects Scott Tallon Walker, work has commenced on-site for the new humanities and social sciences building incorporating a 350-seater lecture theatre. The new extension to the John Paul II Library is also advancing nicely and, once complete, will incorporate a new pedestrian gateway between the North and South Campuses.

A leading design team headed up by Heneghan Peng Architects has been recently appointed for carrying out the new phase of student accommodation on the North Campus and creating a student village. 2008 also brought the refurbishment of St. Annes and Logic, the conversion of Callan Foyer, extension of the Hamilton Institute, new buildings for Kiltegan Student Services and the IVI, a new Music Room facility, and various IT infrastructure works.

On the subject of new venues, Mark relays the unfortunate moment when he stood in front of the Arts building watching the fire that so quickly destroyed the student restaurant. 'The saving grace was that nobody was injured and on a positive note we will be rebuilding a modern restaurant together with a new separate Student Common Room.'

Naturally, Mark's goals are mostly related to funding: 'In these challenging times, I intend to ensure that all existing funding is efficiently spent on quality projects and to chase any revenue sources that will further develop the campus.' His personal ambition is to try to identify funding for the creation of more open landscaped and hardscaped public spaces together with sit-down areas for students. 'I'd also love to see the opening of more service (café/food) facilities scattered throughout the campus and possibly let out to potential franchises.'

Given his love of buildings, Mark appreciates the ambience and serenity of the old South Campus surroundings to the contrasting hustle and bustle of the modern North Campus. 'The balance of the old and new makes for a very pleasant working and studying environment.'



Profile

Marie Breen

Administrative Officer,
Music Department

Marie Breen's role at the Music Department is all-encompassing; from dealing with students' queries, either internally or by referral to other University services, to booking and allocating rooms, conducting financial accounting and budgeting, managing equipment and supplies, and marketing the numerous concerts, recitals and rehearsals. All of this along with addressing the day-to-day administrative needs of the Department including mail distribution, cash management, use of communication devices, and correspondence with various University functions such as General Services, Security, Health and Safety, and Catering.

Marie is also responsible for the planning and procedure involved in the restricted entry MH103 course, testing her expert organisational and time management skills. Upon electronic receipt of data from the CAO, she must prepare and disseminate this information for use in student selection. 'Given that we have a high number of applications for this degree course each year, the complexity of the process requires great efficiency and flexibility as it involves high level liaison with CAO personnel, other third level institutions and our own University Departments.'

Marie thrives on liaising and interacting with students and staff while endeavouring to provide solutions to the varied problems brought to the office by the former. She also admits that one of the more difficult aspects of her job is organising the numerous music events that take place throughout the academic year. 'The hardest thing is having to tell people that there are no more tickets – our productions are always booked out and it's never easy turning people away!'

A role like Marie's is social by its nature and no doubt her years of previous administrative experience at Ryanair, the Royal College of Surgeons and the Charitable Infirmary in Jervis Street have lent themselves perfectly to this end. Also enhancing her skills set are the Bachelor of Business Studies from the Institute of Public Administration and Diploma in Management Studies from the Irish Management Institute successfully completed during her time at NUI Maynooth.

The planning and execution of the Music Department's move from a small space to new accommodation in the past year was both exciting and daunting for Marie. Other annual highlights were the Christmas Carol Service and Spring Choral Concert. 'Although 2009 will be my 18th Carol Service, I still find it exhilarating and something of a challenge!'

Marie strives for service excellence for students and staff, not only as an academic department but also as a provider of music events that showcase the University. 'It's a big goal to deliver on the event management in its own right and also to ensure the kind of high quality service which students and staff deserve.' Summing up the uniqueness of NUI Maynooth, Marie cites it as a friendly campus along with the real sense of team spirit and true teamwork.



Sporting Endeavours

The sports scholarship schemes have been reaping their rewards over the past season. The **NUIM Devils** swam into the history books again at the Irish Open held at the National Aquatic Centre in April. The men's team broke the Irish records for the 4x100m and 4x200m freestyle relays by 4.5 and 11 seconds respectively. Along with a host of medals, Seamus Stacey from the squad was under the qualifying time for the World Student Games and World Championships in the latter race.

The green velvet of the **NUI Maynooth Snooker Club** was seen in living colour on RTE's 'Capital D' programme last October. The film crew came to capture new developments in the Club, such as its recent relocation to the Rye Building on the North Campus. The expanded facilities now house two pool tables and four full-size snooker tables, including a Riley Aristocrat professional table and lighting that was previously used in the snooker mecca of Sheffield's Crucible. The two scholars in this particular sport are Johnny Williams from Monaghan, the first-ever snooker scholar who is currently in second year Arts, and Vincent Muldoon from Galway, already a professional player who has started a Business degree.

The **MBNA Scholarship scheme** reached a milestone in 2008 with its black and amber having been worn by over 166 students from 26 counties since its inauguration 10 years ago. While celebrating more than 25 All-Ireland Championship medals over the past decade plus two recent GAA victories by the Ladies Gaelic and Men's Freshers Football teams, the special evening also recognised the 14 scholarships awarded this year. The programme was upgraded lately with a range of top class support services for the recipients including mentoring, prehab fitness assessments and a range of lifestyle and medical aids.

To keep pace with the success of the 60 sports scholars in GAA, rugby, swimming, snooker and golf, **three new staff** have been drafted in. As an athletic trainer, Wendy Barry will offer fitness assessments, personal training programmes, and injury prevention/management support. Tristan Mullally, the Moyvalley Golf Club professional and ILGU Connaught Coach, is progressing the ladies programme of the Paddy Harrington golf scholarships. And Barry Prenderville has been selected by the FAI to develop the game of soccer due to his 12 years of professional footballing experience and qualifications in exercise and health studies.

Annual Activities

The **15th Annual Clubs and Societies Awards** was a tightly fought contest with the Rugby Club and Dance Society emerging victorious. The sumptuous banquet befitted the success of the evening and the Maynooth Experience. Society Person of the Year, Erin Barclay, also won 'Best Individual Award' at the national Board of Irish College Societies Awards.

Best Club

Rugby

Best Society

Dance

Most Improved Club

Yoga

Most Improved Society

Amnesty

Society Event of the Year

Epic-Con (Omega)

Society Person of the Year

Erin Barclay (Drama)

Athlete of the Year

Fergal Martin (Fencing)

Club Executive of the Year

Martha Kirwan (Ladies GAA)

First Year Athlete of the Year

Aisling Goff (Muck)

First Year Society Person of the Year

Caoimhe O'Doherty (SVP)

Father Martin Loftus Cup

Christian Union

President's Medal Recipient

Paul Donnelly (Gold)

In the **22nd Galway Cycle**, 110 cyclists, 100 collectors and 20 support crew made the return trip of 400 kilometres to raise money for the Cystic Fibrosis Association of Ireland. The Maynooth Students for Charity have organised this annual trek from Maynooth to Galway in aid of worthy charities with a special interest in helping children. In another yearly diary date, RAG Week donated €8,000 to Shine, an autism charity.

The impressive performances in the **Imagine Cup Software Development competition** continued in 2009 with Team Engine Media from the Computer Department reaching the finals. The Team's ELF electronic learning solution generated plenty of interest from both companies and venture capitalists. Team Acid Rain, placed second in the 2008 competition, delivered an entertaining pitch in front of four dragons as part of the Irish Innovation Accelerator. It caught the attention of Dragon Mick Fealty of Slugger O'Toole in particular, who declared he was 'sold' on the idea.

A new out-of-hours freephone counselling service for students called **NiteLine** was launched by the Students' Union in April. Run by students for students, it is designed to be confidential, anonymous, non-judgemental, non-directive and accessible as it operates outside of normal business hours. The timing coincided with a recent survey conducted by the National Centre for Youth Mental Health (Headstrong), which stated that almost two thirds of young people are unable to cope with their problems. The Students' Union has been consistently raising awareness of mental health issues and providing solutions to help students throughout their time on campus. NiteLine complements the 'Please Talk' campaign that encourages students and staff to talk to one another and promotes talking as a sign of strength rather than weakness.

→ [Grace Crehan, President of the Rugby Club – winners of the 2009 Best Club award.](#)







2.5 THE ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

Reunion for Reminiscence

Now an annual event in the social calendar, the **2nd Alumni Reunion Ball** was held in Pugin Hall on June 6th. Some 250 former students and friends descended once again on campus to reminisce about old times and catch up on intervening periods. A drinks reception in the Cloisters serenaded by a string quartet followed by a gala dinner and dancing were the order of the fun-filled and sold-out night.

President John Hughes presented Niall Crowley with the **President's Alumni Award** for 2009. The former Chief Executive of the Equality Authority graduated in 1986 with a Postgraduate Diploma in Community Work and was deemed a deserving winner for his significant impact on the Irish and international stage in promoting rights and equality. Minister for Social and Family Affairs, Mary Hanafin and her fellow graduates from the class of 1979 were also honoured on the night, with the Minister speaking fondly about her time at the University.

A **new postgraduate bursary**, sponsored by Scott Tallon Walker, the architects involved in the campus development plan, was announced on the night. The bursary is specifically for alumni who wish to undergo taught masters postgraduate courses at their Alma Mater.

Alumni Communications

The 2008 winter edition of **The Bridge**, issued for alumni and friends of NUI Maynooth, gave updates on people such as interesting 'where are they now' graduate profiles and staff retirements, and shared thought-pieces by lecturers and deans on topics around Irish education and economy. Featured was an article about the three-month experience of two MSc of Immunology and Global Health students assisting the Combat Diseases of Poverty Consortium in Kenya, as well as insights into developing future school leaders through the new postgraduate diploma in Educational Leadership and into promoting Ireland's knowledge society.

A new **alumni email service** has been developed and launched with the help of the University's Computer Centre and Google, host of the service. It allows alumni to retain links with the University in perpetuity by electronic means, namely through individually assigned alumni.nuim.ie email addresses. The new **Alumni Discounts** web page is offering savings in services such as car rentals, hotels and accommodation, insurance and dry cleaning as well as leisure activities covering golf and family attractions.

Après Maynooth

Among seven shortlisted firms announced for the second annual **Irish Technology Leadership Group (ITLG)/Irish Times Innovation Award** was Wavebob, a spin-out from NUI Maynooth which is developing technology to convert ocean energy into electricity and whose CEO, Andrew Parish, is an alumnus of the University. The company was also one of two to be shortlisted for a renewable energy award, in recognition of the increased interest in green technology. Now in their second year, these Awards are part of a thriving programme initiated to spur Irish technology companies to expand into the US and to encourage investment in Ireland from Silicon Valley's leading corporations.

Michelle Kelly, a 2008 graduate of NUI Maynooth, was one of 10 winners of the industry awards for **Science Teaching Excellence 2009**. These awards, sponsored by various pharmaceutical and chemical companies throughout Ireland, are directed at the top science graduates that demonstrate teaching excellence and motivation of students to pursue a science career in their first year of teaching.



2.6 THE ACCESS OFFICE

A+ for MAP

In anniversary, award and accommodation stakes, the NUI Maynooth Access Office scored highly over the past year through its continued commitment to widening participation in higher education. Introduced in 1998, the Maynooth Access Programme (MAP) encourages under-represented groups to enter third level education and provides transition and post-entry support on financial, academic, social and personal fronts. Potential participants include school leavers, mature students, students with disabilities, travellers and refugees. NUI Maynooth has invested very significantly in flagship programmes to assist these students at every level through the educational system.

Over the last decade, more than 1,000 mature students have graduated along with 350 graduates from the disability and school-leavers grouping. 110 students took part in the access orientation session in 2008, while it is estimated that 70% of the 2009 final year access students will graduate with an honours degree. Currently, 20% of the University's full-time student population is registered with the Access Office; this success rate was identified as one of the key factors in it being awarded 'The Sunday Times University of the Year'. While celebrating its **10th anniversary**, the Access Office moved to spacious new premises at MAP Lodge. Turning 10 also seemed to be a good juncture for the Access Office to investigate how its alumni had been faring. A **survey** found that former access students continued to engage in lifelong learning, with a large proportion studying at postgraduate level including six in PhD programmes. Several of these access alumni availed of the chance to reconnect with the University at the Alumni Reunion Ball in June.



Professor John Hughes,
President with Niall
Crowley and Anastasia
Crickley at the Maynooth
Alumni Awards.



Catherine Fox, Minister
Mary Hanafin and Maire
Therese Kilmartin at the
Maynooth Alumni Ball.



Professor John Hughes,
President; Ann O'Brien,
Access Office; and
Professor David Redmond,
Registrar, NUI Maynooth.

Another accolade for MAP came in the form of the '**Best Third Level Website**' title at the Irish Web Awards last October. The site, access.nuim.ie, was produced in response to the changing demands of its visitors, including students, families, staff and others interested in the access sector. According to Enda Guinan, Assistive Technology Advisor: 'People are coming to our sites with much higher expectations than before. They're used to creating, collaborating and sharing content and expect to have information when and how they want it. We've worked out what users look for and how best to get that content to them! The interactive website therefore provides links to the tools used by the 'digital natives' of the Bebo generation while being clear and easy to use for 'digital immigrants'. For example, it embeds and links to content from popular sites for young people such as YouTube, Flickr, Twitter and del.icio.us. Produced by Eclipse, the MAP website is the University's first to be constructed using Drupal, an open source content management system, and adds to the existing array of technology tools employed by the Access Office for communicating, such as SMS, Moodle and podcasting.

Enabling Learning

In a joint venture between NUI Maynooth, Dublin Institute of Technology, NUI Galway and Ahead, the **Learning Enabled** initiative was launched towards the end of 2008. Intended for staff awareness training or other contexts around disability and third level education, the collaboration produced seven short films (on DVD and web formats) and accompanying materials. In another information-sharing initiative, there was further integration of **Assistive Technology** into the mainstream through the granting of site licences for 'TextHelp Read and Write Gold' and 'Inspiration' for all public area computer rooms on campus.

Bridget Gormley and Rose Ryan from the Access Office are completing the **British Psychological Service Certificate of Competence in Educational Testing**, which will in turn strengthen the screening process introduced for students who may have specific learning difficulties such as dyslexia. The screening process was born of a need to give certain students a stronger indication of whether they may have an SLD before applying for a more formal assessment from an Educational Psychologist.

New Beginnings for Mature Students

Another milestone was reached in 2009 when a record number of over 270 new mature students enrolled at the University. With increasing critical mass, a pilot programme of **peer mentoring for mature students** was set up to enhance the first year Maynooth experience by facilitating a 'gentle touch' support mechanism provided by fellow students. Although initially limited to 10 mentors and mentees, the scheme proved so popular that 20 mentors and mentees were matched up.

There was also a new beginning for the **Kildare into Tertiary Education (KITE) Mature programme** established this year. Two student shadowing days and two academic study skills seminars took place with attendance by almost 50 mature students from three VTOS centres in Kildare (Athy, Leixlip and Newbridge). And the first **mature student summer maths school**, organised by the Mature Student Office in collaboration with the Mathematics Department, welcomed 30 applicants for various finance, business and science degree courses at the University. The two-week course is a mix of lectures and online, self-directed learning in the Mathematics Laboratory.

The Access Office along with six other higher education institutions combined their expertise and resources to promote access courses, known as '**Access 21**', through outreach strategies, in order to widen participation and promote lifelong learning in the border, midlands and western regions as well as County Clare. 12 students came to NUI Maynooth in 2008–09 through this route, with all reporting a smooth transition, especially the mature student heading up the society of the same name.

Outreach Expansion

The **Higher Education Access Route (HEAR)** scheme has expanded to embrace all schools in the border, midlands and western region and has developed to become more systems based. HEAR is a third level admissions scheme for students from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds; NIRSA undertook the geocoding of applicants to determine eligibility in 2009.

A new project with the visiting teacher for **travellers in Westmeath** allowed MAP to engage with two traveller training centres in the county and opened up outreach activities to young traveller students from Westmeath schools. Similar undertakings also commenced with **DEIS schools in Kilkenny** and the NUI Maynooth Kilkenny campus. A special award ceremony for third years was aimed at encouraging the pupils to think about the University and third level education as a realistic possibility whilst giving their parents and teachers an insight into the offering at both campuses.

The **KITE** initiative for nine secondary schools from Kildare continued its success, with 22 activities throughout the year bringing young people from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds to NUI Maynooth and placing the University in the community to help raise aspirations and encourage young people to remain in education.

Widening Participation

Two access staff members, Martha Brandes and Kelly Roche, participated in the first year of the **Equality in Higher Education course** run by Access Made Accessible (AMA) and the UCD Equality Studies Centre. As chair of AMA (the higher education access officer network), Ann O'Brien was instrumental in the design of this innovative course which proved an excellent opportunity to analyse the issues that contribute to persistent inequalities in higher education access and participation. The next course in 2009–10 will be open to a broader population working in the field of widening participation.

In collaboration with colleagues from the Education Department and Centre for Teaching and Learning, the Access Office delivered **lectures about widening participation** to the Postgraduate Diplomas in Higher Education and in Guidance and Counselling. MAP is also partnering in a **research initiative** with UCD's New Era and Geary Institute to provide a quantitative evaluation of the effectiveness of access programmes in relation to the progression of young people from disadvantaged schools to higher education, university retention rates, first year exam performance and final degree classification. Funded by the Strategic Innovation Fund, the research findings will be presented at a conference in December 2009.



OVER THE LAST DECADE, MORE THAN 1,000 MATURE STUDENTS HAVE GRADUATED ALONG WITH 350 GRADUATES FROM THE DISABILITY AND SCHOOL-LEAVERS GROUPING. 110 STUDENTS TOOK PART IN THE ACCESS ORIENTATION SESSION IN 2008, WHILE IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 70% OF THE 2009 FINAL YEAR ACCESS STUDENTS WILL GRADUATE WITH AN HONOURS DEGREE.

New Facilities

The announcement of a **new Library** extension to the existing John Paul II Library was greeted with great excitement by the University community. All agree that this construction project will deliver a first class facility corresponding to the enormous growth in teaching, learning and research activity at NUI Maynooth.

Also at the close of 2008, the **OPW-NUI Maynooth Archive and Research Centre** at Castletown in Kildare was formally launched by President Mary McAleese. Supported by the Library and the History Department, the Centre is dedicated to the storage, conservation and study of historical records and other sources, particularly those dealing with the history of Irish landed estates, their houses and inhabitants. In keeping with the televisual theme of this year, a special programme highlighting the archive of Strokestown Park House, primarily materials relating to the period of the Great Irish Famine, and its fascinating journey from County Roscommon to County Kildare to coincide with the Centre's opening was broadcast on RTE's 'Nationwide' in mid-May.

Exhibitions

From human rights to digital humanities, Copernicus to Kerouac, a significant number of exhibitions, many in conjunction with colleagues from across the faculties, were staged over the past academic year.

Marking the annual Science Week in November was *'The foundations of modern astronomy: an exhibition of articles, photographs and books'* featuring the life and times of **Nicolaus Copernicus**, regarded as the founder of modern astronomy. *Body and Mind: Perceptions of the Little-World* also began in Science Week and ran until February in the Russell Library.

The following month, the visit of Her Excellency Priscilla Jana, South African Ambassador to Ireland, acknowledged the 60th anniversary of the adoption of the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**. In addition to viewing the related material exhibited by the Library, the Ambassador took time to peruse the annual staff and student art exhibition.

Central to the **Library Social Sciences Festival** was a showcase of the publishing output of the Faculty, with over 500 items put on view. At its opening during the inter-semester break, President John Hughes remarked, 'This display demonstrates the range and breadth of publishing taking place in the Faculty of Social Sciences, something that is very worthy of celebration'. Also on show was a very relevant recent acquisition, namely the Library's earliest book describing Ireland, printed in 1478.



During the Festival, a complete set of the publications of the National Consultative Committee on Racism and Interculturalism was handed over to the Library by the Committee's Director. A number of books were launched, including *Adult Learning in Groups* by Dr Brid Connolly, *Communication and Knowledge Sharing at Work* by Dr John Cullen and *Radical learning for Liberation 2* edited by Brid Connolly, Ted Fleming, David McCormack and Anne Ryan, and various presentations relating to research and publishing in the social sciences field were also made throughout the week.

Signalling Spring and the exhibition highlight of the year was **Jack Kerouac Back 'On the Road'** hosted by the Russell Library in partnership with the School of English, Media and Theatre Studies. The original 127-foot scroll of the text of 'On the Road', typed in one piece in 1951, is now recognised as one of the most famous and important modern literary manuscripts. Open to the public, over 1,000 people came to view the scroll.

Other exciting exhibitions covered *An Ghaeilge: Múineadh agus Foghlaim le céad bliain* (100 years of Teaching and Learning Irish), Basque language material and the marking of 200 years since Charles Darwin's birth as well as 150 years since the publication of *On the Origin of Species*.

Collaborative Collections

Print and electronic collections continued to expand, with the Library now accessing 180,000 books and 26,000 journals electronically. Furthermore, there is full-text electronic access to 184,000 House of Commons Parliamentary papers.

The ePrint archive, the first of its kind in Ireland, provides worldwide access to over 1,300 publications by members of the university community. The latest version, ePrints3, was introduced by the Vice-President for Research, Professor Ray O'Neill, at the beginning of the year. The Library is also a partner in a SIF-funded Irish Universities Association project to create a single portal for the research output of Ireland's seven university libraries. This interface, which will profile Irish research internationally, is due to be launched in early 2010.

As a result of collaboration between NUI Maynooth and Castle Howard, a **300-foot scroll** returned to Ireland in May 2009 for the first time in 160 years. It is to be the focus of a significant scholarly investigation to be carried out by the Centre for the Study of Historic Irish Houses and Estates, An Foras Feasa and the staff of the Russell Library.

Helpful Resources

The Library team entered a new chapter thanks to the arrival of two new staff. **Cathal McCauley**, who assumed the position of University Librarian at the start of the 2008 academic year, was formerly Head of Readers Services in the UCD Library having also worked in the science, medical and business sections of the service. Prior to his university career, Cathal was employed in a management consultancy. **Róisín Berry** was appointed in May of the same year and works between the Library and the new Archive and Research Centre at Castletown House as an Archivist. Library staff presented over 20 conference papers and were proactively involved in publishing, consequently contributing to the national and international development of libraries in general.

The Library played a very keen role in the newly established generic skills for postgraduate programmes. The input included the staging of **postgraduate workshops** on sourcing and managing information in the sciences, social sciences, arts and humanities and on publishing in the sciences and engineering.

Specialist library services are readily available to students both on and off campus, with the **Moodle** space recording 50,000 hits to date and proving a useful tool for posting news items and getting feedback from users. The **texting helpline service** is gathering pace as students now send texts with their enquiries as well as emailing, phoning or calling to the Library in person. And plans are in motion to harness Web2.0 technology to further enhance services to users in the most appropriate format.

←
[Róisín Berry, Archivist, NUI Maynooth; President Mary McAleese and Professor John Hughes, President,](#)

→
[Professor Chris Morash explains Jack Kerouac's iconic 'On the Road' scroll on display for the public in the Russell Library.](#)



THE NEW LIBRARY EXTENSION TO THE EXISTING JOHN PAUL II LIBRARY WILL DELIVER A FIRST CLASS FACILITY CORRESPONDING TO THE ENORMOUS GROWTH IN TEACHING, LEARNING AND RESEARCH ACTIVITY AT NUI MAYNOOTH.

D'éirigh le hOifigigh na Gaeilge tógáil ar an méid imeachtaí agus ranganna Gaeilge i mbliana agus suim san ábhar a choimead agus a mhúscailt i measc na foirne agus na mac léinn dúchasach agus eachtranach maraon. Leanadh ar aghaidh le cabhair, eolas agus aistriúcháin a sholáthar do bhaill na hOllscoile. Aistríodh cáipéisí do Dhámh na nEalaíon, an Léinn Cheiltigh agus na Fealsúnachta agus chuir an Dámh féin aistriú comhuaineach ar fáil ag cruinnithe. Baineadh an-leas as Seomra na Gaeilge i mbliana, mar ionad caidrimh ag mic léinn agus bail foirne ar mian leo a gcuid Gaeilge a chleachtadh.

Scéim Teanga na hOllscoile faoi Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla

Rinne Oifig an Choimisinéara Teanga cigireacht ar an méid a bhí geallta ag OEM sa chéad Scéim Teanga (2005–2008) agus bhí siad sásta gur comhlíonadh an méid a gealladh sa scéim. Cuireadh an Dara Scéim teanga le chéile agus seolfar é i mí Meán Fómhair 2009. Faoi scéim tá méadú tagtha ar an méid cáipéisí agus seirbhísí i nGaeilge atá ar fáil chomh maith leis na comharthaí thart timpeall na hOllscoile a bheith dátheangach.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Comóradh Seachtain Náisiúnta na Gaeilge ar fud na hOllscoile. Bhain idir fhoireann agus mhic léinn taitneamh as na hócáidí. Oíche shnagcheoil agus fhillochta ilteangaí a bhí sa seoladh. Bhí cúpla céad duine i láthair ag ceolchoirm le Lasairfhiona Ní Chonaola agus a cairde. Ba é an tOllamh Micheál Ó Cróinín aoi-léachtóir na seachtaine; dhein sé cur i láthair ilmheánach spreagúil, 'Aistriúcháin ar an Scáileán'. Bhí ceol, comhrá agus comórtas Wii ar siúl i Seomra na Gaeilge i rith na seachtaine. D'eagraigh Valerie Seymour agus Susan Durack taispeántas i Leabharlann Eoin Pól 11, 'An Ghaeilge: Múineadh agus Foghlaim le céad bliain'. Bhí iliomad leabhar, leabhrán agus paimfléad le feiscint, cuid acu uathúil, mar shampla, *Ceachta Beaga* agus léaráidí le Jack B. Yeats ann.

Matamaitic trí Ghaeilge

Is é seo an tríú bliain don Roinn na Matamaitice an modúl 'Codaigh agus Córais Dhinimiciúla Réadacha' (MT480C) a thairiscint mar mhodúl roghnach trí Ghaeilge do gach fochéimí sa bhliain dheireanach. Le tacú ó Sholáthar Speisialta an HEA don Ghaeilge a tosnaíodh air seo. Is é an tOllamh Stiofán Ó Buachalla a mhúin an cúrsa; bhí duine is fiche cláraithe i mbliana. Cuireadh fáiltiú ar siúl dóibh i Seomra na Gaeilge agus táthar ag súil go mbainfidh mic léinn an mhódúil leas as an seomra go rialta as seo amach.

Ranganna Gaeilge agus Ócáidí Rialta don Fhoireann

Bhí freastal maith ar ranganna Gaeilge don fhoireann i mbliana agus fonn orthu leanacht ar aghaidh sa bhliain acadúil 2009–2010. Bhí sé dhuine dhéag as tíortha thar lear ina measc siúd a d'fhreastail ar na ranganna, iad go léir ag úsáid ábhar an TEG.

Ar na hócáidí rialta a bhí ar siúl bhí an bord Gaeilge i mbialann Pugin agus seisiúin chomhrá i Seomra na Gaeilge uair sa tseachtain. Ghlac bail Ollscoile ó ranna agus aonaid éagsúla páirt iontu seo.

For-Rochtain agus Teagmháil le saol na Gaeilge

D'fhreastail na hoifigigh ar go leor imeachtaí arna n-eagrú ag na heagraíochtaí Gaeilge éagsúla agus spreag siad bail na hOllscoile freastal orthu. Chuaigh ceathrar is fiche ar an an turas bliantúil go dtí Oireachtas na Samhna, mór-fhéile cheoil agus chultúir na Gaeilge, a eagraíonn na hOifigigh Ghaeilge, Oifigeach Gaeilge Aontas na Mac Léinn agus an Chuallacht Ghaeilge. D'fhreastail cuid de mhuintir na Gaeilge san Ollscoil ar an dráma Craos, le Darach Ó Scolaí ar i mí Dheireadh Fómhair sa New Theatre, i mBaile Átha Cliath. Cuireadh ranganna Gaeilge ar fáil do na cléirigh sa chéad agus sa dara bliain i gColáiste Naomh Phádraig, Má Nuad. Coinníodh an nasc le Comhar na Múinteoirí Gaeilge agus bhí Maidin na nDaltaí san Ollscoil acu i mí Feabhra. Tionóladh ócáid speisialta do bhaill den sruth lán-Ghaelach in Iarbhunscoil Mhá Nuad agus dá múinteoir, an Dr Íde Ní Uallacháin, nuair a bhain siad Craobh na hÉireann i nDíospóireacht an Phiarsaigh (Gael Linn).



←
[Kate Fennell, Oifigeach](#)
[Acht na dTeangacha,](#)
[OÉ Má Nuad, an Dr Íde](#)
[Ní Uallacháin, Siobhán](#)
[Ní Fhoghlú, Oifigeach](#)
[Gaeilge, OÉ Má Nuad, leis](#)
[an bhfoireann bhucach,](#)
[Sinéad Ní Mhuirí,](#)
[Gillian Ní Chathmhaoil](#)
[\(captaen\), Seán Mac](#)
[Giobúin-Uí Mhórdha agus](#)
[Bébhinn Ní Chiosáin.](#)



Profile

Dr Honor Fagan

Dean of Graduate Studies

The newly created position of Dean of Graduate Studies is a full-time remit to drive the development of a distinctive approach to graduate education at NUI Maynooth, in order to secure its status as a leading fourth level institution. Honor Fagan has accepted this challenge and, through her crucial role of co-ordination and leadership, has become a central champion in the University and its advocate in national fora.

While working closely with, and reporting jointly to, the Vice-President for Research and the Registrar, Honor is responsible for all facets of graduate education. This includes liaising with academic departments to enhance the portfolio of taught masters and structured PhD programmes and ensuring effective use of scholarship funding. As a member of the Academic Council, she is also tasked with advancing university policies and good practice for research supervision. Honor is the spokeswoman for the University within the national '4th Level Network' and is in charge of creating collaborative graduate programmes with other institutions.


In directing the work of the Graduate Studies Office, Honor regularly interacts with postgraduate students. She appreciates the new arrangements such as the Graduate Feedback Council which allows the departmental graduate student representatives to be part of decision making on graduate matters. She admits though that developing policy quickly and effectively in the changing context of a national financial crisis can be difficult. 'We can support Ireland's economic recovery at many levels, but a key one for us at the moment is to provide top end graduates with appropriate knowledge sets. Our country needs to double its research doctorate graduates by 2013 to stay competitive in the global marketplace. We've been working flat out to restructure so that we can offer the relevant research programmes and enrich their quality in terms of breadth and depth. We're now successfully delivering on our part of the national target.'

At the same time, Honor refers to the older basis of the Office's work as: 'Our time-proofed ambition to support people in planning a better future for themselves by furthering their education and qualifications through upskilling, upgrading and re-education. Investing in knowledge is a necessary and positive way to deal with the adverse situation we presently find ourselves in.'

Honor has been part of the Sociology Department since 1997 having spent a total of 15 years lecturing in the topic. Previous positions were held at the Universities of Ulster, Kwazulu-Natal and Leeds. Inspiring her teaching, research and a professional life of service in third level education is a fundamental interest in inequalities and exclusions, and a quest to understand and address their different dimensions. 'My research work specifically directs itself towards creating a synergy between sociological knowledge, radical democracy and citizenship. In this regard, I've addressed key questions on globalisation, social exclusions, governance and development.'

Her future goals are to embed the University's structured PhD offering, benchmark the graduate programmes internationally, and develop links with African developing countries in order to share NUI Maynooth's advanced resources and put its expertise to work in support of an even development in higher education. While her job as Dean is all-consuming, Honor still remains active as a researcher and author. Her sights are set on the launch of her latest publication co-authored with Ronaldo Munck: *Globalisation and Security – An Encyclopaedia* in late October.

3 RESEARCH



AN TAOISEACH BRIAN COWEN T.D. VISITED NUI MAYNOOTH IN JUNE 2009 TO ANNOUNCE DETAILS OF A €1 MILLION INVESTMENT IN THE FIRST PHASE OF THE INNOVATION VALUE INSTITUTE COMPETENCE CENTRE INITIATIVE, FUNDED JOINTLY BY ENTERPRISE IRELAND AND THE IDA.

3.1 RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

2008 was a year of continued success and increasing international impact on the research front at NUI Maynooth. Externally funded research expenditure rose to over €22 million in 2007–08 while researchers across all three faculties secured new awards of over €34 million in the same period. This record figure for the second year in a row comprised 131 individual competitive grants made to 75 lead researchers. These funding outcomes will provide a firm platform for sustaining the University's overall research base in years to come, even in the face of extreme economic challenges.

Direct outputs of research investment were also demonstrated through the 58 PhD graduations, over 270 international journal publications, numerous books and government reports, and more than 3,500 citations of NUI Maynooth research. The latter represents an increase of over 67% in the last three years (see figure 1) and is a useful measure of the transference of research results from the campus to the outside world. In addition, 120 new doctoral students commenced study in 2008–09, another record that augurs well for the aim of graduating 91 new PhDs per annum by 2013. Of particular significance were two high technology spin-out companies in a two-year period and two national awards for commercialisation from Enterprise Ireland. These achievements in commercialisation of research are yet another example of the University punching above its weight on the national scene. Further details are in the commercialisation section to follow.

In September 2008, Dr Honor Fagan of the Department of Sociology was appointed **Dean of Graduate Studies**. This special role reflects the increasing importance of graduate studies in the University's mission, and the need for leadership to drive developments in the type of graduate education on offer. The University has set ambitious goals for increased numbers of both research and taught masters students with recent trends proving extremely positive. Just as crucial as growth in numbers are the invaluable initiatives, which commenced in 2007 under the Higher Education Authority (HEA) Strategic Innovation Fund, designed to enhance the quality of PhD programmes by providing access to both transferable skills training and advanced courses in specific disciplines. The new Dean's remit is to steer all of these elements.

←
[Stacy Smith, Chief Financial Officer, Intel; Jim O'Hara, General Manager Intel Ireland; An Taoiseach Brian Cowen, TD; and Professor John Hughes, President at the announcement of state funding for IVI.](#)

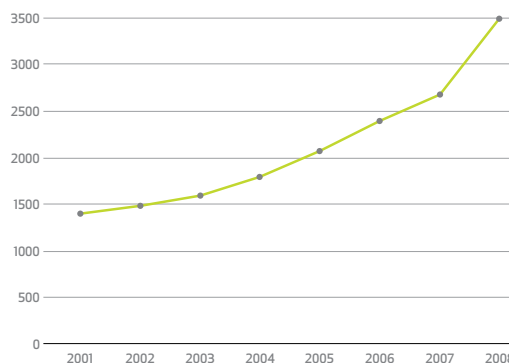


Figure 1. ISI citations of NUI Maynooth publications

The Business of IT

An Taoiseach Brian Cowen TD visited NUI Maynooth in June 2009 to announce details of a €1 million investment in the first phase of the **Innovation Value Institute (IVI) Competence Centre initiative**, funded jointly by Enterprise Ireland and the IDA. The Competence Centre is a significant strategic plank of government policy to align academic expertise in support of an industry driven research agenda, and fits well with the University's existing initiative in this area through the Innovation Value Institute.

Originally formed in 2006 through a strong link between NUI Maynooth and Intel, the IVI is a consortium of leading industry, consulting, not-for-profit, and academic organisations that has been developing and testing new ways to more firmly align IT investments with business results. The consortium has recruited over 40 members such as The Boston Consulting Group, Microsoft, Chevron, SAP, Northrop Grumman, British Petroleum, and Ernst & Young. These strategic research partnerships between industry and academia drive innovation and deliver a competitive advantage to Irish industry.

The announcement coincided with the European launch of the IVI's first product called the **IT-Capability Maturity Framework (IT-CMF)**. This unique system provides a concise management roadmap to organise, measure and structure a framework for mapping IT improvement efforts in an organisation. Over 120 companies across Europe and the US have employed the IT-CMF; indeed its US launch in San Francisco in early 2009 was timely given the recessionary pressure on CIOs to derive greater demonstrable business value from IT spend.

NUI Maynooth hosts Intel's largest open innovation initiative in the Innovation Value Institute. The University also partners closely with the newly established Intel Labs Europe open lab in Leixlip, collaborating on such projects as SmartBay. Intel Labs Europe is a research and innovation platform established by Intel with dual hubs in Leixlip and Munich, which coordinate the work of 850 Intel researchers working across the European Union.

Fellowship Awards

NUI Maynooth's top scientists and engineers continued to perform strongly in competitive awards processes in the recent period. Notably, four **SFI Investigator Awards** were secured in 2008 by Professor Paul Moynagh (Immunology), Professor Rick Middleton (Hamilton Institute), Professor John Findlay (Biology), and Dr Joost Slingerland (Mathematical Physics). These particular awards are aimed at providing significant funding to large-scale research programmes of international importance and the University won roughly 10% of the total awards for the year. Equaling this in percentage terms for both 2008 and 2009 was the success in **SFI Research Frontier** funding, with 14 awards worth €2.8 million and 7 awards worth €1.3 million received respectively. This programme supports innovative, cutting-edge and internationally competitive research in a broad range of disciplines in science, mathematics and engineering. The 2009 Research Frontier funding will assist in the development of future generations of technologies and products in areas which are vital to everyday life, for example, in cancer and Alzheimer's treatments, MRI scanning and mobile communications.

Six new staff members have been recruited through the **Science Foundation Ireland Stokes Fellowship** scheme. These awards give financial support towards the recruitment of, and five year's salary for, exceptional researchers in accordance with a department or institute's strategic development plan. The successful recipients in this instance were Dr Jennifer McManus (recruited to the Department of Chemistry from MIT), Dr Alexei Poznoudkov (to the National Centre for Geocomputation from Lausanne), Dr Constantin Vernicos (to the Department of Mathematics from Montpellier), Dr Phillippe Moser (to the Department of Computer Science from Geneva), Dr David Malone (to the Hamilton Institute) and Professor Stephen Kirkland (to the Hamilton Institute from the University of Regina, Canada). Investment in staff is the single most important one which a university can make, and with international recruits of this calibre, NUI Maynooth is enhancing its foundation for future success.

The reputation of the Department of History as one of Ireland's leading humanities outlets has been underscored by its notable success in attracting four of the 30 **Postdoctoral Fellowships** through the Irish Research Council for Humanities and Social Sciences in 2009. Dr Richard McMahon, Dr Stephen O'Connor, Dr Jennifer Redmond, and Dr Colin Reid are the incoming fellows. NUI Maynooth has secured its first **Cochrane Fellowship** courtesy of Mairéad Furlong, a Doctoral Fellow in the Department of Psychology. The HRB Fellowship, aimed at conducting quality reviews in the health field, will support the systematic review of *Behavioural, group-based parenting interventions for children (aged 3-12) with early onset conduct problems*.

High Performance Computing

It is increasingly recognised that computational research will be one of the major transformational trends of the 21st century. In a move to make available exceptional resources for computational researchers in the University and partner institutions, NUI Maynooth launched a **High Performance Computing Facility** in conjunction with the Irish Centre for High End Computing (ICHEC) in May 2009. The new system, made possible through recent equipment and research facilities enhancement grants from the HEA, comprises world-class computational hardware along with essential central administration for access and user support. The University has several major research groups who will benefit from the current applications, including climate modelling, bioinformatics and evolutionary genetics, control systems engineering for renewable energy technologies, and simulation of physical systems for quantum computation.

The new facility comprises two distinct but related sub-systems. The first is a 366 core Silicon Graphics cluster which will be maintained by the Computer Centre and the Department of Computer Science on the Maynooth campus. The second part of the system is a similar 168 core Silicon Graphics resource that forms part of a much bigger 2560 core system (Stokes) operated as an essential national service by ICHEC. This Stokes system was ranked at number 117 in the Top 500 Super Computers in the world in February 2009. Providing a central university facility will ensure a direct entry to computation, in a cost effective way, for all researchers whose programmes require large scale computation. NUI Maynooth together with ICHEC's superb expertise and support will supply a seamless ladder from local resources to the largest scale computational facilities in Europe over the next few years.



←
Science Foundation
Ireland Science Fellows
from NUI Maynooth.



Profile

Justin Gleeson

NIRSA

Justin Gleeson is the project manager of the All-Island Research Observatory (AIRO), a research initiative based at NUI Maynooth and steered by NIRSA and NCG. AIRO seeks to produce all-island spatial datasets and specialist analysis tools, and to conduct applied mapping research. 'In very general terms, we're all about gathering, organising and mapping datasets that can help public bodies and agencies make more informed and strategic planning decisions. Importantly, we're trying to undertake this on a cross-border or all-island basis.'

Following a period at the Dundalk Institute of Technology, Justin came to NUI Maynooth about three years ago to continue work on a joint project. His background includes a degree and two-year research MA from NUI Galway, an MSc in GIS from Leeds University and five years at an engineering consultancy in the UK. In fact a lot of the activities Justin is engaged in at NIRSA are similar to his project experiences from the UK.

Over the past year, Justin has been involved in a project tasked with producing new datasets that can help in measuring and monitoring levels of social exclusion. The main focus was on accessing centrally-held Government datasets such as the Live Register. 'Massive public finance is pumped into gathering realms of data on recipients yet, to date, there's been no effort put into understanding the spatial patterns of this data. We were able to map increases on the Live Register at a local rather than at a national or county level and see the real patterns that have been emerging since the economy has been having such an adverse effect on employment levels.'

'The hope was that the advances we made during this project would encourage Government Departments to rethink the way they handle centrally-held datasets.' It has been a busy year with the launch of a new Atlas; Justin's first glossy publication which helped him to see firsthand the value of his input.

Another project of particular interest is one in conjunction with the Irish Universities Association on access to education which would look at both flows from secondary schools and to third level education institutions. 'There's scope to implement one system at the CAO entry stage that would enable a straightforward method of measuring accessibility to higher level education across the country. Like the Social Exclusion project, it's the effective capturing and management of spatial data.'

Justin believes that the University as a place to study benefits from a fantastic location as well as a continually enhanced reputation. As a place to work, he appreciates the exposure to leading experts and career development opportunities. NIRSA has links to international institutes from some of the world's leading universities and under the current PRTL funding cycle now has a number of new research postdoctorates on its team. 'Combining the knowledge gathered by the institute and AIRO over the last number of years with the international experience courtesy of the postdocs has resulted in much of our work becoming increasingly sophisticated. I find NIRSA to be a wonderful learning environment!'





Profile

Gráinne O'Keeffe

PhD Student,
Department of Biology

Having graduated with a first class honours undergraduate degree in biotechnology in 2006, Gráinne O'Keeffe has returned to the Department of Biology as a first year PhD student. Under the supervision of Professor Sean Doyle in the Biotechnology Laboratory, she is working with the fungal pathogen *Aspergillus fumigatus*, specifically investigating one of its genes to try to determine the role it plays in this lung disease-causing fungus.

Speaking about her role, Gráinne likes the fact that no two days are the same and that she is constantly learning new lab techniques and keeping up-to-date on the current research in the area. 'The hardest aspect is the frustration when things don't work out exactly as planned. However, learning how to overcome these obstacles is what the job is all about!'

Gráinne participated in the Biology Department's practical demonstrations for undergraduates during the past academic year and for secondary school pupils in January. She herself was one of the students awarded the Entrance Scholarship for achieving 500 points or more in the Leaving Certificate. 'I feel it's important to spend time teaching biology to others in order to inspire their interest.'

After graduating, Gráinne worked in the research and development laboratory of a biotechnology company for two years, where she was focused on the development of diagnostic assays for the veterinary industry. However, on deciding to further her education and qualifications, she applied for PhD funding from the Irish Research Council for Science Engineering and Technology (IRCSET) and was fortunate to have been awarded an Embark PhD fellowship.

Gráinne has relished starting the PhD, digesting the project background and learning new scientific skills. Without doubt though, the highlight of the past year was her attendance at an international conference in France – the third FEBS advanced lecture course on human fungal pathogens. On presenting a poster of her work to date, she was awarded a Eukaryotic Cell Young Investigator Award. Hopes for the future include the progression of her work, completion of her PhD, and hopefully the publication of some of her research.

The many merits of NUI Maynooth are the reasons for Gráinne choosing this University. 'It's highly competitive vis'à-vis the other leading universities, as evidenced by the recent awarding of the University of the Year accolade. The continued investment in research and infrastructure are also important aspects in attracting new students at all levels.' She believes that the University's sense of welcome and community spirit sets it apart from others. 'As a campus it is less intimidating than some of the larger universities in Dublin, which is an incentive to students who may be moving away from home for the first time. There's good interaction between staff and students which, as a student, makes you feel comfortable in approaching the staff for help.'



Profile

Jennifer McManus

SFI Stokes Lecturer,
Department of Chemistry

An SFI Stokes lecturer at the University since October last, Jennifer McManus' interests lie at the intersection of chemistry, physics and biology. With her primary BSc degree and PhD from University College Dublin (UCD) in chemistry, she then spent time as a postdoctoral researcher in physics departments at the University of Fribourg in Switzerland and at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston, working on biophysical chemistry questions.

Hence, Jennifer's research is very interdisciplinary in nature. 'My primary interest is in understanding the molecular basis for diseases involving protein condensation, including cataract disease, Alzheimer's disease, sickle cell anaemia and Parkinson's disease. I use physical chemistry approaches to understand these biological problems.'

Jennifer is engaged in projects with collaborators here in Ireland, in Europe and in the United States. 'I'm working with Professor Alfred Crosby at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst to apply a technique called cavitation rheology, developed for the study of synthetic polymers, to study the mechanical properties of biological tissue.' In partnership with Professor Kenneth Dawson at UCD and Professor Joachim Rädler at the LMU in Munich, she is involved in an initiative looking at the effect of nanoparticles on the fibrillation of A β , a peptide associated with Alzheimer's disease. In fact, she is spending time in Germany to carry out the relevant experiments.

'The common feature of all of these projects is the way in which a physical science perspective is applied to questions usually associated with biology and medicine. This is an emerging approach, because of the lack of interdisciplinary training in these areas, and it can shed important light on both biological polymer behavior and on disease mechanism and treatment.'

The type of biophysical chemistry research which Jennifer is spearheading is new at NUI Maynooth, so she has been setting up the laboratory as a first step. Her goals are essentially to build up the research group, continue the interdisciplinary research projects already underway while adding new dimensions, and interact with other researchers. In a perfect opportunity to pursue the latter aim, she was invited by Science Foundation Ireland to lecture at a seminar at MIT in May. 'Powering the Smart Economy' was the event theme and it was attended by the Irish President, scientists and entrepreneurs. 'It was a stimulating event to be involved in, great to be back at MIT, and fantastic to meet Mary McAleese.'

Although Jennifer's term at the University is relatively short so far, she finds it to be a very friendly place to work and describes the people as approachable and helpful. 'NUI Maynooth is a growing university realising its potential and I'm excited to be part of that growth!'



↓
 Owen Lavery,
 Commercialisation
 Office, NUI Maynooth;
 Nicole Holmes, Lingua
 Franca (winner 2008); and
 Ian Johnson and Conor
 Devlin of 'Good to Go'.



3.2 COMMERCIALISATION PURSUITS

Commercial Successes

The Commercialisation Office reported a very successful period, particularly with regard to research collaboration contracts, technology licensing and new company spin-outs. 2009 was also the year marking the Office's inaugural 'NUI Connect' event, an SME focused seminar aimed at twinning industry with academia for the good of the knowledge economy. The metrics for 2008-09 were better than ever with two companies spun-out of the University, eight licence deals completed and 15 patents filed. There was a record number of 17 new research collaboration contracts with industry. Ones to watch include the new spin-out Blue Box Sensors Limited and the developing relationship with Wavebob. €2.2 million was secured in commercialisation funds from Enterprise Ireland for certain technologies deemed as having good market potential, including those aimed at alleviating the symptoms of tinnitus and solving the current global crisis in bee health.

Socowave was successfully spun-out from NUI Maynooth in April 2008. The company, led by Joe Moore, an experienced telecoms executive, will commercialise technology invented by Dr Ronan Farrell and his colleagues at the Institute for Microelectronics and Wireless Systems (IMWS). Socowave, whose investors include Enterprise Ireland and 4th Level Ventures, has now launched its product – the world's first antenna beam control platform, enabling enhanced mobile communications (www.socowave.com).

The University recently spun-out technology developed by a group in the Chemistry Department led by Professor John Lowry. **Blue Box Sensors** will manufacture biosensors that can track levels of chemicals in the brain in real time over the course of weeks and months. These sensors offer insights into the workings of the brain and stand to improve preclinical drug discovery for a range of diseases including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and schizophrenia. The company's leaders and investors are CEO Michiel Helmes and Head of Business Development Rory Geoghegan. Several businesses are already customers of the technology and they intend to grow this to incorporate a global customer base.



250 delegates representing over 100 companies, funding agencies, entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, patent attorneys and academics assembled at Carton House in Kildare in April for **'NUIM Connect 2009'**. The aim of this inaugural event was to communicate that NUI Maynooth and its academic counterparts are 'open for business' and actively seeking ways to support the Irish economy through the creation of new and stronger alliances between entrepreneurs, SMEs and academics. The hope is that these connections will deliver new products and processes to existing enterprises and sow the seeds for new ones.

In line with this strongly-held belief that Irish universities have a duty to contribute to the development of a knowledge economy, through looking at market-led problems and helping commercialise innovative products with competitive advantage, the Commercialisation Office launched two new initiatives this year. **'Your R&D Resource'** will reach out to industry to link existing Irish businesses with research expertise at NUI Maynooth, while **'Market Driven Innovation'** will bring together an industry expert in a specialist field with a group of multidisciplinary University researchers to brainstorm a marketable solution for a problem.

THE METRICS FOR 2008-09 WERE BETTER THAN EVER WITH TWO COMPANIES SPUN-OUT OF THE UNIVERSITY, EIGHT LICENCE DEALS COMPLETED AND 15 PATENTS FILED. THERE WAS A RECORD NUMBER OF 17 NEW RESEARCH COLLABORATION CONTRACTS WITH INDUSTRY.



Profile

Peter Wellstead

SFI Research Professor,
Hamilton Institute

As a Science Foundation Ireland Research Professor, Peter Wellstead established and runs the Systems Biology Group in the Hamilton Institute. At the core of his role in organising research and coordinating collaborations is a passionate belief that 'the application of mathematical and technological ideas to the life sciences is one of the most crucial requirements for the 21st century'.

With an engineering background, Peter spent 30 years at the Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, where he was latterly Professor of Control Engineering at the Control Systems Centre. 'At a certain stage I decided that the future of control systems was in the study of living systems rather than technological ones. As such a radical change of direction wasn't possible in the UK, I seized the opportunity to work on the systems approaches to life science in Ireland.' Thus came Peter to the Hamilton Institute in 2003 as an E.T.S. Walton Visitor. This was followed by an SFI Research Professorship designated to raise awareness of Systems Biology in Ireland, to establish a dedicated group of critical mass at the Institute, and, most importantly, to conduct research.

Peter's ultimate quest is to tackle the causes of Parkinson's Disease; to make a difference to how disease research is conducted, and to contribute to the understanding of this disease. 'We know that there are many factors implicated in idiopathic PD, but they are interlinked and coupled in highly complex ways that make it difficult to see a clear set of causal steps. This is analogous to the feedback mechanisms that exist in technological processes, so my plan is to apply to Parkinson's Disease the same systems analysis tools that we use in technological problem solving'.

Highlighting how neurodegenerative diseases cause great distress to sufferers and their families over a long period, he also cites as motivation the escalating social and economic costs as our population ages. Peter is proud to report that the hard work by the research team is paying off, with solid progress being made in a 'systems approach' to the disease. The launch of a Systems of Parkinson's research consortium is also inspiring interest in systems researchers in other parts of the world by linking them together through a portal (www.systemsofparkinsons.org).

While describing the industrialisation of biology as the next frontier, Peter references Arnold Tustin, a 20th century contributor to this field: 'In the Spirit of Tustin, it is imperative that the control systems community develops and implements an agenda for change that dramatically emphasises the importance of dynamics, causality and systems theory; that embodies a radical combination of systems skills with biological know-how; and that offers a progressive vision for control and systems science that addresses the many unknown features characterising the mechanisms of life.'

In terms of Peter's personal agenda, location and size are what attracted him to NUI Maynooth. 'Its position in a pleasant historical town in Kildare is perfect for me – it's why I came here rather than any other Irish university. Also, the University's compactness has advantages in terms of its responsiveness and flexibility, features I really appreciate.'

→
Presenting the
Commercialisation Award
to Dr Ronan Farrell (middle),
are Feargal Ó Móráin,
Director, Enterprise Ireland
(left) and Dan Flintner,
former CEO of EI and
Chairman of the Governing
Authority, NUI Maynooth.



Rewarding Times

Researchers from the Dynamics and Control Group and the IMWS were top of the technology bill at the **Enterprise Ireland ICT Commercialisation Awards** for 2008. Professor John Ringwood won the award in the Industrial Technologies category for his project to model and control wave energy devices, specifically for Wavebob. As a leading Irish wave energy company with offices in Ireland, the UK and US, it has been conducting research for the past 10 years and is now concluding commercial projects in Portugal, the US and Ireland. The licensed software model will allow Wavebob to better optimise its device and allow it to model wave energy transfer for its system.

Dr Ronan Farrell, Director of the IMWS won the Informatics Award for his work in creating the technology which formed the backbone of the Socowave start-up. Founded by Joe Moore, the company is incorporating some of Dr Farrell's research outputs into its technology platform and creating unique radio access network optimisation solutions for mobile broadband markets. Even at this early stage, Socowave has attracted the attention of several network operators and equipment manufacturers in the global mobile communication sector.

It was appropriate that Dr Farrell also received the **NUI Maynooth Commercialisation Award 2008** for his activity in relation to the Socowave spin-out and the exclusive licence of his antenna array calibration technology. In aspiring to bring their ideas to market in a similar way, approximately 30 undergraduate students entered the annual **Student Entrepreneur Competition** sponsored by Bank of Ireland, McCann Fitzgerald and FR Kelly. 'Good to Go' beat four finalists with its concept of providing much needed solutions to concert goers and event attendees. The prize of €6,000 was claimed by Ian Johnson and Conor Devlin, second year Arts students, who impressed judges on the night with their business idea and determination to succeed. The panel noted the variety of concepts presented by the finalists, ranging from The Mystery Tour, an online mystery tour operation (2nd place); Heat Rite, a wind energy proposition to reduce heating costs by up to 60%; and Las Dublin Poker Nights, a Dublin 15 based poker club (joint 3rd place).

The Commercialisation Office ran a **commercialisation survey** to seek opinion on the role of the University and academics in innovation and new enterprise development. The results were very encouraging with, for example, 86% of academics polled keen to engage with industry and more than 50% eager to spin out new companies. The Office is benefitting from the part-time services of **Dr Paul Tyndall**, a biotechnology specialist with over 15 years of international expertise in the area of DNA technology technical management and business development. Dr Tyndall is currently driving new spin-out opportunities in biology and chemistry.

4

GOVERNING AUTHORITY



Members of Governing Authority by Panel 2005–2010

Chairman

Mr Dan Flinter

Ex Officio

Professor John G. Hughes

Dr David Redmond

Mr Mike O'Malley

Members of academic staff who are Professors or Associate Professors

Professor Daniel M. Heffernan

Professor Anne Ryan

Permanent or full-time members of academic staff other than Professors or Associate Professors

Dr Deirdre Kirke

Ms Anastasia Crickley

Dr Joseph Timoney (not pictured)

Dr Richard Watson (not pictured)

Permanent or full-time employees of the University who are not academic staff

Mr Jim Keenan

Ms Paula Murray

Elected officers of the Students' Union

Mr Brian Murphy

Ms Liz Murray

Postgraduate student

Vacant



IBEC

Ms Noreen Deegan (not pictured)

ICTU

Ms Annette Kennedy

Nominees of the Trustees of St. Patrick's College

Reverend Professor Hugh Connolly

Bishop Jim Moriarty

An tOllamh Próinséas Ní Chatháin

Graduates of the University

Ms Ann Marie Brennan (not pictured)

Mr Anthony Jordan (not pictured)

Nominees of NUI Senate

Professor Ann Burnell (not pictured)

Professor Jim Walsh

Minister's Nominees

Professor John Coolahan (not pictured)

Ms Siobhan Corry

Other External Members

Mr Peter Cassells

Mr Richard George

Ms Anne Heraty (not pictured)

Vacant

FINANCE, STATISTICS & SPONSORS



		2007/08	2006/07
	Notes	€	€
Income			
State Grants	1	33,715,833	32,673,662
Student Fees	2	31,424,753	28,168,121
Other Income	3	3,724,183	3,237,577
		68,864,769	64,079,360
Research Grants	4	22,076,557	16,935,349
Total		90,941,326	81,014,709
Expenditure			
Academic Faculties and Departments	5	37,679,725	35,414,235
Academic and Other Services	6	6,250,613	6,378,777
Premises	7	8,929,858	7,797,304
Amount Allocated for Capitol Purposes	8	1,626,879	2,083,505
Central Administration and Services	9	6,275,958	5,555,579
General Educational Expenditure	10	4,214,487	2,713,499
Student Services	11	2,903,373	2,828,206
Miscellaneous Expenditure	12	802,106	656,744
		68,682,999	63,427,849
Research Grants and Projects		22,076,557	17,577,349
Total	13	90,759,556	81,005,198
Surplus on activities before Amortisation of Capital Reserves and Grants, Ancillary Services and Depreciation of Fixed Assets	14	181,770	9,511
Surplus on Ancillary Services and Depreciation of Fixed Assets	15	(3,701,083)	(3,781,181)
General Reserve Movement	16	3,301,046	2,941,811
Net Surplus for Year		181,770	9,511

The statement of accounting Policies (Pages 43 to 45, cash Flow statement (Page 48) and Notes to the Financial Statements (Pages 49 to 62 form part of these Financial Statements

Students by Course & Year	2008/9	2007/8	2006/7	2005/6	2004/5	2003/4	2002/3	2001/2	2000/1
Degree Courses									
Postgraduates in Arts+	693	570	633	593	557	574	524	425	347
Postgraduates in Science+	248	190	190	183	177	176	164	115	111
Postgraduates in Engineering	49	51	42	34	27	22	14	9	4
MSc Software Engineering*	11	16	19	18	12	25	19	13	5
4th Year Science	99	90	103	84	95	107	138	138	96
3rd Year Science	73	101	76	98	85	93	137	180	203
2nd Year Science	79	76	119	89	102	93	98	144	188
1st Year Science	117	109	104	132	107	110	118	116	174
4th Year Theoretical Physics & Computer Science	1	1	1	5	5				
3rd Year Theoretical Physics & Computer Science	0	0	0	1	5	8			
2nd Year Theoretical Physics & Computer Science	0	0	0	1	1	6	9		
1st Year Theoretical Physics & Computer Science	0	0	0	0	3	2	6	10	
3rd Year Theoretical Physics & Mathematics	2	2	4	3	2	1	1	2	
2nd Year Theoretical Physics & Mathematics	6	2	3	5	4	2	1	1	
1st Year Theoretical Physics & Mathematics	7	7	2	3	6	4	2	1	
4th Year Software Engineering	18	20	27	37	47	46	64	28	
3rd Year Software Engineering	17	17	18	18	33	58	52	70	30
2nd Year Software Engineering	30	20	18	20	21	31	73	77	78
1st Year Software Engineering	22	26	26	26	35	28	34	77	83
4th Year Physics with Astrophysics	8	12	8	8	5				
3rd Year Physics with Astrophysics	7	12	14	13	8	6			
2nd Year Physics with Astrophysics	11	5	12	15	16	11	6		
1st Year Physics with Astrophysics	10	12	4	13	15	17	11	7	
4th Year Computational Biology & Bioinformatics	2	4	5	9	15				
3rd Year Computational Biology & Bioinformatics	4	2	3	6	11	15			
2nd Year Computational Biology & Bioinformatics	6	4	4	3	6	13	15		
1st Year Computational Biology & Bioinformatics	9	8	4	4	3	5	14	18	
4th Year Biotechnology	17	15	12	10	15	21	16	23	16
3rd Year Biotechnology	14	17	15	13	11	15	22	17	25
2nd Year Biotechnology	9	14	19	22	16	14	18	26	20
1st Year Biotechnology	12	24	20	22	27	21	22	17	24
4th Year Biological Sciences	41	41	25	38					
3rd Year Biological Sciences	50	41	41	26	38				
2nd Year Biological Sciences	63	57	45	44	33	40			

Students by Course & Year	2008/9	2007/8	2006/7	2005/6	2004/5	2003/4	2002/3	2001/2	2000/1
1st Year Biological Sciences	61	72	60	46	50	36	38		
4th Year Chemistry with Pharmaceutical Chemistry	18	17	7						
3rd Year Chemistry with Pharmaceutical Chemistry	12	19	18	7					
2nd Year Chemistry with Pharmaceutical Chemistry	12	11	19	19	15				
1st Year Chemistry with Pharmaceutical Chemistry	9	11	10	20	15	16			
1st Year BSc Multimedia	10	1							
4th Year Psychology through Science	22	12	18						
3rd Year Psychology through Science	17	21	12	18					
2nd Year Psychology through Science	19	21	20	16	18				
1st Year Psychology through Science	20	20	23	20	18	19			
4th Year Engineering	20	18	17	19	20	25			
3rd Year Engineering	19	19	19	19	19	23	24		
2nd Year Engineering	25	19	17	17	21	20	28	28	
1st Year Engineering	11	24	33	22	19	18	23	28	30
2nd Year Product Design	10								
1st Year Product Design	21	12							
1st Year Science Education	32								
2nd BA Anthropology	14								
1st BA Anthropology	19	18							
3rd Year Arts	602	615	597	630	622	607	594	535	526
2nd Year Arts	734	688	728	745	733	695	674	625	624
1st Year Arts	985	858	809	835	827	850	822	847	800
3rd Year Art Single Honours	12	45	37	39	36	45	34	34	
2nd Year Art Single Honours	18	10	28	28	35	30	36	33	
4th Year BA International	33	36	44	25	13	16	15		
3rd Year BA International	42	31	40	43	27	17	16	15	
1st Year BA English	21								
1st Year BA History	16								
1st Year Law & Arts	30								
1st Year Business & Law	16								
2nd Year Business Management	53								
1st Year Business Management	56	57							
2nd Year Equine Business	13								
1st Year Equine Business	26	19							
4th Year BA Finance International	0	2	3						
3rd Year BA Finance International	3	0	2	3					
3rd Year BA Finance	41	45	59	116	121	93	96	101	60
2nd Year BA Finance	44	46	43	78	112	111	96	99	86
1st Year BA Finance	58	53	67	73	104	127	124	119	111
3rd Year Finance & Accounting	93	58							
2nd Year Finance & Accounting	89	94	63						
1st Year Finance & Accounting	81	96	80	54					
3rd Year Finance Accelerated	0	0	0	1					
3rd Year BA Music	33	27	35	26	35	31	29	27	26
2nd Year BA Music	35	31	29	37	31	33	35	26	24
1st Year BA Music	36	36	27	26	37	41	41	34	29

Students by Course & Year	2008/9	2007/8	2006/7	2005/6	2004/5	2003/4	2002/3	2001/2	2000/1
4th Year BA Music International	0	3	3						
3rd Year BA Music International	1	0	2						
3rd Year Music Technology	27	27							
2nd Year Music Technology	42	32	32						
1st Year Music Technology	41	45	39	39					
4th Year BA Music Technology International	3								
3rd Year BA Music Technology International	3	3							
4th Year European Studies	6	14	11						
3rd Year European Studies	5	8	16	8					
2nd Year European Studies	17	10	13	16	14				
1st Year European Studies	17	24	22	20	22	19			
4th Year Finance & Venture Management	21	15							
3rd Year Finance & Venture Management	14	19	22						
2nd Year Finance & Venture Management	11	18	21	25					
1st Year Finance & Venture Management	19	16	20	28	29				
4th Year French & Historical Studies	0	0	0	0	0	1	2		
3rd Year French & Historical Studies	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	
2nd Year French & Historical Studies	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	3
1st Year French & Historical Studies	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3
4th Year German & Historical Studies	0	0	0	0	2	0	6	0	1
3rd Year German & Historical Studies	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	6	
2nd Year German & Historical Studies	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	6
1st Year German & Historical Studies	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	3
3rd Year BA Mathematics	2	6							
2nd Year BA Mathematics	4	4	6						
1st Year BA Mathematics	0	3	4	10					
4th Year BA Maths International	1								
3rd Year Media Studies	32	31	30	38					
2nd Year Media Studies	36	34	34	35	39				
1st Year Media Studies	35	38	37	38	40	42			
4th Year BA Media Studies International	2	4							
3rd Year BA Media Studies International	1	1							
2nd Year BA Multimedia	12								
1st Year BA Multimedia	15	15							
2nd Year BA Politics	14								
1st Year BA Politics	26	22							
3rd Year Psychology	55	57	38	34	35	36	31		
2nd Year Psychology	53	54	57	36	35	38	37	34	
1st Year Psychology	26	25	21	23	21	25	23	20	16
Applied Social Studies	43	14	18	22	0	34	0	46	47
3rd Year Social Science	41	33	38	43	27				
2nd Year Social Science	49	43	34	40	45	30			
1st Year Social Science	65	60	50	36	45	44	35		
4th Year BA Social Science International	1								
3rd Year BA Social Science International	0	1							
Total	6016	5407	5148	5069	4826	4689	4444	4177	3799

Students by Course & Year	2008/9	2007/8	2006/7	2005/6	2004/5	2003/4	2002/3	2001/2	2000/1
Diploma Courses									
Ard Diploma san Aistriuchan	34	34	19						
Postgraduate Diploma in Adult & Community Education	23	23	22	22	24	20	26	27	45
H Diploma in Applied Physics*	2	4	1	1	2	4	12	20	31
H Diploma in Arts (Adult Guidance & Counselling)	22	19	14	20	18	12	9	10	11
H Diploma in Arts (Applications of I.C.T. in Education)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	12
(Kilkenny & Maynooth)									
H Diploma in Anthropology	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	5	7
H Diploma in Arts (Civic, Social & Political Education)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0
Postgraduate Diploma in Community Work	26	27	41	26	22	18	16	12	16
H Diploma in Arts (Cultural Tourism)*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
H Diploma in Arts (Finance)	7	6	8	6	12	10	11	10	4
H Diploma in Arts (Remote Sensing)	0	17	16	15	14	19	0	19	16
Postgraduate Diploma in Arts (School Guidance Counselling)	17	25	21	23	20	22	23	23	24
H Diploma in Economic Science	2	3	1	3	6	3	4	1	1
Postgraduate Diploma in Education	159	151	141	170	160	161	156	160	169
Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Management	21	26	21	25	28	31	31	28	26
Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Leadership	143								
Postgraduate Diploma in Electronic Engineering	6	1							
H Diploma in Information Technology*	6	5	6	6	10	9	16	55	107
H Diploma in Innovative Teaching & Learning	0	0	5	20					
H Diploma in Irish History	11	13	17	13	13	17	19	7	7
H Diploma in Mathematics	4	1	3	3	1	1	6	5	4
H Diploma in Mathematical Science	2	2	1	1	1	0	3	0	0
H Diploma in Mathematical Studies	1	3							
Postgraduate Diploma in Music Technology	7	3	3	2	0	5	0	2	9
H Diploma in Philosophy	9	12	11	10	12	8			
H Diploma in Software Engineering	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	3
H Diploma in Statistics	0	3	3	2	1	1	5	1	
Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education	31	21							
Diploma in Arts (Adult Guidance & Counselling)	3	15	21	14	16	25	26	26	25
Diploma in Arts (Drama & Theatre Studies)	21	27	29	30	29	35	35	21	19
Diploma in Addiction Studies	29	46							
Diploma in Church Music	10	12	6	7	9	11	0	6	23
Diploma in Community & Youth Work	74	68	52	52	37	42	39	42	48
Diploma in Continuing Education	0	0	0	0	0	0	41	23	18
Diploma in Local History	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diploma in Mediation & Conflict Resolution	13								
Diploma in Philosophy	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	7	7
Diploma in Rural Development	0	7	11	18	22	10	18	19	20
Diploma sa Ghaeilge	53	44	24	38	25	8			
Postgraduate Certificate in Anthropology	2	7	1	8					
Professional Certificate in Teaching & Learning	19	19							
Certificate in Sociological Teaching & Learning	0	11							

Students by Course & Year	2008/9	2007/8	2006/7	2005/6	2004/5	2003/4	2002/3	2001/2	2000/1
Certificate in Adult Guidance Training of Trainers	0	0	0	0	17	0	14	20	16
Certificate in Science	17	9	6	12	12	25	12		
Certificate in Engineering	7	7	5	10	3				
Certificate in Economics, Finance & Venture Management	7	6	5	2					
International Foundation Certificate	5	7	3	2					
Distance Education Degree	73	124	118	117	124	133	131	121	122
Distance Education Postgraduate Degree	0	0	0	0	0	0	19		
Degree Extension for Engineers (DEFT)	15	15	21	17	12	9			
Erasmus Exchange Programme Abroad	55	44	63	54	30	25	26	35	8
Erasmus Exchange Programme Visiting	198	196	197	179	169	146	140	121	89
Occasional Students (includes Qualifiers & BATH)	289	283	274	268	268	279	289	321	306
Teastas I Muineadh na Gaeilge d'Aosaigh	15								
Teastas I Litriocht na Gaeilge	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	
Total	1438	1348	1190	1196	1117	1091	1134	1202	1193
Part-time Undergraduate Degree:									
BA Local & Community Studies (Kilkenny & Maynooth)	186	194	222	223	184	187	200	230	189
Remote Learning Degree: BSc Rural Development	0	12	14	21	22				
Grand Total	7640	6961	6574	6509	6149	5967	5778	5609	5181

* These courses were assisted by the European Social Fund

+ Some of the students on these courses were assisted by the European Social Fund

Student Numbers by Faculty & Graduate Status	2008/9	%	2007/8	%	2006/7	%	2005/6	%	2004/5	%	2003/4	%	2002/3	%
Full-Time														
Arts, Celtic Studies & Philosophy Undergrad	3897	51	3470	50	3192	49	3285	51	3127	51	3005	51	2803	49
Arts, Celtic Studies & Philosophy Postgrad	713	9	708	10	758	12	783	12	761	12	778	13	694	12
Science & Engineering Undergrad	1222	16	1200	17	1142	18	1013	16	981	16	950	16	984	17
Science & Engineering Postgrad	304	4	261	4	253	4	242	4	224	4	233	4	226	4
Sub-Total	6136	80	5639	81	5345	83	5323	83	5093	83	4966	84	4707	82
Part-Time														
Arts, Celtic Studies & Philosophy Undergrad	624	8	647	9	596	9	638	10	562	9	560	10	601	10
Arts, Celtic Studies & Philosophy Postgrad	513	7	280	4	216	3	173	3	125	2	123	2	126	2
Science & Engineering Undergrad	16	0	15	0	38	0	19	0	22	0	9	0	0	0
Science & Engineering Postgrad	25	0	16	0	1	0	6	0	7	0	5	0	14	0
Sub-Total	1178	15	958	13	851	12	836	13	716	11	697	12	741	12
Total	7314	95	6597	94	6196	95	6159	96	5809	94	5663	96	5448	94
Erasmus Visiting	198	3	196	3	197	3	179	3	169	3	146	2	140	3
Erasmus Abroad #	55	1	44	1	63	1	54	1	30	0	25	0	26	0
NUI Certificate in Management of Adult Education Guidance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	14	0
Distance Education	73	1	124	2	118	2	117	2	124	2	133	2	150	3
Total	7585	100	6917	100	6511	100	6455	100	6119	100	5942	100	5752	100

Already included in Full-Time Figures above

An Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta & Gaelscolaíochta

Analog Devices

Aspire

Athlone Community Taskforce

Atlantic Philanthropies

Austrian Film Magazine Skip

Bayer Schering Pharma AG

Biosensia

Broadcasting Commission of Ireland (BCI)

Canal Communities Local Drugs Task Force

Carton House Golf Club

Central Statistics Office (CSO)

Centre for Cross Border Studies

Centre for Study of Historical Irish Houses and Estates

Centres for Science, Engineering and Technology (CSET)

Cisco Systems Inc.

Citigroup

Clondalkin Partnership Scholarship 2005

Clondalkin Partnership Ltd.

COFORD Forest Research Programme 2000-2006

Combat Poverty Agency

Commission on Nursing Hours

Connecticut Cooperative Highway Research Program (USA)

Cumas Teoranta

Crisis Pregnancy Agency

DAFRD Research Stimulus Fund

Department of Agriculture and Food

Department of Education and Science

Department of Foreign Affairs

Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government

Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform

Discovery Programme

Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)

Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI)

Educational Studies Association of Ireland (ESAI)

Eircom

Eli Lilly

Embark Initiative (IRCSET) Postdoctoral Fellowship Scheme

Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) Projects

Enterprise Ireland Advance Technologies Research Programme

Enterprise Ireland Basic Research Grants Scheme

Enterprise Ireland Commercialisation Fund

Enterprise Ireland Commercialisation Fund Proof of Concept Phase

Enterprise Ireland Commercialisation Fund Technology Development Phase

Enterprise Ireland Feasibility Study Grant

Enterprise Ireland Innovation Partnership Feasibility Study

Enterprise Ireland International Collaboration Programme

Enterprise Ireland Research Innovation Fund

Enterprise Ireland Ulysses

Enterprise Ireland/IRCSET

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Environmental Sciences Association of Ireland (ESAI)

Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI/USA)

EPA Environmental RTDI Programme 2000-2006

EPA STRIVE Programme 2007-2013

European Union International Scientific Cooperation (INCO) Programme

European Union Cooperative Research Action for Technology (CRAFT) Initiative

European Union ERASMUS Programme

European Union ESPON Research Programme

European Union Fifth Framework Programme (FP5)

European Union Sixth Framework Programme (FP6)

European Union Seventh Framework Programme (FP7)

European Union INTAS Initiative

European Union INTERREG Programme

European Union Leonardo da Vinci Programme (2000 –2006)

European Union Marie Curie Fellowships

European Union Research Training Network Grant

European Union Socrates Programme

European Union STREP Project

European Commission (European Year of Citizenship through Education 2005)

European Molecular Biology Organisation (EMBO)

European Office of Aerospace Research and Development (EOARD)

European Space Agency (ESA)

Fingal Development Board

Foras na Gaeilge

French Embassy in Ireland

Geological Survey of Ireland

HEA Intermediary Funding

HEA North South Programme for Collaborative Research

HEA Programme for Research in Third-Level Institutions (PRTL CYCLE 4)

HEA Strategic Initiatives Fund

HEA Technological Sector Research

HEA/Media Lab Europe

Health Research Board (HRB)

Henkel Loctite Ireland

Heritage Council

Hewlett Packard (Manufacturing)

Higher Education and Training Awards Council (HETAC)

HRB Cochrane Training Fellowship

HRB Equipment Grant

HRB Programme Grant for Research on Blood Utilisation and Hepatitis C

HRB Research Awards

HRB Research Project Grants – General

Intel Corporation

International Centre for Local & Regional Development (ICLRD)

International Reading Association

IRCHSS Post Doctoral Fellowships

IRCHSS Research Project Grants

IRCHSS Senior Research Fellowships

IRCSET Basic Research Award

IRCSET Embark Initiative

IRCSET Postdoctoral Fellowship Scheme

IRCSET Ulysses Scheme

Ireland Canada University Foundation (ICUF)

Ireland Newfoundland Partnership

Irish Aid – Programme of Strategic Cooperation between Irish Aid
and the Higher Education and Research Institute (2007-2011)

Irish Equine Centre

Irish Georgian Society

Irish Hospice Foundation

Irish Research Council for Humanities and Social Sciences (IRCHSS)

Irish Research Council for Science, Engineering and Technology (IRCSET)

Irish Universities Association (IUA)

James and Adeline Callery

Joint Astronomy Centre (USA)

Joseph Rowntree Trust

Kildare VEC

Leverhulme Trust

Local Government Computing Services Board (LGCSB)

Marine Institute of Ireland

Meath County Development Board

Merck KGaA

Microsoft Ireland

Misean Cara – Mission Support from Ireland

Muscular Dystrophy Ireland (MDI)

NARSAD Scientific Council (USA)

National Advisory Committee on Drugs (NACD)

National Centre for Technology in Education (NCTE)

National Consultative Committee on Racism and Interculturalism (NCCRI)

National Council for Special Education (NCSE)

National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis (NIRSA)

National Rosacea Society (USA)

National Youth Council of Ireland (NYCI)

NORFACE ERA-NET Research Programme

NUI Maynooth

NUI Maynooth New Researcher Award

NUI Maynooth Publications Grant

NUI Maynooth Quality Promotion Office

NUI Maynooth Research Enhancement Fund

NUI Maynooth, ITT and DIT
 Ordnance Survey Ireland
 Oriflame Glocal Technical Centre
 Office of the Minister for Integration
 Office of Public Works (OPW)
 Office of the Houses of the Oireachtas
 PLANET The Partnerships Network
 Pro Helvetia, Arts Council of Switzerland
 PRODEX Fund (European Space Agency)
 Raising Performance Ltd.
 Royal Irish Academy (RIA)
 Science and Technology Facilities Council
 Science Foundation Ireland (SFI)
 Seagate Technology Media (Ireland)
 SFI Basic Research Grant
 SFI Conference and Workshop Grant
 SFI EUREKA Award
 SFI Industry/Research/Equipment Supplement
 SFI Investigator Programme Grant
 SFI President of Ireland Young Researcher Award (PIYRA)
 SFI Principal Investigator Career Enhancement (PICA)
 SFI Research Frontiers Programme
 SFI Science Teacher Assistant Researchers (STAR)
 SFI Strategic Research Cluster (SRC)
 SFI Walton Fellowship
 Sisters of Mercy
 Solvay Pharmaceuticals B.V.
 Spanish Ministry of Science and Technology
 TDK Electronics Ireland Ltd
 Teagasc
 Teagasc Walsh Fellowship
 Trócaire
 The Equality Authority
 The Jerusalem College of Engineering
 The NHS National R&D Programme on Forensic Mental Health (UK)
 The Ohio State University
 The Wellcome Trust
 University of Glasgow
 US Air Force
 Western Development Commission

