

UNIVERSITY NEWS



NUI MAYNOOTH
Ollscoil na hÉireann Má Nuad

University Strategic Plan Launched



Professor Philip Nolan, President and Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairi Quinn TD.

On Thursday, 13 June Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairi Quinn TD launched the *University Strategic Plan 2012-17* and officially opened the new library.



The Strategic Plan sets out seven clear goals for the next five years, which will see NUI Maynooth consolidate its international reputation for outstanding teaching, excellent research, global outlook, and its distinctive approach to the challenges facing modern higher education.

The launch of the Strategic Plan also coincides with the official opening of the library building, which is based on the very best in international library design, and reflects the University's commitment to investing in cutting-edge facilities for learning, research and teaching.

Maynooth Education Forum

Rising 'Commodification' of Education Presents Real Risks For Ireland was one of the key messages at the first Education Forum held in June.

While Ireland has over a million students in publicly funded education – more than at any other time in our history – we still face significant challenges with one in ten young adults in Ireland (aged 18-24) having left school with no more than a lower secondary education. And even though Ireland has a higher third-level graduation rate than the OECD and EU average, boys in this country are almost twice as likely (15%) to drop out of school than girls (9%), the conference which was attended by senior policy makers, educationalists and strategists, was told.

These were among the key messages heard at the inaugural Maynooth Education Forum hosted by Prof Philip Nolan, President of NUI Maynooth. A key theme that emerged from the conference was that teaching, and teachers, must not be devalued or forced to overly adhere to performance management criteria as this had detrimental impacts on students in other jurisdictions including Britain and the United States.



Listening to the debate at the Forum.

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New Professor of Law Announced

The University has announced the appointment of Michael Doherty as Professor of Law.

Michael has extensive expertise in employment and labour law, and industrial relations law and policy. He is a National Rapporteur on Employment Law to the International Academy of Comparative Law, has worked on several EU-funded studies on employment rights and is a frequent media contributor on labour market issues. Professor Doherty is Secretary to the Social Sciences Committee of the Royal Irish Academy and past President of the Irish Association of Law Teachers. He is a graduate of Trinity College Dublin, Queen's College Cambridge and the Honorable Society of King's Inn. He joins Maynooth from Dublin City University, where he served as Director of Law.



Prof Michael Doherty.

FROM THE EDITOR

This Newsletter comes at the very end of one academic year and the starting line of our next one. As you will read it was an action packed last few weeks of the term with many high profile events on campus. Well done to all those who helped make these so successful.

Thanks to everyone who contributed over the past year and we look forward to hearing about developments in your area in the future.

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

MSc in Dependable Software Wins Award

The ERASMUS MUNDUS MSc in Dependable Software Systems in the Department of Computer Science at NUI Maynooth was awarded 'Best New Course' 2013 at the Gradireland Postgraduate Course of the Year Awards in April.



Pictured (l-r); are Eilis Murray, Graduate Studies Officer; Heather Meldrum, Dept of Computer Science; Dr Adam Winstanley, Head of the Dept of Computer Science; Dr Rosemary Monahan, Dept of Computer Science; John Hennessy, Chairman of the HEA, and Gavan O'Brien, Gradireland.

Judges deemed the programme to be "excellent on collaboration, good balance between research and application in programme design".

The first of its kind in Ireland, the course offers students a choice of study over two years to

be undertaken in two of three universities; NUI Maynooth, the University of St Andrews in Scotland or the Université Henri Poincaré Nancy in France. Students achieve a double Masters through the award of two degrees from the participating universities.

Education Developers in Ireland Network Book Launch



Seán Ó Foghlú, Secretary General of the Department of Education and Skills launched *Emerging Issues III: from capacity building to sustainability*, co-edited by Dr Alison Farrell, Centre for Teaching & Learning (centre) with Nuala Harding, AIT and Education Developers in Ireland Network who published the book.

Teaching and Learning Showcase

The 2013 showcase involved wide participation from across the University with 62 poster presentations including the 2012 Teaching and Learning Fellowship projects on display in May.

Each year a prize is awarded to the Best Innovation in Teaching and Learning, as voted by showcase participants and attendees. Deputy President Aidan Mulkeen presented the 2013 prize to Laura Burke for the *Inclusive Learning Project*.

More information about the NUI Maynooth Teaching and Learning Showcase is available on the Centre for Teaching and Learning website, <http://ctl.nuim.ie>

Legal Writing Prizes



NUI Maynooth Law students Paul Brady and Caoimhe Hough who won €100 each from Maxwell Solicitors for receiving top marks in their legal writing module, also pictured is Patrick Cowhey, Maxwells Solicitors.

Prof O'Farrell Honoured

Complex Analysis and Approximation, was the title of the conference held in honour of Professor Anthony G. O'Farrell in June.



Mary Heanue, Alumnus and Prof Donald Marshall, University of Washington, who delivered a speech on Conformal Welding.

Professor O'Farrell, who retired in September 2012 was Professor of Mathematics at Maynooth since 1975. He was also responsible for the establishment of the University's Computer Centre in December 1975, and ran it for nine months until a full-time Director was appointed. From 1992-1995, he was Head of the Department of Computer Science.

Jointly hosted by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics and the Department of Computer Science, the reception and presentation to Tony reflected the high esteem and gratitude of the staff, students and past students in attendance.

NUI Maynooth Confers Honorary Doctorates



Professor Philip Nolan, President (centre) pictured with (l-r); George O'Grady, Martin Gale, Catriona Crowe, Professor Breandán Ó Doibhlin and Professor George Huxley.

On Tuesday, 25 June NUI Maynooth awarded five distinguished individuals honorary doctorates in recognition of their exceptional contribution in their respective fields.

Catriona Crowe was honoured for her commitment to furthering the public availability of data. She is Head of Special Projects at the National Archives of Ireland and is Manager of the Irish Census Online Project.

Martin Gale was honoured for his service to Kildare and his contribution to the arts in Ireland. He is regarded as one of the most sought after artists in Ireland and one of a small number of living artists who will be included in *Irish Art and Artists*, Volume V, Royal Irish Academy.

Professor George Huxley received an honorary doctorate in Literature. He is an internationally known philologist and taught for twenty years at Queen's University in Belfast as professor of Greek.

George O'Grady was honoured for his revolutionising of the European Golf Tour and his significant contribution to the development of golf in Ireland.

Breandán Ó Doibhlin received an honorary doctorate for his outstanding work in Irish Literary Criticism. He set up the Maynooth School of Criticism and is recognised for revolutionising Irish language literature in the 1960s.

Speaking at the event, President Professor Philip Nolan said, "An honorary doctorate is a very significant award in the University firmament and must go to candidates who excel in their field and pursue paths relevant to our own mission. George, Catriona, Martin, Breandán and George all fit these criteria excellently. They have shown leadership and made significant contributions to society, to learning and the public good."

Gen Demot Earley Lecture Series

Lieutenant General Sean McCann, Chief of Staff of the Irish Defence Forces delivered the Lt Gen Dermot Earley Inaugural lecture marking his role and level of involvement he made to the world of military and sport.



(In background) Prof Robert Galavan and Dermot Earley Junior, Baroness Nuala O'Loan and Paula Earley.

Acknowledging this contribution, the Edward M Kennedy Institute launched the lecture series with the aim of fostering the late General Earley's spirit by highlighting lessons of public leadership within contemporary society.

During his life he made outstanding contributions to Irish and international public life through his work in the Defence Forces and also his sporting endeavours. In 2010 General Earley was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) with Honour by An Taoiseach, Brian Cowen. Speaking at the lecture, the Academic Director of the Edward M Kennedy Institute Professor Robert Galavan commented that "the mission of the Dermot Earley Lecture Series is to provide a forum for inclusive discussion of the challenges of public leadership and of public governance in a decade of profound crisis and change." The lecture series was opened today by Baroness Nuala O'Loan, Chair of the Governing Authority and attended by members of General Earley's family.

Summer Soirée

The foyer of the new library was the venue for the inaugural Maynooth Alumni Summer Soirée.

Over 200 alumni and friends enjoyed an evening of art, literature and music on a beautiful May evening with the new library proving to be the star attraction on the night as alumni took full advantage of the library tours on offer.

For some alumni, memories of their experiences in the original library in 1984 provided a unique contrast with the library that they enjoyed that night. Many subsequently availed of the special Summer Soirée Library Membership offer which was available on the evening.

Dr John O'Brennan from the Department of Sociology and member of the Maynooth Alumni Advisory Board (MAAB) was MC on the night which began with welcoming words by the President and featured an overview by Dr Alison Fitzgerald from the History Department of the recently acquired art exhibition, a reading by alumnus John Drennan, journalist with the Sunday Independent from his recently published book *"Standing by the Republic - 50 Dáil Debates that Shaped the Nation"* and finished with a high octane performance by alumnus and international Soprano, Regina Nathan.

Among the guests were the NUI Maynooth Golf Scholars who recently won the Barton Cup Shield lead by 2010 graduate and Manager, Barry Fennelly. Given the sizeable turnout and success of the evening (which was due in no small part to the fantastic teamwork and involvement of the library staff), it is envisaged that the Summer Soirée will become a regular feature on the alumni calendar.



New Spin-Out, *Raise Your IQ*

The new spin-out company from the Psychology Dept has demonstrated that it is possible to increase intelligence levels and has developed an online programme which can measurably increase intellectual ability.

'Raise Your IQ', has developed the 'SMART' (Strengthening Mental Abilities with Relational Training) programme which equips the user with the cognitive skills which lay the foundation for better intelligent reasoning and thinking and increases intelligence levels.

The SMART programme was developed by Dr Bryan Roche, Lecturer in Psychology at NUI Maynooth and Dr Sarah Cassidy, Psychologist and Licensed Psychometrician, who designed the series of training programmes packaged into an online game where users acquire points as they advance through the levels. The team has launched the programme internationally to the general public.



Dr Bryan Roche with Ryan McManus, Orlagh Lally and Declan Henry from Rathmore National School.

Visit by Prof Higgs

Over 400 people, including 100 secondary school students came to hear Professor Peter Higgs and his colleagues talk about the Higgs Boson and its discovery on Friday, 3 May.



Professor Philip Nolan and Prof Peter Higgs.

Peter Higgs, of Edinburgh University, predicted the existence of this particle in 1964, and its discovery at CERN last year provided the final piece of experimental confirmation for our theory of the fundamental constituents of matter, known as the "Standard Model".

Speaking about the recent discovery of the Higgs particle, Prof Higgs commented that he was "surprised that it happened during his lifetime, because at the beginning people had no idea about where to look for it."

Prof Higgs was accompanied by colleagues from Edinburgh, Professor Alan Walker, Dr Victoria Martin and Francisca Garay. The event was co-ordinated by Dr Brian Dolan, Department of Mathematical Physics, a former student of Prof Higgs and Prof Walker.

TAG Conference

The annual conference of the Professional Association of Lecturers in Community and Youth Work was hosted by Hilary Tierney on behalf of the Department of Applied Social Studies.

The Conference attracted an international field of academics and practitioners in the areas of youth and community work.

Taking place across three days, events included members' research papers, seminars, workshops, project visits and the TAG Annual General Meeting. Conference papers and discussions focused on current issues and debates in the areas of policy, practice and education and the workshops explored policy developments in Ireland and the UK, practice learning from teaching in higher education and developments in the field of professional practice.



Pictured (l-r); Hilary Tierney, Department of Applied Social Studies, Baroness Nuala O'Loan; Anastasia Crickley, Head of Department of Applied Social Studies and Janet Batsleer, Chair of TAG.

The Conference keynote presentation 'Connecting Communities' was delivered by Baroness Nuala O'Loan.

Two Fulbright Awards for NUI Maynooth

Among the 37 Fulbright Awardees 2013 were two winners from the NUI Maynooth.

Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin is completing his Masters of Literature Degree (Research) in Nua Ghaeilge at NUI Maynooth, where he also graduated with a BA in Civil Law. He will be a Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant at the University of Notre Dame. **Dr Dympna Devine** has recently been appointed as Chair and Professor of Education at the NUI Maynooth, taking up the position in September having previously held the position as Director of UCD's Social Sciences Research Centre. Originally from Castlebar, she is a Fulbright Scholar to the City University of New York, where she will evaluate educational policy and practice with migrant children in New York.

Since 1957, the Fulbright Awards are given annually by the Irish and US governments and provide Irish students, scholars, and professionals with the opportunity to study, lecture and research at top universities and institutions throughout the United States.



Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin.



Dr Dympna Devine.

Library at NUI Maynooth Hosts Prestigious Art Exhibition

The Library is hosting a prestigious collection of art loaned to the University by AIB.

The loan includes work by artists such as Louis le Brocquy, Basil Blackshaw, Cecily Brennan and Rita Duffy and the exhibition will run until April 2014 in the Library. The exhibition represents AIB's most significant artistic loan to an educational institution to date. Dr Alison FitzGerald of the Department of History coordinated the exhibition, which was launched on Tuesday, 4 June by President Nolan. The event was attended by artists Martin Gale, Robert Ballagh and Sioban Piercy, whose work is represented in the exhibition, Anne Hodge (National Gallery of Ireland), Catherine Marshall (Royal Irish Academy), Peter Murray (Crawford Gallery) and Maureen Porteous of AIB who facilitated the loan.

President Philip Nolan acknowledged the generosity of AIB and the work of NUIM's art committee in facilitating the loan, commenting: "We are delighted to host this exhibition which includes contributions from some of Ireland's finest artists. University life at Maynooth is about learning and study, but is also about opening your mind to culture and art and we are extremely grateful to AIB for loaning us these artworks."



Pictured at the reception on June 4th to mark the loan exhibition of artworks from the AIB collection are (left to right), Enda McDonagh (NUI Maynooth Art Committee), President Philip Nolan, Dr Alison FitzGerald (NUI Maynooth Art Committee) and Peter Murray (Crawford Art Gallery).

Baroness O'Loan, MRAI



Susan Denham, Chief Justice of Ireland, Baroness Nuala O'Loan and Luke Drury, President RIA.

Baroness Nuala O'Loan, Chair of the Governing Authority at NUI Maynooth was admitted as a new member to the Royal Irish Academy on Friday, 31 May.

The Baroness was among 21 new members admitted, continuing a 228 year tradition.

Baroness O'Loan is an internationally respected public servant and was the first Police Ombudsman in Northern Ireland, serving from 2000 to 2007, during which time her office played a transformative role in the public perceptions and acceptance of policing. She was appointed as Chairperson to the Governing Authority of NUI Maynooth in December 2010.

A native of Hertfordshire, she is a qualified solicitor and was law lecturer at the University of Ulster until 1992. She was appointed Jean Monnet Chair in European Law at University of Ulster from 1992 until her appointment as Ombudsman. In 2007 she was made Dame Commander of the British Empire and in 2009 she was appointed to the British House of Lords as Baroness O'Loan.

Speaking at the announcement NUI Maynooth President, Professor Philip Nolan said, "the University is delighted with this well deserved recognition of Baroness O'Loan's extensive contribution to society and we extend our warmest congratulations on this achievement."

Education Forum

(continued from page 1)

Among the key topics addressed at the Forum were: *What is An Educated Person?* – led by Professor Richard Pring of Oxford University, *Is Higher Education Educating?* – led by Professor Richard Arum of New York University and a symposium on *Schools for the 21st Century* featuring contributions from Department of Education and Skills Secretary General Sean O'Foghlú, Sheila Nunan (INTO), David Istance (OECD), Prof John Coolohan and Dr Padraig Hogan, NUI Maynooth.

2013 Irish Economic Association

The Department of Economics, Finance and Accounting recently hosted the 2013 Irish Economic Association annual conference.

There were over 60 papers on a variety of topics including banking and credit, taxation policy, education, health and trade.



Professor Lucrezia Reichlin, London Business School.

Professor Lucrezia Reichlin from the London Business School delivered the Edgeworth Lecture, entitled *The ECB Response to the Crisis: Lessons for Monetary Policy* which is sponsored by the Central Bank of Ireland. Professor Patrick Honohan, the Governor of the Central Bank of Ireland attended the lecture. Professor Reichlin was previously the Director General for Research at the European Central Bank. Professor John Kennan from the University of Wisconsin, Madison delivered the ESR/DEW lecture entitled *Open Borders and Human Capital*. In this lecture Professor Kennan discussed a model that quantifies the estimated net gains from open borders.

The Department was delighted to welcome back a number of our former students who are now based in institutions such as the Central Bank of Ireland, the Economic and Social Research Institute and University College London.

Biology Department Research

Researchers in the Department of Biology, Dr David Fitzpatrick and Prof Sean Doyle, have recently published the first genome sequence and detailed proteomic analysis of *Armillaria mellea*, a subterranean fungal pathogen which infects trees and plants, and causes major economic losses.



The work, which is open access, has been published in the prestigious American Chemical Society journal, *Journal of Proteome Research*, and is a world-first discovery with respect to the biology of *Armillaria mellea*. The work was completed in collaboration with Dr Thomas Keane and colleagues at the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute, UK.

Human Resource Notes

CURRENT VACANCIES

Professor, Hamilton Institute
Lecturer / Senior Lecturer, Hamilton Institute
Executive Assistant, Graduate Studies

INTERVIEWS HELD

4th July 2013 Department of Sociology, Assistant Lecturer
12th August 2013 International Development Centre, Executive Assistant - Half-Time
15th August 2013 Departments of Biology / Chemistry / Psychology, Technical Officer
15th August 2013 Department of Biology, Laboratory Attendant - Half-Time
20th August 2013 Department of Biology, Assistant Lecturer
21st August 2013 Adult & Community Education (Kilkenny), Executive Assistant - Half-Time
28th August 2013 Department of Computer Science, Lecturer
29th August 2013 Graduate Studies Office, Graduate Studies Development Officer
30th August 2013 Centre for Teaching & Learning, Administrative Officer II

NEW APPOINTMENTS

We are pleased to announce the following appointments:

School/Departments	Appointees
Department of Adult & Community Education	Ms Mary Leenane, Project Co – Ordinator: First Arts - Half-Time (Kilkenny Campus) Ms Kay Loughlin, Senior Executive Assistant
Department of Chemistry	Dr Elisa Fadda, Assistant Lecturer Ms Maryanne Ryan, Technical Officer Ms Carol Berigan, Executive Assistant Ms Donna Nicholson, Executive Assistant
Department of Design Innovation	Ms Emer Fitzpatrick, Executive Assistant
Education Department	Ms Ann Marie Cudden, Executive Assistant (Maternity Cover)
Department of Geography	Dr Rory Hearne, Lecturer Dr Tom Matthews, Lecturer Dr Cian O'Callaghan, Lecturer
School of Modern Languages, Literatures & Cultures	Ms Deirdre Lim, Executive Assistant
NIRSA	Professor Mark Boyle, Director of NIRSA
Campus Services	Ms Rebecca Quinn, Grounds Supervisor
Access Office	Mr Gerard Gallagher, Disability Advisor – Learning Support
Commercialisation Office	Mr Peter Conlon, Commercialisation Executive
Computer Centre	Ms Dearbhla O'Reilly, ICT Infrastructure Manager
Library / An Foras Feasa	Mr Padraic Stack, Digital Humanities Support Officer
Marketing & Communications	Ms Bernie O'Driscoll, Digital Communications Officer

Our best wishes to all concerned.

The University will confirm the appointments from the recent academic recruitment campaign in the next newsletter.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

The offices of the University will close on the evening of Friday, 20th December 2013 and will re-open on the morning of Thursday, 2nd January 2014.

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: **1890 252 718**

Youth Work Standards Launched

Minister Frances Fitzgerald TD, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, launched the guidelines of the North South Education and Training Standards Committee for Youth Work (NSETS) on campus on 28 June.

The launch took place during the annual conference of the professional association of lecturers in youth and community work, the first time that the conference has taken place outside the UK.

NSETS is a cross border committee that includes representation of all the major stakeholders in youth work: government departments, statutory and voluntary sector employers, practitioners, trade unions and higher education institutions. Its role is to assess and monitor the quality and fitness-for-purpose of professional education and training programmes in youth work. Professor Maurice Devlin, Director of the Centre for Youth Research and Development in the Department of Applied Social Studies in NUI Maynooth, is joint chair of NSETS along with Derek Capper of the Youth Work Training Board for Northern Ireland.



Michael McAlinden and David Guilfoyle of the Youth Council for Northern Ireland; Minister Frances Fitzgerald TD; Professor Maurice Devlin, Director of the Centre for Youth Research and Development, Department of Applied Social Studies; Anastasia Crickley, Head of Department of Applied Social Studies and Professor Jim Walsh, Vice-President for Strategy and Quality.

New Digital Communications Officer

Bernie O'Driscoll has recently taken up the position of Digital Communications Officer for NUI Maynooth.

In this new role, Bernie will work with colleagues in all departments to enhance the reputation of NUI Maynooth through the University's website and other online and social media. Prior to taking up this role, she worked with Special Olympics Ireland on developing their website, and growing their social media presence to be a leader in the charity sector. She has also worked with Tourism Ireland, both internationally in Brussels and Copenhagen, and in their Head Office in Dublin where she led the organisation's social media strategy implementation. Bernie's email address is Bernie.odriscoll@nuim.ie



Bernie O'Driscoll.

Schedule of Dates for Meetings in 2013-2014

FACULTY OF ARTS, CELTIC STUDIES & PHILOSOPHY at 15.00 hours (THREE EXCEPTIONS)	FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING at 15.00 hours (TWO EXCEPTIONS)	FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES at 15.00 hours (ONE EXCEPTION)	ACADEMIC COUNCIL* at 15.00 hours	GOVERNING AUTHORITY at 14.30 hours
9 September 2013 (12.00) Boardroom JHB	10 September 2013 (12.00) Boardroom JHB	9 September 2013 Boardroom JHB	23 September 2013 Boardroom JHB	26 September 2013 Boardroom JHB
7 October 2013 Boardroom JHB	8 October 2013 Boardroom JHB	7 October 2013 (11.00) Boardroom JHB	21 October 2013 Renehan Hall	7 November 2013 Boardroom JHB
18 November 2013 Boardroom JHB	19 November 2013 Boardroom JHB	25 November 2013 Boardroom JHB	9 December 2013 Renehan Hall	12 December 2013 Boardroom JHB
13 January 2014 (12.00) Boardroom JHB	14 January 2014 (12.00) Boardroom JHB	20 January 2014 Boardroom JHB	3 February 2014 Renehan Hall	13 February 2014 Boardroom JHB
3 March 2014 Boardroom JHB	4 March 2014 Boardroom JHB	10 March 2014 Boardroom JHB	31 March 2014 Renehan Hall	10 April 2014 Boardroom JHB
12 May 2014 (12.00) Boardroom JHB	13 May 2014 Boardroom JHB	12 May 2014 Boardroom JHB	26 May 2014 Renehan Hall	12 June 2014 Boardroom JHB

* All business for Academic Council should be submitted at least 12 days prior to the meeting.

Maynooth Access Programme Second Level Awards, 2013

NUI Maynooth Access Programme (MAP) hosted their annual Second Level Awards ceremonies in Maynooth and Kilkenny recently.

Prof Philip Nolan, President, NUI Maynooth and Rose Ryan, Director of Maynooth Access Programme, presented awards to 75 3rd years, 24 6th Years and 23 Teachers/Staff Members for their hard work and dedication. Speaking at the event Prof Philip Nolan congratulated and encouraged the students saying "that college is a real possibility and we have found that many recipients of this award become university students in the years that follow. It is a great boost to young people's self-esteem and confidence and it is great for families as well.

At a separate event Dr William Smyth and Rose Ryan presented awards to 20 3rd year students from schools in Co. Kilkenny.



Mehtab Muhammad, Jordan McCormack, Aishat Ladipo, Nela Czarneka, Ioan Bondor - Third Year Students with their Teachers from Riversdale Community College, Blanchardstown.

NUI Maynooth places a great value on the developed links we have with 14 second level schools in Kildare, Offaly, and West Dublin and a further 4 schools in Kilkenny. The Second Level Awards are one example of how NUIM engages with schools to enhance educational and civic participation, with the objective of having a lasting impact on educational participation and attainment.

Exhibitions Held on Campus

CERAMICS EXHIBITION



Pieces on display in the Library.

An exhibition of high quality work by graduates of the Crafts Council of Ireland's (CCol) renowned Ceramics Skills and Design Course took place over the summer in the Library. The CCol Ceramics Skills & Design Course, which is based at Island Mill in Thomastown, Kilkenny, is accredited by NUI Maynooth and is designed to equip graduates with the practical skills to develop careers in the ceramics industry.

IRISH STUDENTS IN EUROPE EXHIBITION

This exhibition to celebrate Ireland's Presidency of the European Union took place at the Library in May. The exhibition entitled 'Irish students in Europe: celebrating 350 years of scholarship through the collections of St Patrick's College, Maynooth and NUI Maynooth' showcased material from contemporary and historical collections to illustrate the rich tradition of Irish study in Europe from the mid-1600s to the present day.

As well as a selection of early student notebooks from the collections of St. Patrick's College, Maynooth was on display offering a fascinating insight into student life in places such as Salamanca, Seville and Paris, in the period 1645-1769 a diverse array of books, maps and images from the Library highlighting the various destinations of current Erasmus students from Maynooth was on display.

BUDDHISM EXHIBITION

An Exhibition titled 'Encountering Buddhist Asia: sources of Irish knowledge from the sixth to the twenty-first centuries' ran for 10 weeks over the summer in the Russell Library. The exhibition highlighted the many ways in which Irish people encountered Buddhism from the medieval period through to the present. It included missionary accounts of early travels in Asia, the writings of western Buddhist converts and the representations of Buddhism in Irish popular culture.

World Cafe on Gender Equality

A world cafe took place in the foyer of the Library on Thursday, May 2.

The event, which was attended by approximately 50 staff from across the University community, provided an opportunity for an open and creative conversation on the issue of gender equality at NUI Maynooth. Organised by the equality sub-group of the Governing Authority and the gender equality sub-committee of the Academic Council, the World Cafe is one of a number of initiatives under way on campus to gauge staff views on equality with a view to presenting reports to both Academic Council and Governing Authority.

3U Collaboration Book Launch

3U researchers Dr Mary Murphy (NUI Maynooth) and Dr Deiric Ó Broin's (DCU) book entitled 'Politics, Participation and Power: Civil Society and Public Policy in Ireland', was recently launched by Emily O'Reilly, Ombudsman and Information Commissioner.

By reviewing the current state of public participation in Ireland across a range of policy areas and offering a critical examination of both the discourse and practice of participation as well as degrees of equality in opportunities for participation, the book highlights how many public policy processes are perceived to lack legitimacy, why these perceptions exist and how this can be addressed. It offers an insightful account of the dynamics of participation and suggests why many citizens' experiences have been frustrating as well as transformative.



Prof Brian MacCraith President, DCU, Dr Mary Murphy NUI Maynooth, Dr Deiric O Broin, DCU and Prof Philip Nolan, President NUI Maynooth.

Speaking at the launch, Emily O'Reilly acknowledged the importance of combining academic insight with the experience of those involved in public policy. "As this book acutely observes, participative structures are meaningless without concrete underpinning by local and national government. Without this, the transformative potential of new forms of civic participation will remain unrealised".

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U Penn Students and Staff at Maynooth



Pictured are students and staff from the Department of Sociology and the Department of Communication from U Penn, USA. Following her semester at the Annenberg School for Communication in U Penn Dr Aphra Kerr, Dept of Sociology organised and hosted the Annenberg School's annual Summer Culture trip in July at NUI Maynooth. Prof Barbie Zelizer led the group of Annenberg doctoral students on the trip, the theme of which was 'National and Transnational Cultural Flows and Place', involved two weeks of lectures, seminars, workshops, site visits and field trips. The U Penn students were joined by doctoral students from universities around Ireland along with staff from the Departments of Sociology, Geography, History, English and Music at NUI Maynooth.

Annual Student Entrepreneur Competition



Pictured (l-r): Owen Laverty, Commercialisation Office; Conor Boyce, Patent Attorney, FRKelly; Kenny Morgan, Bank of Ireland Maynooth; Caraiosa Cleary and Rebecca Murphy (Spirito Voci); Ricky Jacob (Odikyo); Niamh Parker (SWOT); Simon Kenny and Patrick McGlynn (OSCAR); Solicitor Paul Lavery of McCann Fitzgerald; and Conor Mallaghan, Carton House Hotel.

Oscar, the business initiative developed by Patrick McGlynn, currently completing a PhD in music technology and Simon Kenny, 2nd year Music Technology and Maths student, was awarded first prize of €6,000 at the annual Student Entrepreneur competition in April.

Oscar is a unique system for audio control and music creation and is a new kind of musical instrument - a mobile app that allows musicians to control a highly-customisable and powerful synthesiser with expressive hand gestures.

Judges on the night; Conor Boyce Patent Attorney, FRKelly; Kenny Morgan, Bank of Ireland Maynooth; Solicitor Paul Lavery of McCann Fitzgerald and Conor Mallaghan from Carton House Hotel commented on the strength and depth of the business concepts shown by the finalists.

Second place was awarded to Rebecca Murphy and Caraiosa Cleary with **Spirito Voci**, an on-line marketplace for providers of ambient music for special occasions and corporate events, with joint third place going to Ricky Jacob of **Odikyo**, a runners app which provides a real-time performance platform for runners and their audience and Niamh Parker of **SWOT**, a portal for students and potential employers.

NUIM Rugby Scholarships

24 undergraduate students of NUI Maynooth were honoured with presentations of NUIM Barnhall Rugby Scholarships.

The NUIM Barnhall Rugby programme, launched in 2004, assists talented students to achieve their academic potential while providing access to expert coaching, fitness training, sports psychology, health and nutrition advice, performance analysis and lifestyle management assistance. The rugby scholarship at NUI Maynooth provides the University with a quality rugby programme and Under 21 and All-Ireland League Division 2A opportunities to talented young student-players from both within and outside of the Club's traditional catchment area.



Pictured at the event; Martin Moore, ex NUIM Barnhall RFC and currently on a professional Leinster Rugby contract, Conor McDermot, Final year student and Leo Cullen, Leinster Rugby.

Maynooth Green Campus



Pictured are the some of volunteers: Mona Halligan and Tracey Chambers, students; Prof John Sweeney, ICARUS; Dr Mary Benson, Sociology and Prof Rowena Pecchenino, Dean of Social Science Faculty who participated in the litter pick organised as part of An Taisce's National Spring Clean 2013. The Maynooth Green Campus was recently established to promote environmental sustainability at the two universities at Maynooth. The Committee is currently working on an environmental audit to include energy, water, waste, transport and travel, bio-diversity and climate justice. If you would like to be involved in the Green Campus Committee and would like some more information, please feel free to email us at greencampus@nuim.ie

Mathematical Olympiad

Two students who trained in NUI Maynooth represented Ireland at the International Mathematical Olympiad which took in Columbia in July.



Seoirse Murray receiving his prize in the local contest at NUI Maynooth from Patricia O'Brien, Education Support Officer, Kildare VEC and Professor Stephen Buckley, Maths Department.

Adam Connolly and Seoirse Murray were named earlier this year after competing in the Irish Mathematical Olympiad. Adam has just finished school in Coláiste Chiaráin, Leixlip, and Seoirse has completed fifth year in the Post Primary School, Maynooth. They had attended training classes provided by members of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, NUI Maynooth, from January to May over the last two years.

College at Brockport Agreement

Pictured (front row); Dr John R Halstead, Sixth President, SUNY College at Brockport and Prof Philip Nolan, President as they signed an exchange agreement on Friday, 7 June. Back row (l-r); Dr Katherine Clark, SUNY College at Brockport; Dr David Lederer, History Dept; Cathy Halstead (wife of Prof Halstead) and Prof Marian Lyons, History Dept. Dr Halstead accompanied by his wife Cathy formalised the relationship that has been in existence for 10 years. The History Departments at both institutions have a visiting faculty program. Each Fall semester, Maynooth sends one History guest lecture to Brockport and in the Spring Brockport sends one History faculty over to Maynooth. The Brockport History Department has also established a \$5,000 annual scholarship for History Majors to study abroad at Maynooth. The International Office also run the Dr Katherine Clark's Summer Program with students from both colleges participating.

