

# UNIVERSITY NEWS



## Maynooth Scientist leads €6.3M SFI/Industry Project in Drone Operations Research

Research based out of Maynooth University exploring practical uses for drone technology is awarded €6.3m from Science Foundation Ireland and industry investment



Pictured at the announcement in Waterford airport are Margie McCarthy, Director of Innovation, Communications and Education, Science Foundation Ireland; Minister of State for Training, Skills, Innovation, Research and Development, John Halligan TD; Professor Philip Nolan, President; and Dr Tim McCarthy, Department of Computer Science

Minister of State for Training, Skills, Innovation, Research and Development, John Halligan, TD, recently announced funding from Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) of €1.8m - with a further €4.5m investment from industry (cash and in-kind) to Dr Tim McCarthy, Department of Computer Science and National Centre for Geocomputation, for a new drone technology initiative known as U-Flyte.

U-Flyte is an SFI Strategic Research Partnership award based at Maynooth University that involves collaboration with partners across the aviation industry, and includes input from Airbus, Irelandia Aviation, Intel and 15 other relevant companies and agencies, with an active interest in the development and deployment of drone technology.

## Maynooth University Psychology Professor Awarded RIA Gold Medal



Professor Malcolm 'Mac' MacLachlan

Minister of State for Higher Education, Mary Mitchell O'Connor, TD, presented the Royal Irish Academy Gold Medal to Professor Malcolm 'Mac' MacLachlan

The award recognises his outstanding contribution to the Social Sciences, and in particular, his research into how psychological, social and technological factors can be used to make society more accessible for all, especially to people with disabilities.

Royal Irish Academy (RIA) Gold Medals are awarded to two outstanding academics each year, and are recognised as a truly national celebration of scholarly achievement. The medals are sponsored by the Higher Education Authority.

*in this issue*

# Psychology Professor Awarded RIA Gold Medal

(continued)

The RIA Gold Medal is a testament to a lifetime of passionate commitment to the highest standards in scholarship and is a well-deserved recognition of scientific excellence.

Mac MacLachlan is Professor of Psychology and Social Inclusion and Director of the ALL Institute (Assisting Living & Learning) at Maynooth University. He is also Research & Innovation Lead for WHO's Global Collaboration on Assistive Technology programme, and Knowledge Management Lead for the United Nations' Partnership for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

He has worked as an academic, clinician, organisational consultant and policy adviser in Europe, Asia, Africa and South America; with national government and United Nations agencies, as well as in the private sector.

President of Maynooth University, Professor Philip Nolan, commented: "Professor MacLachlan's research on how psychosocial factors and technology can be used to help marginalised people 'break into' society is exemplary, and has the potential to affect people's lives in a very tangible way."

Professor MacLachlan said: "Receiving the Gold Medal from the Royal Irish Academy is an honour, and it means a lot to have our research recognised in this way. We will continue to build on this research, in collaboration with partners from government, civil society, corporates and United Nations agencies, in Ireland and internationally, with the intention of making clear and tangible differences to people's lives."

This is the second RIA Gold Medal for a Maynooth University professor. In 2013 Maynooth University Geographer, Professor Rob Kitchen, was presented with the Royal Irish Academy Gold Medal in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Social Sciences through his research into spatial science and its potential impact on society and public policy. Professors MacLachlan and Kitchen are the only two Gold Medallists in the Social Sciences employed in a university in the Republic of Ireland.

## FROM THE EDITOR

University News is published three times a year by the Maynooth University Communications and Marketing Office. For questions, or to submit stories and ideas any time of the year, email [communications@mu.ie](mailto:communications@mu.ie).

# Maynooth University Grows Share of CAO First Preference Applications

Maynooth University has grown its share of CAO first preference applications with more than 3,360 students selecting Maynooth as their university of choice for the 2018-19 academic year

Maynooth's growth comes at a time when overall CAO application figures have declined. This speaks to the success of Maynooth's undergraduate curriculum, which offers students a level of flexibility in when they choose to specialise, first-year critical skills modules, and opportunities to study across disciplines that are unique among Irish universities.

The latest CAO figures reveal increased interest in Maynooth University courses across all major fields, with a 33% increase in the number of first preference

applications for Law, 27% for Science and Maths Education, and 22% for Primary Education.

Commenting on the figures President Philip Nolan said: "Maynooth University has marked 20 years since its foundation in 1997, and this is another significant milestone for the University. Maynooth University has tremendous momentum as an institution, and our success allows us to continue to attract world-class researchers and highly motivated students to the University into the future."

# Maynooth University to Build New Student Centre

Maynooth University and Maynooth Students' Union (MSU) have appointed a design team to begin work on a new Student Centre to serve as the hub for student life on the campus



The new building is part of the next phase of Maynooth University's campus development plan, which is aimed at providing the critically important campus buildings and infrastructure needed to meet the changing needs of students, staff and the wider community.

The new Student Centre will serve as a home-from-home for students and a focal point for student life. The new building will open in early 2021 and serve as a hub for MSU, clubs, societies, events, and a variety of activities that help to create that special sense of belonging that is so important to the Maynooth student experience.

Designed by Scott Tallon Walker Architects—who also designed the University's Library, Iontas and School of Education buildings—the new Student Centre's distinctive architecture will create an iconic destination on campus that is welcoming, vibrant, friendly and inclusive. The Student Centre will be built and operated to the highest sustainability standards, including an innovative 'outdoor living room' under a sustainable canopy, blurring the distinction between indoor and outdoor space and creating a unique space and resource for student life.

# Project in Drone Operations Research (continued)

The aim of U-Flyte is to tackle the current global log-jam impeding the wider development of drone operation and the roll-out of commercial services by providing the necessary research, data and case studies to guide agencies and industry in allowing drones to safely fly further and higher than the current limits.

The programme will see researchers recreate flying environments for drones as digital models, taking into account a wide range of factors like air traffic, buildings and electricity lines, and then testing them in the real world at Waterford Airport and other selected locations around Ireland.

Dr Tim McCarthy said: "U-Flyte is going to play a vital role in helping the development of drone applications, as well as give us essential data, which in turn, will contribute greatly to how we teach artificial intelligence

(AI), robotics and data science at Maynooth. The input from our industry stakeholders means we will have access to real-life scenarios and challenges, ensuring more robust modelling and useful applications."

Professor Philip Nolan, President of Maynooth University said: "the launch of U-Flyte serves to underline Maynooth University's position as a scientific leader in an industry that is at the forefront of research and innovation. We believe Maynooth University is uniquely positioned to carry out what is truly future-setting research because of the strong relationships with our industry partners and the interdisciplinary research strengths we bring to bear on an issue as multi-faceted and complex as the future of drone operations."



# State-of-the Art Preservation Facility IFI Irish Film Archive @ Maynooth University Opens

The IFI Irish Film Archive @ Maynooth University, a new purpose-built moving image preservation facility at Maynooth University, was launched on 9 March by Josepha Madigan, TD, Minister of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

The largest facility of its kind in Ireland, it triples the IFI Irish Film Archive's current storage capacity, thereby ensuring the preservation of Ireland's national film heritage for generations to come.

In November 2011, the IFI officially launched the IFI Irish Film Archive Preservation Fund after its archive building in Temple Bar reached capacity. Through this innovative partnership with Maynooth University, and support from the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht; Maynooth University; the Irish Film Board; and the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland; the IFI Irish Film Archive @ Maynooth University has come to fruition. Measuring 180 sq m, the facility contains 120 sq m of climate-controlled vault space to help house part of the IFI Irish Film Archive's collection of 30,000 cans of film dating from 1897.

Speaking at the opening of the facility, the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht Josepha Madigan TD said: "This archive is a treasure trove which



Prof Philip Nolan, President, Maynooth University; Ross Keane, CEO/Director of the Irish Film Institute and Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Josepha Madigan, TD

contains over a 100 years of Irish stories on film. It will preserve those stories so that new generations will see how the preceding generations looked upon themselves."

Maynooth University and the IFI also have initiated a new academic partnership that uses the archive as a teaching and research resource. Students in MU's Master's in Critical and Creative Media course (Department of Media Studies) have the opportunity to take a module in Media Archives that is co-taught by IFI's Kasandra O'Connell, and Maynooth's Dr Denis Condon and Prof Maria Pramaggiore, also an IFI Council Member.

## Junior Cert Business Studies Awards

The Annual Business Studies awards ceremony took place on Tuesday, 30 January

The event, now in its third year, recognised both the contribution to teaching, and promotion of excellence in the discipline of 97 schools, and the extraordinary achievement of more than 550 of their students. The Department of Economics, Finance and Accounting hosted the event in association with the Business Studies Teachers Association of Ireland, and in conjunction with the Department of Law and the School of Business.



Pictured: Prof Philip Nolan with Orla Barrett and Liam Coolahan of Athlone Community College at the Junior Certificate Business Studies Awards. Athlone Community College was this year's top performing school, with an impressive 22 students achieving 'A' grade in their 2017 higher level Business Studies exam.

## "Secrets to Well-Being" Talk

"We have the Power of Choice"... Philly McMahon talks candidly to Brian Purcell at Maynooth University on the Secrets to Well-Being. A captive audience listened intently to Dublin GAA Star, Philly McMahon, on Wednesday, 14 March as he spoke to former *Apprentice* Judge Brian Purcell about the 'The Secret to Well-Being' at the Maynooth Business School Guest Lecture. This talk coincided with the National Health and Well-Being Week and provided the opportunity for Maynooth University marketing students, Maynooth Post Primary School students and industry to hear Philly's story.



## Screening of "Condemned to Remember"



Tomi Reichental and Peter Cassells

On Monday, 26 February, the Kennedy Institute presented a Special Screen Showing of "Condemned to Remember"

The film follows Irish Holocaust survivor Tomi Reichental as he embarks on an epic journey across a Europe in turmoil, and relives the horrors of the Second World War, over seventy years after his liberation from Bergen Belsen Concentration Camp. In the words of Tomi: "I am condemned to remember the terrors of the past and compelled to resist the return of the evil that turned Europe into a wasteland."

The film demonstrates a strong connection with what is happening in Europe currently, refugees fleeing war torn Syria, nationalism and right wing movements and the parallels in the mass murder of more than 8,000 Muslim men and boys in Srebrenica in 1995. Tomi continues: "We are all possible victims, possible perpetrators, possible bystanders."

The strong themes of the film point to injustice and human rights, and that such injustices must not be let continue. The film was followed by an engaging panel discussion with Tomi Reichental and Shaykh Dr Umar Al-Qadri, along with Dieke Potzel, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany in Dublin; Gerry Gregg, Director of the film; and Peter Cassells, Executive Director of the Kennedy Institute.

# Citizens' Dialogue on the Future of Europe at Maynooth University

Helen McEntee, TD, Minister for European Affairs, and Nathalie Loiseau, Minister for European Affairs for France, attended Maynooth University as part of Minister McEntee's Citizens' Dialogue on the Future of Europe

The February event, which normally focuses on EU job opportunities for students, this year included an interactive panel discussion with the Irish and French Ministers of European Affairs and Maynooth students. Prof John O'Brennan moderated at the event with some of the 300 students in the audience participating on this topical discussion.

Speaking in advance of the dialogue, Minister McEntee said: "It is vital that Ireland brings its influence to bear on the future direction of the European Union. The EU is not perfect and responding to the needs and concerns of our citizens should be a priority. The EU must, therefore, look to its citizens for guidance to hear from them what they want from the EU and how they want it to work better for them."



Helen McEntee TD, Minister for European Affairs; Nathalie Loiseau, Minister for European Affairs for France; Manon Derue, French Erasmus student; and Prof John O'Brennan, Centre for European and Eurasian Studies, Maynooth University

## Joint INTO-Froebel Seminar on School Placement

A seminar on School Placement, organised jointly by the INTO and Maynooth University Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education, took place on Saturday 14 April

The purpose of the seminar was to discuss experiences of school placement and to consider the opportunities and challenges from the perspective of principals, teachers, students and tutors. INTO recently conducted a survey on the subject of school placement with teachers and principals, randomly selected from their membership database. Findings from this research were presented at the seminar, along with research on the student experience of placement. The keynote presentation by Amanda Corrigan from the University of Strathclyde outlined the Scottish perspective on the policy and practice of student teacher school experience. It is anticipated that the seminar will inform policy and help to address the current challenges of school placement.



Pictured (l-r): Séamie Ó Néill, Fiona Nic Fhionnlaich, Froebel Dept of Primary and Early Childhood Education; Amanda Corrigan, University of Strathclyde; Deirbhle Nic Craith, INTO; Dr Triona Stokes, Tony Sweeney, Prof Marie McLoughlin, Froebel Dept of Primary and Early Childhood Education

## TeachMeet 2018



Froebel TeachMeet Organisers 2018

### The 4th annual Froebel TeachMeet was held on 8 March in the School of Education Building

TeachMeet is an organised, but informal meeting where participants offer a variety of nano (two-minute), or macro (seven-minute) presentations on any aspect of education. Participants can be actively involved as presenters, or can simply relax and listen to the presentations.

The TeachMeet is a student-led event, with the 3rd year, BEd student teachers taking on the role as part of their elective module *Dissolving Boundaries through ICT*, under the facilitation of Module Leader, Keith Young. The event is an opportunity for students to demonstrate their planning and leadership abilities. There were 20 speakers and 70 attendees present, including teachers, principals and other academics. The friendly but professional atmosphere enabled networking, and the inspiring content from the presenters provided the stimulus for professional conversations over the evening.

The Froebel Department places great emphasis on nurturing strong relationships with our partner schools, and events such as the TeachMeet are an important part of that outreach. The presentations are available on twitter [@FroebelTeachMeet](https://twitter.com/FroebelTeachMeet) or [FroebelTeachMeet@meet\\_2018](mailto:FroebelTeachMeet@meet_2018).

## Postgrad Open Day

The Postgraduate Open Day was held on Tuesday, 27 February, with 550 prospective postgraduate students in attendance

The new format for the event included an extended information session timetable and exhibition spaces in both the Library and the School of Education buildings. The Graduate Studies Office would like to thank the Maynooth University Library, academic departments and support services for their important contributions to the enhanced Open Day activities.

A busy Library Foyer





## Two Maynooth University Academics Awarded SFI Career Development Awards

Minister of State for Training, Skills and Innovation, John Halligan, TD, has announced the Science Foundation Ireland's investment of €896,000

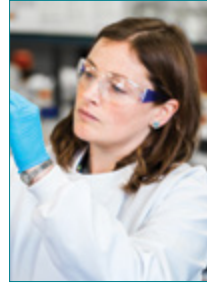
**Dr Conor Murphy** from the Department of Geography has been awarded €487,000 to develop seasonal hydrological forecasting for Ireland, and **Dr Andrew Parnell**, who will join the Maynooth University Hamilton Institute in June 2018, has been awarded €409,000 for industrial supervised learning.



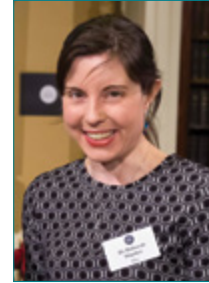
Dr Andrew Parnell, Prof Mark Ferguson, John Halligan TD, Dr Conor Murphy

## Maynooth Academics Awarded New Frontier Research Awards

**Dr Karen English**, Department of Biology and **Dr Deborah Hayden**, Department of Early Irish, have been awarded prestigious Starter Laureate awards, by the Irish Research Council



Dr Karen English



Dr Deborah Hayden

The awards are among 36 announced by Richard Bruton TD, Minister for Education and Skills, and John Halligan TD, Minister of State for Training, Skills, Innovation and Research and Development, part of a €29.6 million investment by the Irish Research Council in "frontier research" projects.

**Dr Karen English** was awarded €400k for her research on understanding how the pro-inflammatory environment present in severe asthma influences mesenchymal stromal cell immunomodulation, and therapeutic efficacy.

**Dr Hayden's** award of €190k will go to her project, entitled 'Medieval Irish Medicine in its North-western European Context: a Case Study of Two Unpublished Texts'. It will focus on the contents and context of two interrelated Irish-language medical tracts that have remained almost entirely untouched by modern scholarship.

## Campus Services Initiatives

*An Garda Síochána Blue Bike Program* for Maynooth University was recently launched as part of the Community Garda Clinics

The *Blue Bike Program* is a pro-active, crime prevention initiative, which is designed to remind thieves there is surveillance in the area and sends a message to potential thieves. A blue bike is now located on campus in a bid raise bicycle security awareness, reminding students to think more about bike security and to take greater measures to prevent it. The Program has been successful in the Dún Laoghaire- Rathdown County Council area in reducing the number of bicycle thefts.

Over the past few months **Community Garda Clinics** were held on Campus in the Library Foyer. During the clinics the Garda are available to answer general queries from staff and students, and process forms such as applications for passports, driving licences, holiday visas, etc. At recent clinics, students have been availing of the opportunity to register to vote.

The **Cycle Clinics** are located at the cycle shelter beside the Phoenix Restaurant, on every second Wednesday during term time. The Cycle Clinic is on campus to look after all cycling needs, such as repairs, sales, trade ups, servicing, parts and advice will be available. Full details on [www.mu.ie](http://www.mu.ie) under 'Travelling by Bicycle', <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/location/cycling-maynooth>



Garda Joseph McGarrigle advising a student on bike security at the Blue Bike Program launch on campus in March

With the positive response to the **Cycle to Work Scheme** showcase last year, Campus Services organised Cycle to Work showcase on Wednesday, 18 April in the Iontas Foyer. Coyne Cycles Ltd hosted the event, which had a large range of bikes on display.

## Team Maths Finals on Campus

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics hosted the national finals of the Team Maths competition on February 10 in Renehan Hall

Twelve teams of Leaving Certificate students took part in the event, which is organised by the Irish Mathematics Teachers Association. The winners were Christian Brothers College Cork, and the runners-up were from the Patrician Secondary School in Newbridge. Prior to the competition, Professor David Wraith presented awards to the three students who had the best performance nationally on the 2017 Leaving Certificate Mathematics examination, and Dr Mark Walsh gave a talk entitled 'What shape is the universe'. The event was organised by Dr Ann O'Shea.

## Rotary Club Donation to University



Bernadette Mulvey, President of Rotary, presents a cheque to Peter Cassells, Director of the Edward M Kennedy Institute, with Aileen O'Brien, Dr Delma Sweeney. The Rotary Club donation of €10,000 to the Edward M Kennedy Institute is to support members of the travelling community undertake programmes in the University, including the Masters in Mediation and Conflict Intervention. Thanking Rotary Ireland for this generous support, Peter Cassells said access to education will transform the lives of individual travellers and their community.

# National Student Engagement Programme Comes to Maynooth

The Maynooth Students' Union and the University have agreed to participate in the National Student Engagement Programme (NStEP).

NStEP is a collaborative initiative established by the Union of Students in Ireland (USI), the Higher Education Authority (HEA), and Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI). The National Student Engagement Programme works with 23 Higher Education Institutions, including Maynooth University, to develop student capabilities and institutional capacity to enhance student engagement at all levels across the higher education system.

The Office of the Dean of Teaching and Learning and the Maynooth Students' Union, along with an internal working group, will work in partnership to establish and develop NStEP on the campus. The internal working group consists of representatives from the Strategy & Quality Office, the Access Office, Student Services, the Graduate Studies Office, and the Departmental Administrators' Forum.

The roll-out of NStEP at the University has been timed to coincide with Maynooth University's Institutional Review. This is a deliberate move, as NStEP encourages students to engage with quality enhancement and quality assurance activities in their institutions. For more information, or to get involved email: dean.teachingandlearning@mu.ie

## NStEP Institutional Analysis Day



Participants at the Institutional Analysis Day

As part of the implementation of the National Student Engagement Programme, the Office of the Dean of Teaching & Learning and the Maynooth Students' Union hosted an Institutional Analysis Day on Wednesday, 21 February

The Institutional Analysis Day was a workshop facilitated by the NStEP national co-ordinator and a consultant from SPARQS (Student Partnerships in Quality Scotland). The aim of the workshop was to identify themes and priorities that would be suitable for a partnership approach in Maynooth University.

More than 60 students and staff from across the University attended, who were split into groups to discuss areas of student partnership and student engagement. The Office of the Dean of Teaching & Learning will share their plans to implement NStEP across the campus in the coming weeks.

For more information about the National Student Engagement Programme at Maynooth University or to get involved please email: dean.teachingandlearning@mu.ie

## Clubs and Societies Award Winners 2018



MU Trampoline Club, reaching new heights as they win Club Event of the Year for their 24 Hour Bounceathon

The annual Clubs and Societies Awards were held on Wednesday, 4 April in the Glenroyal hotel

The Clubs & Societies Awards are a celebration of the valuable role that clubs and societies play at Maynooth University. The Awards are an opportunity to recognise and reward the wide range of achievements and contributions that both individuals and groups have made to campus life.

The following are the categories in which Awards were made:

Best Video	MUCK
Civic and Charity Award	Green Campus
Best Poster	Drama
Give A Little Do A Lot	Trampoline
Best Photo	MUCK
Best New Society	The Purpose Movement
Best New Club	Airsoft
Best Society First Year	David Ryan, DJ Society
Best First Year Athlete	Sofiya Nykolyuk, Archery
Society Person of the Year	Róisín Ní Mhaoláin, Cuallacht
Clubs League	Trampoline
Societies League	Dance
Club Executive of the Year	Joe Fenlon
Society Event of the Year	Dominicon, Games Soc.
Club Event of the Year	Trampoline, 24 Hour Bounceathon
Athlete of the Year	Noel Hendrick, MUCK
Most Improved Society	DJ
Most Improved Club	Rovers
Best Society	Dance
Best Club	Ultimate Frisbee

And on 19 April, final year, Maynooth University Business Class Rep, Katie Deegan won the award for *Class Rep of the Year* at the USI National Student Achievement Awards Ireland.



## International Women's Day 2018

### Maynooth University celebrated International Women's Day with two events on campus

A Symposium entitled "Citizen Woman 1918/2018" to mark International Women's Day was hosted by Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute, Department of Sociology, Athena SWAN and Decade of Commemorations Committee. The theme for this year was #pressforprogress.

The day included talks by Professor Linda Connolly, Director of the Social Sciences Institute, who researches gender, Irish society, family studies and migration and Claire McGing, Athena Swan Project Officer, who researches women in politics.

The following day, Human Resources and Athena SWAN invited all staff to a talk entitled "Advancing Gender Equality at Maynooth." Claire McGing gave information about the Athena SWAN Institutional application process, and key results from the 2017 Culture Survey on Gender Equality. Sarah Hawes, HR Equality Officer's talk was on the *Gender Equality Action Plan* and its impact on the wider Equality and Diversity agenda across the University. The event was chaired by Dr Fergus Ryan, Department of Law.

## Careers in Modern Languages Fair

The Careers in Modern Languages Fair, now in its third year at Maynooth University, took place on 1 February organised by Dr Clive W Earls, Head of German Studies

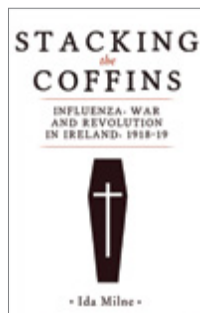


Language students from the School of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures learning all about the exciting careers prospects awaiting them with employers upon graduation

This annual event is aimed at students currently studying languages, international exchange students, alumni and indeed all students who are considering adding a language to their existing degrees. It has been attended in the last three years by some of the most significant graduate employers in the country including Accenture, Activision, Allianz Partners, eBay, the European Commission, GLG, Jameson Pernod Ricard, SAP, Wayfair, Workday.

Dr Clive W Earls said; "There is a massive range of career paths open for graduates with strong proficiency in one or more foreign language. After all, Ireland's National Skills Strategy 2025 and Ireland's Strategy for Foreign Languages in Education 2017-2026 categorically confirm that the greatest skills demand in Ireland is currently foreign language proficiency. So, it's truer now more than ever that foreign language proficiency is extremely valuable to graduates and vitally important to employers."

## Stacking the Coffins: the 1918-19 Influenza Pandemic in Ireland



Maynooth University Department of History and the Commemorations Committee, organised a talk in February by Dr Ida Milne

It co-incides with a book by Dr Milne, titled: *Stacking the Coffins, influenza, war and revolution in Ireland, 1918-19*.

Dr Milne's book began with her MA in Maynooth University, then as her PHD in TCD and now is part of her post-doctoral fellowship work in Maynooth. She currently holds an ELEVATE: Irish Research Council International Career Development Fellowship – co-funded by Marie Curie Actions at Maynooth University. The book will be published by Manchester University Press in May 2018, 100 years after influenza first came into Ireland.

## Scholars Contribute to The Cambridge History of Ireland

Five Maynooth University Historians contribute to a landmark survey of Irish history from c.600 to the present day. Prof Marian Lyons, Prof Terence Dooley, Prof Raymond Gillespie, Prof Emeritus Colm Lennon of the Department of History, and Prof Thomas O'Connor, Arts and Humanities Institute, have each written a piece for this comprehensive history of Ireland.



## Prizes and Scholarships Awards Ceremonies

The Maynooth University Prizes and Awards Ceremony is an annual event recognising academic excellence

A total of 293 prizes were awarded: 238 departmental prizes and 55 postgraduate scholarships, across two ceremonies, on 20 and 21 March in the John Hume Lecture Theatre 1. Among the new awards introduced for 2018 are; Outstanding Effort in Chinese Studies; the Gaelic Players Association (GPA) Jim Madden Leadership Programme Prize for the elite sportsperson with the highest mark in the Postgraduate Certificate in Professional Leadership in Education; and the Louise Duke Keegan Memorial Prize for highest essay mark in First Year English.



Pictured is the winner of the Pamela Manly Memorial Prize for the highest overall marks in Mathematical Studies in the second year examination – Ailbhe Travers. Ailbhe is pictured here with Elaine Keogh, eir; Pamela Manly's parents Philip and Dolores; Prof Philip Nolan and Paul Walsh, eir.

## Dhá ghradam náisiúnta buaite ag Cuallacht Cholm Cille



D'éirigh le Cumann Gaelach na hOllscoile, Cuallacht Cholm Cille, an dara háit i gComórtas Chonradh na Gaeilge don tríú leibhéal a bhaint amach i mí Feabhra chomh maith leis an tríú háit i gcomórtas Ghlór na nGael d'institiúidí tríú leibhéal a bhaint amach i mí an Mhárta. Tá Kevin Boushel, Dúlra Ní Áinle agus Sinéad Scully, Cuallacht Cholm Cille; le feiceáil sa ghrianghraf in éineacht leis an Dr Máire Ní Annracháin, Bord Stiúrtha Ghlór na nGael; agus Pól Ó Gallchóir, Cathaoirleach Bhord Fhoras na Gaeilge.

## Léacht ón Dr Maxim Fomin ar Chás Ludwig Mülhausen



An Dr Maxim Fomin ag labhairt ag an ócáid in Ollscoil Mhá Nuad.

Thug an Dr Maxim Fomin (Ollscoil Uladh) sárleacht uaidh (16/02/18) faoin teideal 'Bailliú béaloidis i dTeileann sna 1930í – Cás Ludwig Mülhausen' mar chuid de shraith seimineár taighde an Earraigh. Bronnadh scoláireacht von Humboldt ar an Dr Fomin le taighde a dhéanamh ar rhoinsí atá á gcoimeád in Ollscoil Tübingen. Is ar thorthaí an taighde sin a bhí an léacht bunaithe. Is féidir teacht ar thuilleadh eolais ar thionscnamh an Dr Fomin ag <http://www.uni-tuebingen.de/fakultaeten/philosophische-fakultaet/fakultaet/zugast-an-der-fakultaet/humboldt-forschungsstipendiatinnen.html>

## Siompóisiam Lae IVACS



Bhí slua breá i láthair ag an siompóisiam i mí Feabhra.

Reachtáil Lárionad na Gaeilge: Taighde, Teagasc agus Tástáil, Scoil an Léinn Cheiltigh, siompóisiam lae IVACS ar an teangeolaíocht chorpais, ar 24ú Feabhra 2018. Is é aidhm ionad taighde IVACS (*Inter-Varietal Applied Corpus Studies*) nascanna a thógáil idir teangeolaithe corpais in Éirinn agus go hidirnáisiúnta. Chuige seo, tá líonra gníomhach páirtneirí ó bhreis is 30 ollscoil in Éirinn agus thar lear forbartha ag an ionad le 18 mbliana anuas.

Ba é an Taighde Corpais i gComhthéacsanna Dúshlánacha príomhthéama an tSiompóisiam i mbliana, agus dhírigh go leor de na páipéir ar an teangeolaíocht chorpais i gcomhthéacs mionteangacha agus teangacha neamhfhorleathana. "Bhí sé tábhachtach dúinn," a mhínigh Aoife Ní Ghloinn, eagraí an imeachta, "aird a tharraingt ar an obair cheannródaíoch atá ar bun faoi láthair ar an teangeolaíocht chorpais i gcás na mionteangacha, agus plé a dhéanamh ar na dúshláin bhreise a bhaineann leis an obair sin, idir dhúshláin shochteangeolaíocha, dhúshláin theicniúla agus cheisteanna praiticiúla acmhainní."

## Seoladh LCC XLVIII - An Moinsíneoir Pádraig Ó Fiannachta: Saol agus Saothar

Dé hAoine 6 Aibreán, seoladh Léachtaí Cholm Cille XLVIII i Halla Renehan, mar chuid de chomhdháil na bliana seo. I nDíseart an Daingin a reáchtáladh léachtaí na bliana seo caite, agus duine de mhórscoláirí na Gaeilge, An Moinsíneoir Pádraig Ó Fiannachta, á cheiliúradh agus á chomóradh iontu. Tugtar san eagrán seo, leagan clóite na gcainteanna úd a tugadh anuraidh, agus aithris iontu ar chuid de na mór-éachtaí a d'éirigh leis a chur i gcrích in imeacht a shaoil, mar aon le cur síos ar a óige, idir a luath-óige sa Pheasideac agus a bhlianta luatha i Maigh Nuad. Deich gcaint ar fad a tugadh anuraidh, ach naoi n-aiste móide caint thras-scríofa atá ar fáil san eagrán seo, toisc go ndeachaigh duine de na cainteoirí, Domhnall Mac Síthigh (Danny Sheehy), ar shlí na firinne ar an gú lá de mhí an Mheithimh 2017. An Dr Tracey Ní Mhaonaigh, Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge, atá mar eagarthóir an téacs, agus duine dá cuid mac léinn dochtúireachta, Amy Mitchell, ina eagarthóir cunta.



Clúdach an leabhair: An Dr Tracey Ní Mhaonaigh atá mar eagarthóir an téacs.

## Léachtaí Cholm Cille 2018



An Dr Brian Ó Catháin, Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge, in éineacht le cuid de mhuintir Nualláin ag Léachtaí Cholm Cille 2018.

Chruinnigh slua mór isteach Dé hAoine 6 agus Dé Sathairn 7 Aibreán le haghaidh Léachtaí Cholm Cille 2018, 'Ón nGruagach Gréagach go Myles na gCopaleen: Saol agus Saothar Mhuintir Nualláin.' Is beag teaghlach a raibh an oiread tionchair acu ar shaothar na Gaeilge ó aimsir na hathbheochana i leith agus a bhí ag muintir Nualláin. Is liosta le háireamh iad na saothair a luaitear leo, idir fhicsean, aistí scolártha, aistriúcháin, iriseoireacht agus drámaí. Chuige sin, d'fhéach an seachtar cainteoirí le léargas a thabhairt ar oidhreacht mhuintir Nualláin agus ar an ghaol a bhí ag a saothair iomadúla dá chéile. Ba é an Dr Louis de Paor a thug an chéad léacht oíche Aoine agus é ag trácht ar an idirphlé atá le haithint i saothar triúr go háirithe, mar atá, Brian Ó Nualláin, An tAthair Gearóid Ó Nualláin agus an tAthair Peadar Ó Laoghaire. Spreag caint sin an Dr de Paor agus cainteanna eile na comhdhála plé bríomhar eolaiseach ach tugadh an focal scoir ag deireadh na comhdhála do mhuintir Nualláin féin, garchlann Mhíchíl V. Uí Nualláin agus Agnes Ní Ghormlaigh. Tá cuid acu sin le feiceáil sa ghrianghraf in éineacht leis an Dr Brian Ó Catháin a rinne teagmháil de chéaduair le James O'Nolan agus le Maeve Moriarty, sliocht Chaoimhin Uí Nualláin. Tuilleadh eolais le fáil ag [www.leachtaicholmcille.ie](http://www.leachtaicholmcille.ie)

## Scoth an cheoil ó ensemble traidisiúnta na hOllscoile



Bhí ceol traidisiúnta den scoth le cloisteáil i halla Riverstown ar an 15 Márta. Chuir an ensemble traidisiúnta ó Roinn Ceoil na hOllscoile agus a stiúrthóir, Aisling Ní Choisdealbha, an taispeántas speisialta seo ar fáil mar chuid de cheiliúradh na hOllscoile do Sheachtain na Gaeilge.



## Scríbhneoirí ar chuairt



An Dr Liam Mac Amhlaigh (ar chlé) agus mic léinn ón grúpa scríbhneoireachta 'An Ciorcal' in éineacht le Pól Ó Muirí, *The Irish Times* (ar dheis).

Bunaíodh grúpa scríbhneoireachta agus léirmheastóireachta nua i measc mac léinn na Nua-Ghaeilge sa bhliain 2017, 'An Ciorcal', a d'eascair as an spéis agus as an tsuim a bhí ag mic sa nualitríocht i nGaeilge, agus i dteangacha eile. Bhí baint ag an ngrúpa le hoíche chultúrtha a reáchtáladh i gcomhair le Seirbhís Leabharlanna Chill Dara i mí Dheireadh Fómhair.

Mar chuid den fhiontar le tuilleadh de cheird na scríbhneoireachta a fhoghlaim, tháinig beirt de na scríbhneoirí is bisiúla i seánraí éagsúla de shaol na Gaeilge chuig Ollscoil Mhá Nuad an téarma seo: Pól Ó Muirí (eagarthóir Gaeilge *The Irish Times*, file, úrscéalaí agus gearrscéalaí) agus Ré Ó Laignléis (gearrscéalaí, úrscéalaí, agus bunaitheoir An Scríobhlann - teach oiliúna scríbhneoireachta i gCo. an Chláir). Bhuaile an bheirt acu leis an ngrúpa le ceardlanna a rith leo agus roinneadar a saineolas go fíal.

## Seachtain na Gaeilge san Ollscoil



Orla Bradshaw, Oifigeach na Gaeilge; Kevin Boushel, Oifigeach na Gaeilge, Aontas na Mac Léinn; Leon Diop, Uachtarán Aontas na Mac Léinn, Mhá Nuad; agus Dúlra Ní Áinle, Uachtarán Chuallacht Cholm Cille; ag an seoladh ar Sheachtain na Gaeilge sa Leabharlann.

Chuir Ollscoil Mhá Nuad tús le Seachtain na Gaeilge ar an Luan 5 Márta le hócáid speisialta i bhforhalla na leabharlainne. Sheol Orla Bradshaw, Oifigeach Gaeilge na hOllscoile, an clár oifigiúil, agus bronnadh geansaí Ollscoil Mhá Nuad ar Leon Diop, uachtarán Aontas na Mac Léinn, Mhá Nuad. Sheinn an cumann ceoil thraidisiúnta ceol ag an ócáid agus chuir Caoimhe Ní Mhaolagáin damhsa ar an sean-nós ar fáil freisin.

Ar an Máirt, thug Peadar Ó Caomhánaigh, céimí de chuid na hOllscoile agus duine de bhunaitheoirí na gluaiseachta, Pop-Up Gaeltacht, caint do phobal na hOllscoile. Roinn sé a chuimhní óna thréimhse mar mhac léinn in Ollscoil Mhá Nuad agus labhair sé faoin bhfás agus faoin bhforbairt atá tagtha ar na Pop-Up Gaeltachtaí. Chuir Sairlín Ní Dhróighneáin, Lárionad na Gaeilge, ceardlann amhránaíochta ar an sean-nós ar fáil ar an gCéadaoin agus chuir Seosamh Ó Maolalaí seisiún scéalaíochta ar fáil ina dhiaidh sin. Ar an Déardaoin, bhí an deis ag baill foirne agus ag mic léinn a scith a ligean ag an gceardlann aireachais le Fidelma Farley ó Breathworks Ireland.

Ba mhaith le hOifig na Gaeilge buíochas a ghabháil leis na daoine a chabhraigh agus a thacaigh le Seachtain na Gaeilge Ollscoil Mhá Nuad.

## Róisín Ní Mhaoláin roghnaithe mar Phearsa Cumainn na Bliana



Ag Oíche na gClubanna agus na gCumann a reáchtáladh le déanaí, bhronn Aontas na Mac Léinn, Mhá Nuad, an gradam do Phearsa Cumainn na Bliana ar Róisín Ní Mhaoláin, an tOifigeach Caidrimh Poiblí atá ag Cuallacht Cholm Cille, ar son a cuid oibre. Tá Niamh Halpenny, Leasuachtarán an Aontais do Chúrsaí Oideachais, le feiceáil sa ghrianghraf in éineacht le Róisín.

## Ceiliúradh ar 120 bliain de Chumann Gaelach na hOllscoile



An tOllamh Fionntán de Brún; Pádraic Ó Ciardha; An Dr Tracey Ní Mhaonaigh; Dúlra Ní Áinle agus John Ó Liodáin.

Tháinig pobal na Gaeilge in Ollscoil Mhá Nuad le chéile ar an 21 Feabhra le ceiliúradh a dhéanamh ar 120 bliain de Chumann Gaelach na hOllscoile, Cuallacht Cholm Cille, ag ócáid speisialta i Leabharlann Ollscoil Mhá Nuad.

Thug an Dr Tracey Ní Mhaonaigh, Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge, léacht chuimsitheach ar stair na Cuallachta ag tús na hócáide. Tar éis léacht an Dr Ní Mhaonaigh, roinn Pádraic Ó Ciardha, iar-Leascheannasaí TG4, a chuimhní ón tréimhse a chaith sé mar mhac léinn i Mhá Nuad agus mar bhall den Chuallacht.

Labhair John Ó Liodáin, bainisteoir tionscadal sa Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe, leis an slua faoin tionchar dearfach a bhí ag an gCuallacht ar a shaol. Chuir Dúlra Ní Áinle, Uachtarán reatha na Cuallachta, leis an méid sin, ag labhairt faoin tábhacht a bhaineann leis an gcumann Gaelach do phobal na hOllscoile. Sheol an tOllamh Fionntán de Brún, Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge, *Slíocht ar Thír na Scáth*, an saothar is déanaí ó pheann Bhreandáin Uí Dhoibhlin. Chun clabhsúr a chur ar an oíche, labhair Íde Ní Uallacháin, thar ceann Thaidhg Uí Dhúshláine, stiúrthóir eatramhach An Sagart (foilsitheoir), faoi thraidisiún agus faoi thodhchaí *Irisleabhar Mhá Nuad*.



An Moinsíneoir Breandán Ó Dhoibhlin ag labhairt ag an seoladh leabhair

## Suaithéantas speisialta forbartha ag Cuallacht Cholm Cille



Le tacaíocht ó Bhliain na Gaeilge, d'éirigh le Cumann Gaelach na hOllscoile, Cuallacht Cholm Cille, suaithéantas speisialta a chruthú le 120 bliain den Chumann a aithint agus le toilteanas i leith labhairt na Gaeilge a thaispeáint. Dhear mac léinn dochtúireachta de chuid na hOllscoile, Ronan Doherty, an suaithéantas speisialta seo. Ceithre euro atá ar shuaithéantas agus is féidir le baill foirne agus le mic léinn iad a cheannach ó Chuallacht Cholm Cille: cuallacht@nuimsu.com

## Sraith seimineár taighde



Mar chuid de shraith seimineár taighde an Earraigh, thug an Dr Nollaig Ó Muraíle, OÉ Gaillimh, léacht ar an 16 Márta ar 'Amhráin agus Dánta Raiftearaí.'

Ar an 27 Aibreán, labhair an Dr Aisling Ní Dhonnchadha, Ollscoil Mhá Nuad (ar dheis), agus an tOllamh Máirín Nic Eoin, DCU (ar chlé), faoin léargas a thugann nualitríocht na Gaeilge dúinn ar eispéireas na hóige in Éirinn.



## Energy Pods in the Library

In March 2018, the Library introduced a new and innovative service for students



Energy Pods allow students to take a 20-minute nap in the Library, recharging their batteries before they return to their studies refreshed. The Maynooth University Library is the only one in Ireland to have this kind of facility. The introduction of the pods generated great interest in national media.

In 2017, in collaboration with the Maynooth Students Union (MSU), the Library ran a competition called 'If students did libraries...' Students were invited to submit ideas for improving the library service. Seven entries were invited to participate in a 'Dragons' Den' style final where they pitched their ideas to a panel of judges that included senior members of library staff, the MSU President, the Dean of Teaching & Learning, and the Director of the National Library of Ireland. The winner was Brian Crinnion, a first year robotics student, who told the panel of judges about his personal experience commuting a long distance to campus and attending challenging lecturers. Brian presented research showing the restorative benefits of a 20-minute nap compared to a caffeine drink. Brian's idea of Energy Pods in the Library appealed to the judges as it provided a solution for students who travel long distances to campus.

## 30,000 New eBooks Available to Library Users



Library users now have access to over 30,000 additional ebooks, published by Cambridge University Press, until the end of this semester. They cover all subject areas and can be read online, anytime, anywhere.

## Library Association of Ireland Honours Two Library Staff



Yvette Campbell and Ciarán Quinn were recently conferred with Associateship of the Library Association of Ireland (LAI) by LAI President Philip Cohen

## Maynooth University Pearce Hutchinson Collection Visits Spain

Maynooth University Library acquired the Archive of Pearce Hutchinson in 2014

As part of its commitment to highlight the poet and the archive, the Library has created a travelling exhibition. Based on the poet's life and work and featuring facsimiles from the archive, this exhibition has been travelling through Spain since October 2017, when it was launched at the Creative Connexions Irish Catalan festival in Sitges. It has subsequently been exhibited in the University of Barcelona and Pompeu Fabra University, also in Barcelona.

Hutchinson spent some of his formative years in Barcelona and had a great love for the city, its people, and its language. He also worked extensively in the Galician language and the exhibition is scheduled to go to the University of Corunna later in 2018.



Exhibition banner on display in the University of Barcelona

## Publications Festival Celebrates the Faculty of Social Sciences

The annual Publications Festival, took place in the Library on January 23

This year the festival celebrated the output of the Faculty of Social Science. The festival featured a wide range of research publications from across the Faculty, which were showcased in both electronic and print formats in the Library foyer throughout the week.

The Festival opened with a series of short presentations by PhD students, covering topics as diverse as rehabilitation schemes to smart cities, demonstrating impressive levels of both public and industry engagement.

The Festival also featured a talk from Deirdre Nolan, Commissioning Editor at Gill Publishing, who addressed the issue of gender and publishing.



Emma Louise McEvoy, Dept of Law, winner of the Best Student Presentation Prize with Prof Philip Nolan President, and Professor Maria Pramaggiore, Dean of Graduate Studies



# Human Resource Notes

## NEW APPOINTMENTS

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

School/Departments	Appointees	School/Departments	Appointees
Academic Database Office	Ms Rosemary Feeney, Executive Assistant (Contract Post)	IT Services	Ms Patrice Cormack, Information Systems Test Lead
Access Office	Dr Gareth Burns, Lecturer (Contract Post)	Law	Ms Aimee Nelson, Executive Assistant
	Dr Katrina O'Sullivan, Lecturer (Contract Post)	Library	Ms Fiona Morley, Sub Librarian
Alumni Office	Mr Christopher Massi, Director of Development and Alumni Relations/ CEO of the Maynooth University Foundation (Contract Post)		Mr Aaron Binchy, IReL Manager
Biology	Dr Joanne Masterson, Lecturer (Contract Post)		Mr Niall O'Brien, Assistant Librarian (Contract Post)
	Mr Dylan O'Moore, Laboratory Attendant (Contract Post)		Ms Miriam Van Der Molen, Archivist (Contract Post)
Campus & Commercial Services	Mr Ivan Griffin, General Services Manager	Mathematics & Statistics	Ms Sarah Graham, Conservator (Contract Post)
Chief Information & Innovation Office	Mr Claran Bryan, Project Support Administrator (Contract Post)		Dr Rafael De Andrade Moral, Lecturer (Contract Post)
Communications & Marketing	Mr Rowan Morrey, Webmaster (Contract Post)		Dr Sonia Balagopalan, Assistant Lecturer (Contract Post)
Commercialisation	Mr Joe Moore, Maynooth Works Manager (Contract Post)	Medical Centre	Mr James O'Malley, University Tutor (Contract Post)
Education	Professor Carl Anders Safstrom, Professor	Music	Ms Kathryn Troy, Nurse (Contract Post)
Electronic Engineering	Dr Violeta McLoone, Assistant Lecturer (Contract Post)		Dr Michael Lee, Lecturer (Contract Post)
	Mr James Kinsella, Technical Officer (Contract Post)	Office of Director of Registry	Ms Marguerite Lohan, Administrative Officer
English	Dr Rita Sakr, Lecturer	Psychology	Ms Joanne Ryan, Executive Assistant (Contract Post)
	Dr Ailbhe McDaid, Lecturer (Contract Post)		Dr Unai Diaz-Orietueta, Lecturer
Examinations & Timetabling	Mr Marty Ryan, Senior Executive Assistant	Philosophy	Dr Michael Cooke, Lecturer (Contract Post)
	Ms Sarah Fleming, Executive Assistant	Research Development Office	Professor Philipp Rosemann, Professor and Head of Department
Geography	Professor Kath Browne, Professor		Ms Emer Lindsay, Research Accountant
	Ms Martha Coleman, Assistant Lecturer (Contract Post)		Dr Caragh Tisdall, Research Support Officer (Contract Post)
	Mr Michael Murphy, Assistant Lecturer (Contract Post)		Ms Noreen Lacey, Research Support Officer (Contract Post)
Graduate Studies	Ms Hazel Keane Lavelle, Executive Assistant	School of Business	Dr Anja Schaefer, Senior Lecturer
History	Dr Eoin Devlin, Lecturer (Contract Post)		Dr Margaret Whyte, Senior Lecturer
	Dr Regina Donlon, Assistant Lecturer (Contract Post)		Ms Faustina Masterson, Executive Assistant (Contract Post)
Human Resources	Ms Ciara Foran, Executive Assistant (Contract Post)	School of Modern Languages, Literatures & Cultures	Mr Edward Flynn, University Tutor (Contract Post)
	Ms Rachel Masterson, Executive Assistant (Contract Post)		Mr Mark Hennessy, University Tutor (Contract Post)
Humanities Research Institute	Ms Clodagh McDonnell, Senior Executive Assistant (Contract Post)	Strategic Planning & Quality	Dr Zsuzsanna Zarka, Quality Officer
International Office	Ms Jenny Connan, Senior Executive Assistant (Contract Post)	Student Records Office	Ms Emily Kilroy, Executive Assistant (Contract Post)
	Ms Carmen Ruiz, Executive Assistant (Contract Post)	Theoretical Physics	Professor Peter Coles, Professor

*Our best wishes to all concerned.*

## EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

The Employee Assistance Programme is a support programme provided by the University for staff members. The Programme provides a confidential counselling service, designed to assist staff members in dealing with any issue that adversely affects their health, wellbeing, personal or professional life.

**If you have a problem that is troubling you, then you can get help and support.**

You can avail of the service by calling the following free phone number: **1800 201 346**

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

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

## International Office on Largest Education Mission to Date to India



Pictured are; Barry O'Driscoll, Education Ireland; Deirdre Dunne, Maynooth University International Office; Mary Mitchell O'Connor, TD, Minister of State for Higher Education; Alena Jurikova, Maynooth University International Office, and Wendy D'Souza, Education Ireland, with a prospective student. Over 2,000 Indian students participated in the *Education in Ireland Fairs* in five Indian cities. India is now fastest growing market for recruitment of third level students.

## International Office – J-Term Programme Launched with Great Success

The J-Term Programme, delivered by the Department of Applied Social Studies in conjunction with international partner AIFS was launched in January

The J-Term, a programme which allows students to take an entire module in the January recess, between semester 1 and semester 2, marked Maynooth University's entry into this growing field and completes the International Office's year-round offerings of short-term programmes.

Dr Hilary Tierney, Programme Director; Mick O'Brien, Programme Co-ordinator; with Morgan O'Brien and Trish Kettle, tutors, delivered the module "Young People, Youth Culture and Youth Services in Ireland" over two weeks. In addition, the students enjoyed experiential and interactive learning, talks from guest speakers including the National Youth Council of Ireland and Reel Youth, and field visits across the Dublin and Kildare regions.

With outstanding reviews across the board from the 14 American undergraduate participants, the International Office is already planning future events for 2019.



Prof Maurice Devlin, Mick O'Brien and Dr Hilary Tierney from the Department of Applied Social Studies and the JTERM group

## Annual Post-Carols Event

More than 250 alumni and friends enjoyed the 2017 post-Carol Service Reception in Pugin Hall on Monday, 11 December

Hosted by the Alumni Office, this is the sixth year the alumni have returned to campus for this unique event, which, for many, signals the start of Christmas festivities. The alumni in attendance, who won the tickets for the Carol Service in the College Chapel on a lottery basis from the Alumni Office, were joined by President of Maynooth University, Professor Philip Nolan, and Choir Director, alumnus Dr John O'Keeffe.



Pictured (l-r); Sinead O'Riordan, Louisa Groark, Devika Ghosh

## Maynooth Staff Golf Society Welcomes New Members

Membership of the Society is open to all people working on campus in Maynooth University and St. Patrick's College

The Society was founded in 1991 by a few members of staff who enjoyed playing casual golf, and has been going strong ever since. Visitors are always welcome. Membership is also open to retired members of staff.

The Society plays circa seven outings a year from March to September. The outings take place on Friday afternoons at a local golf course. The Society's first outing this year was to Kilcock Golf Club on 13 April. The Society welcomes new members; please contact either, John Maloco (Secretary) john.maloco@mu.ie or Derek Gleeson (Treasurer) derek.gleeson@mu.ie for more information.

## Great Start to Year for the Maynooth University Golfers

Ronan Mullarney won the R&A Foundation Scholar's Tournament at the home of golf in St. Andrews, Scotland on 3 March



David Brady and Cian Feeney from Maynooth University win the first ever Irish Student Sixes Tournament

Ronan led from start to finish posting impressive rounds of 67, 71, and 70 for a total of 208 (-4) to win by four strokes in very testing conditions over the two day event. Maynooth University have had back-to-back winners of the event following Stuart Grehan's victory in 2017.

As a result of the victory, Ronan will now gain an automatic place on the International team to face the USA in the Arnold Palmer Cup which comprises the top collegiate worldwide. The event is being played at the Evian Resort in France from July 6 - 8. Ronan becomes the third Maynooth University golf scholar to play in the Arnold Palmer Cup following in the footsteps of Stuart Grehan (2016 & 2017) and Gary Hurley (2013 & 2015).

Maynooth University golfers won the inaugural Irish Students Sixes Tournaments in February at the Heath Golf Club, Portlaoise. The tournament was the first six hole, foursomes match-play event to be played in Ireland as part of the movement towards shorter formats of golf, as promoted by the golf's world governing bodies the R&A & USGA. Maynooth University's Cian Feeney and David Brady, teammates at County Sligo golf club, came out on top with a score of 22pts, Ross Steedman and Alan Fahy finished runners-up with 19pts while Harry Gillivan and TJ Ford took fourth place with 18pts.

## Galway Cycle

2018 marks the 31st anniversary of the Maynooth Students for Charity Galway Cycle



Pictured are the group of cyclists and support team as they arrive in Eyre Square on Friday 6 April. The group left Maynooth Students Union at 6:30am to cycle 200km to Galway, in aid of their charity partner for the year, Friends of the Coombe. They then made the return journey on Sunday, 8 April. The entourage arrived to Maynooth at 5pm where they were greeted by friends, family, and supporters. To date the 2018 Cycle has brought in €83,600.