



National University of Ireland, Galway
Ollscoil na bÉireann, Gaillimh

Ollscéala

Nuachtlitr Foirne - Staff Newsletter

Deireadh Fómhair 2003

NUI Galway acquires McGahern archive



The President with John McGahern

Acclaimed author John McGahern presented his extensive archive of literary papers to NUI Galway in October. The collection consists of forty years of writings, including the manuscripts of *The Dark*, *The Barracks*, *Amongst Women* and his latest novel - *That They May Face The Rising Sun*. All future work by the author will be added to the archive which will also include John

McGahern's memoirs on which he continues to work.

Accepting the archive NUI Galway President, Dr. Iognáid Ó Muircheartaigh said, "It is one of the great days in the intellectual life of our University - a day when our Library receives the papers of a writer who has been described as 'arguably the greatest Irish novelist since Joyce.'"

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Focal ón Eagarthóir

The acquisition of the literary papers of John McGahern has undoubtedly been one of the major highlights of the academic year so far. Safely deposited in the James Hardiman Library, the archive will provide an invaluable resource for research students for years to come.

Atlantic Philanthropy's gift of €18 million to NUI Galway (page 3), was a tremendous fillip to the implementation of the first phase of the Strategic Plan (2003-2008). Great credit is also due to Galway University Foundation for sourcing much needed private funds to underpin the development of academic programmes and the physical infrastructure of the University.

One of NUI Galway's hidden treasures is its considerable art collection. The entire collection has been catalogued over recent months and many of the art works have been cleaned and restored. Do take time to view the landscape painting now hanging in the Alexander Anderson Boardroom (A114). This painting was discovered in the Library store during the audit (page 5).

Máire Mhic Uidhir,
Editor.

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Winning Staff ideas



Pictured from left are Mary O'Riordan, Vice-President for Student Services and Human Resources; Valerie Leahy; the President, Dr. Iognáid Ó Muircheartaigh; and Angela McLaughlin.

The Staff Suggestion Scheme was established to encourage members of staff to propose ideas that will achieve a stated objective of the University or which will enhance any aspect of University life for staff, students, or the public. The Scheme had two winners this year:

Valerie Leahy, Industrial Liaison Office, who suggested incorporating the NUI Galway logo into the mark of the University franking machine and Angela McLaughlin, Registrar's Office, who proposed introducing a 'Lá Gaeilge' on campus.

Inaugural Joe McAllister Memorial Lecture



Pictured from left are, Mr. James Cunningham, Department of Management, NUI Galway; Professor Charles C. Snow, Penn State University; and Professor Roy Green, Dean, Faculty of Commerce, NUI Galway.

The inaugural Joe McAllister Memorial Lecture, which took place in July was entitled "The Seven Burning Questions in Management Research." Delivered by Professor Charles C. Snow, the Mellon Foundation Professor of Business Administration at Penn

State University, the lecture has been established as an annual event in the Faculty of Commerce, in memory of Joe McAllister's contribution to the Faculty and to the development of the Master of Business Administration programme at the University.

Developments totalling €80 million announced

NUI Galway has announced the immediate development of three new projects totalling €80 million, as part of the first phase of its €250 million Strategic Plan development programme. The projects, to be started immediately, include a new Engineering Building, a Graduate School of Business and new Sports and Cultural Facilities for the University's 13,800 students, as well as other essential infrastructural developments. Announcing the developments, the President, Dr Iognáid Ó

Muircheartaigh said "We in NUI Galway have been very deliberate about our planned development over the next 5 years. These three projects reflect key components of the Strategic Plan. I am delighted that we can now proceed towards their completion. This decision would not have been possible without the support for these projects of Atlantic Philanthropies who recently confirmed a donation of €18 million to the University. This represents the largest single gift to the University in its history."

The announcement of this donation coincides with the public launch of NUI Galway's fundraising campaign - The People & Place Campaign - which has a target of €50 million from private sources. The campaign is part of a projected overall €250 million investment in seventeen new buildings, academic programmes and student facilities at the University and has grouped its seventeen projects around eight themes. Further information is available on www.nuigalway.ie/foundation

Huston Film School at NUI Galway gets underway



Pictured at St. Cleran's are Rod Stoneman, Director of the Huston School of Film and Digital Media with lecturers and students of the School's first programme, an M.A. in Screen Writing.

The first students to enrol at the newly-established Huston School of Film and Digital Media at NUI Galway have commenced their studies. To mark the inauguration of the School, a special screening of *The Dead*, directed by John Huston and starring Angelica Huston, took place at the Town Hall Theatre. Staff and students then travelled for a celebratory meal to St. Cleran's, the former home of John Huston, near Craughwell, Co. Galway.

Students who have undertaken the Masters programme in Screen Writing come from Ireland, Spain, the United States and South Africa. School Director, Rod Stoneman says, "There is a great dynamic in the class as many of the students have worked in the film industry while others have already exhibited great creative talent. It's a tough course but these students are young and ambitious and determined to succeed."

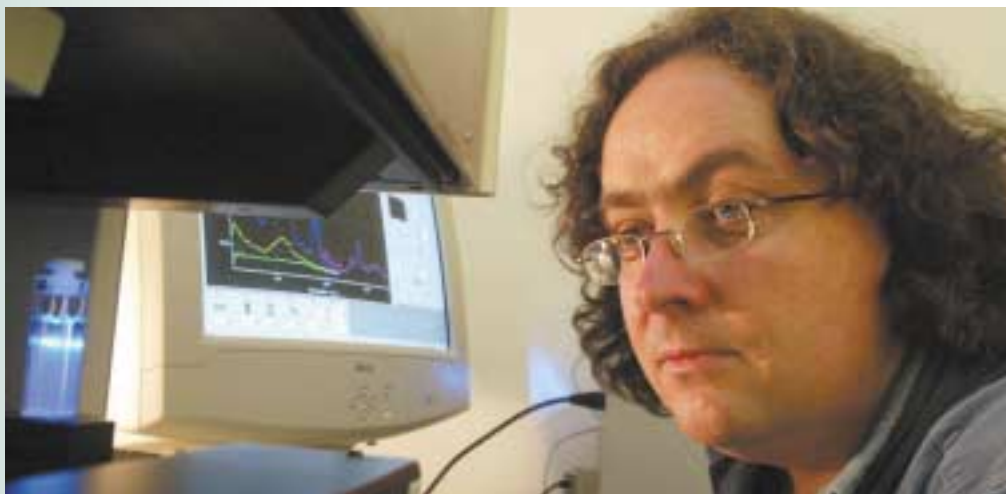
Negotiating Colonialism



Pictured from left are, Professor Ulf Strohmayer, Department of Geography; the President and Dr. John Morrissey.

Dr. John Morrissey, Department of Geography, is the author of a book which is part of a wider research series in historical geography, published by the Historical Geography Research Group (HGRG) of the Royal Geographical Society, the oldest geographical society in the world and largest in Europe. The HGRG research series includes contributions from leading geographers in the United States, Canada and throughout the United Kingdom. Dr. Morrissey's book, entitled *Negotiating Colonialism: Gaelic-Irish Reaction to New English Expansion in Early Modern Tipperary, c.1541-1641*, is the first from the Republic of Ireland to be part of this distinguished collection.

Major SFI grant awarded



Dr. Alan Ryder

Dr. Alan Ryder of the National Centre for Biomedical Engineering Science, has recently been awarded a Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) Investigator grant of €944,563. His project is entitled "Nanoscale Biophotonics: novel approaches to ultra-sensitive and high accuracy fluorescence techniques." The project, which started in August 2003 is focussed on developing novel, highly sensitive, measurement methodologies for applications in the clinical and life sciences. The interdisciplinary research being undertaken involves integrating aspects of biology,

chemistry, materials science and physics into a Biophotonics (the application of photonics technology to biotechnology) Research Group. The core research areas involves the use of fluorescence and raman spectroscopies, with the application of novel nanostructured substrates for the development of the next generation of ultra-sensitive sensors and assays.

The Nanoscale Biophotonics group will also be involved in fundamental research studies of advanced materials and biological systems in collaboration with various national and international researchers.

The Nanoscale Biophotonics group is now located in the National Centre for Biomedical Engineering Science building, occupying a purpose-designed spectroscopy laboratory on the third floor. This SFI award will enable the acquisition of additional advanced instrumentation to further enhance the capabilities of the laboratory.

Chief Justice addresses Law Soc



The Chief Justice, Mr Ronan Keane was the first in an interesting list of speakers lined up to address the Law Society this year. Others include George Bizos, Nelson Mandela's lawyer; Major Charles Ingram of *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?* fame; and Baroness Cox, member of the House of Lords.

Pictured at a reception prior to the inaugural meeting are from left, the Chief Justice, the President and Lt. Barry Crushell, Auditor of the Law Society.

75 Years of An Taibhdhearc



The archive of Taibhdhearc na Gaillimhe along with many other important archives is held in the James Hardiman Library. At an exhibition celebrating seventy five years of the founding of the Theatre, Dr. Gearóid Denvir, Cathaoirleach of An Taibhdhearc presented the original lease signed by the Augustinian Order and An Taibhdhearc, to the University.

Pictured from left are, Marie Reddan, Librarian; An Dr. Gearóid Denvir, Scoil na Gaeilge agus Cathaoirleach, an Taibhdhearc; Mary O'Riordan, Vice-President for Student Services and Human Resources, NUI Galway and Bridget Breathnach, An Taibhdhearc.

Long lost painting restored to its former glory



"The Road to Connemara" by John Holland, Senior

The discovery of an historic painting in the library store last year was a cause of great delight to the staff of the Arts office who were engaged in collating the University's Art collection.

The piece, by English landscape artist John Holland, Senior, entitled 'The Road to Connemara' has now been restored and hangs in the Alexander Anderson Boardroom (Room A114), Quadrangle.

"We were documenting the University's art collection when we discovered this painting at the back of boxes in the library store," explains Alice Hoary of the Arts Office. "It was a large painting in an ornate gilt frame which was heavily soiled and damaged" she adds.

The painting, of animals and figures walking on a Connemara roadway, against a picturesque backdrop of mountains, bogland and lakes, required extensive repairs.

Andrew O'Connor and Patricia Ortiz from 'Art Clinic' in Dublin spent a week on campus restoring this and 16 other paintings.

Meanwhile, further art works have been added to the University's comprehensive collection in recent months. In keeping with its policy of promoting local artists, a number of paintings have been purchased, including works by Brian Bourke, Nick Millar and Siobhán Piercy, all with a west of Ireland theme. These will be on exhibition during the University's 'Múscailt' Arts Festival in February.

HP Award presented at NUI Galway



Pictured are Ms. Maura Davitt, Solutions Engineering Manager, HP Galway, who presented an IPAQ Pocket PC to Mr. Aidan Dillon.

The Hewlett-Packard Award in the *Higher Diploma Course in Systems Analysis*, at NUI Galway, has been awarded to Aidan Dillon.

This postgraduate programme focuses on giving students skills in the design, development and programming of information systems and multimedia / Internet systems, within a general business and computing context.

In brief...

First of its kind in the West

The Higher Diploma in Nursing Studies (Orthopaedic Nursing), which started in September 2003 is the first Orthopaedic Course for nurses to be run in the West of Ireland at Higher Diploma level. Previously nurses had to travel to Dublin to attain this qualification.

Dr. H. H. Stewart Scholarships

Students Barbara Whelan, Department of German and Amélie Marseille, Department of French have been awarded the Dr. Henry Hutchinson Stewart Scholarships.

Appointed to NRSFB

Professor Roy Green, Dean of the Faculty of Commerce has been appointed to the National Research Support Fund Board (NRSFB) of Enterprise Ireland.

Mitchell Scholars at NUI Galway

Two US students have been awarded Mitchell Scholarships to study at NUI Galway. Robbie Majzner, Columbia University is studying Health Promotion while Alexandra Chirinos, Corpus Christi, Texas is studying Human Rights Law at QUB and NUI Galway. The Mitchell Scholarships are named in honour of Senator George Mitchell and the pivotal role he played in the Northern Ireland peace process.

Fulbright Awards for Study / Research in the US

Closing date for applications for the Irish Fulbright Commission's annual awards programme for the 2004-05 academic year is the 14 November. Awards in the range €15,000 - €18,000 will be made to graduate students who wish to pursue postgraduate studies in the US. There will also be a number of post-doctoral scholar awards of up to €10,000 for one academic year. Applicants must be in a position to outline a clearly defined course of study or research and must obtain their own placements in the US. For further details see www.fulbright.ie

NUI Galway students embark on unique volunteering scheme

An initiative which encourages students to combine learning with volunteer work has commenced at NUI Galway. Known as "ALIVE" or "A Learning Initiative and the Volunteering Experience," the course, which has been established under the University's Community Knowledge Initiative (CKI), is an effort to recognise the potential support students can provide to various communities.

"The proposed course builds on the strong tradition in some faculties of staff involvement in community activities and on student-initiated and student-led volunteer activities currently underway at NUI Galway," explains Jacinta Barrins, CKI Project Manager. The course, which is available to all NUI Galway students, combines 12 hours of lectures with an additional 45 hours of volunteering over two semesters. The student chooses a not-for-profit organisation to work with from partnerships developed by CKI



Jacinta Barrins

which include a number of organisations under the umbrella group of Galway Volunteering Network, IRD, Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo, and Galway Leader Companies. The course will encourage university-community interaction, civic responsibility and self development in students.

Meet you at Moffetts

Moffetts, the new staff restaurant, officially opened by the President in October, is already a resounding success and popular meeting place for staff from all areas of campus. Named after Sir Thomas Moffett, who was President of Queen's College Galway from 1877 to 1897 and well-known for his hospitality, *Moffetts* represents an investment

of over €1.5 million in College infrastructure.

The name *Moffetts* was the unanimous choice of the Catering Policy Group and was suggested by both Professor Tadhg Foley and Professor Noel Wilkins, in response to an invitation to staff to suggest a name for the new restaurant.



Pictured from left are, Patricia Conboy, Area Manager, Sodexho; Mary Frain, Business Manager, Sodexho; Wilson Barrie, Managing Director, Sodexho; the President; and members of the Catering Policy Group, Mary Dooley, Bursar; Ann Duggan, Conference Manager; and Dr. Pat Morgan, Dean of Science.

Media in another era



News and the British World - The Emergence of an Imperial Press System 1876-1922, by Simon J. Potter, Lecturer in Imperial History, NUI Galway, published by Oxford University Press, was launched in October.

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa were increasingly drawn together by an imperial press system. This is the first scholarly study of the development of that system. The book examines key debates during episodes such as the South African War and the First World War, and reveals the ambiguous impact of the system on local, national, and imperial identities.

Pictured from left are, Dr Simon Potter, author; Dr. John Darwin, Nuffield College, Oxford, who launched the book; and Professor John Marshall, Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

From Botswana to Galway



Ms Kay Raseroka, Director of Library Services, University of Botswana and current President of the International Federation of Library Associations, was a special guest at the annual conference of the Library Association of Ireland, which was held in Galway during the Summer. While in Galway, Ms Raseroka availed of the opportunity to meet some thirty medical students from Botswana who are studying at NUI Galway. She was happy to bring back reports of the students' success to their parents.

Pictured from left are, Tim Collins, Medical Library, Ms. Kay Raseroka and Dr. Philip Carney, Dean of Medicine

Autumn Conferring Ceremonies



103-year old Pádraig Mac Gréine, was conferred with an Honorary M.A. degree in recognition of his work as an educationalist, collector of folklore and for his work with the Travelling Community.



Elena Firsova, winner of the Campbell Bewley Medal and the first international student to transfer from the Shannon College of Hotel Management and be conferred with a B.Comm degree.



Pictured with the President are, John McIntyre and Anne-Marie Glynn who won first and second place respectively in the Denis Phelan Scholarship and Life Sciences 2003. Conferred with B.Sc. degrees, they also won the Alpha Technologies prizes in Biotechnology.



Westbic Innovation Award winners and B.Comm. graduates, Derek Wogan, Brian Healy, Liam Raftery, Liam Fahey and John Gillard



Mother and daughter, Mary and Nicola Lacey, both of whom came through NUI Galway's Access Programme and were conferred with B.Comm degrees.



Sabina Higgins on whom a B.A. degree was conferred with her husband Michael D. Higgins T.D.

Student athletes enjoy international success



*Pictured are
(1) Sprinter, Paul Hession with Tony Regan Sports Officer.
(2) Rowing Team members: Mark Stephens, Paul Giblin and Alan Martin.*

During the summer a number of NUI Galway athletes achieved considerable success in international competitions, including athletics, rowing, basketball and soccer. Paul Hession (Athletics), won a Silver Medal at the World Student Games in Daegu, Korea. He is currently in training for the Athens Olympics. Neasa O'Keefe (Basketball) and Kevin Monaghan (Soccer) also participated in the World Student Games. Meanwhile at the World Rowing Championships in Belgrade, the NUI Galway rowing team won the Visitors Challenge Cup. The team was also victorious at Henley and won the Irish National Championships at Iniscarra, Co. Cork. All these athletes are on NUI Galway Sport Scholarships.

Safety in the Lab



Pictured in the First-Year Chemistry Laboratory with Professor Jim Ward, Vice-President for Physical Resources are students, Louise O'Donnell and David Folan.

National Safety at Work Week took place between the 13 and 17 of October. An extensive list of events was organised to increase staff awareness of health and safety issues on campus. These included senior management working with staff and students to see that safety measures were being observed while dangerous substances were used at work.

Prize-winning Papers

The annual conference of the Irish Academy of Management (IAM) took place in September. Just two prizes were awarded for "best papers" delivered at the conference and NUI Galway delegates scooped both prizes. James Cunningham, Lecturer in the Department of Management, delivered a paper on "Environmental Voluntary Approaches: The Irish Experience", while the other winning paper entitled "Galway to Guadalupe: an SME's Seven-Year Journey into the Global Marketplace" came from Helen Burke, Masters in E-Commerce, who is now Web Editor with Kenny's Bookshop and Art Gallery.



Pictured with Helen Burke are James Cunningham (right) and Martin Hughes, who supervised Helen's Master's thesis.

200 years of The Times online

The James Hardiman Library has become the first institution in the world to acquire *The Times Digital Archive* in perpetuity. This historical resource provides online access to one of the key resources for the study of nineteenth and twentieth century history and culture. *The Times Digital Archive* is an online digitised archive of every page published by *The Times* [London] from 1785-1985. Up until now *The Times* has been available in hardcopy and on microfilm only. *The Times Digital Archive* can be accessed directly from the Library's website:

<http://www.library.nuigalway.ie>.
or contact Niamh Walsh,
Information Librarian for Arts & Celtic Studies. Ext. 2095, email: niamhw@nuigalway.ie

Those boots were made for walking

A Walking Club has been founded as part of the 'Mind, Body and Soul' programme to encourage staff and students to take up walking as a means of keeping fit and healthy. Daily 20-minute walks during lunchtime, starting at the Archway are organised by Cindy Dring, Student Services, Áras na Mac Léinn.