

Accolades for NUI Galway

“NUI Galway is the epitome of what third level education should be about ... it provides a first-rate student experience ... the NUI Galway name is synonymous with high quality”.

Alastair McCall,

Editor of *The Sunday Times University Guide 2010*

NUI Galway has been named ‘University of the Year 2009’ in the *Sunday Times University Guide*, securing the prestigious accolade for a second time. Outperforming 21 other third-level institutions, NUI Galway’s strong record in graduate employability, research commercialisation, and this year’s 11% increase in CAO applications were among the reasons for the Award.

NUI Galway has also jumped 125 places, the highest leap among all Irish universities, in the newly published *Times Higher Education-QS World University Rankings*. The ranking now places NUI Galway among the top 250 universities in the world, listed at 243 among 621 institutions. This is the second year in a row that NUI Galway has risen in the rankings, having moved up 116 places in 2008.

OLLSCÉALA



Focal ón Eagarthóir

Comhghairdeas d' fhoireann OÉ Gaillimh!

It has been a whirlwind start to the academic year with NUI Galway jumping a huge 125 places in the *Times Higher Education-QS World University Rankings*. This University is now placed in the top 250 Universities in the World!!

Added to this success, last month NUI Galway was awarded the *2009 Sunday Times University of the Year* - for the second time this decade. A huge effort is needed to compile the information for these awards, including input on overall staff performance and from students across campus. A hearty congratulations to all.

An Taoiseach, Brian Cowen T.D., made his inaugural visit in September and 'turned the sod' for the new Engineering Building, which will employ up to 300 people over the duration of the project.

During the summer months one of our sporting alumni brought glory to her country and to this University on winning a silver medal at the World Athletic Championships in Berlin. Congratulations to Olive Loughnane (BComm '96).

And finally, while we continuously strive meet the needs of our readers, I would like to draw your attention to the satisfaction survey inserted in this edition of Ollscéala. I would be greatly obliged if you would take five minutes to complete this questionnaire as feedback will form the basis for future changes to the publication. An online version of the survey is available to complete at: <http://vovici.com/wsb.dll/s/2e2cg40b57>

Slán go fóill,

Michelle Ní Chróinín
Eagarthóir

Ollscéala is published by the Press and Information Office
Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh.
Tel. 091-493361
E-mail: michelle.nichróinín@nuigalway.ie

European Commission Visit



Pictured is the Director General for Research at the European Commission, José Manuel Silva Rodríguez, with Professor Terry Smith, Vice-President for Research, NUI Galway.

José Manuel Silva Rodríguez, Director General for Research at the European Commission, visited NUI Galway recently during a whistle-stop tour of Ireland. He was later quoted in the *Irish Times Innovation Magazine* as saying he was very impressed with the calibre of research in Ireland.

The paper reported that NUI Galway, in particular, caught his attention. He was quoted as saying, "I could see that in that one university, which is not very big, you have clusters of innovation, you have research centres – you have in my opinion a very good knowledge society there".

The Director General develops EU policy in the field of research and technological development, helps coordinate research activities and promotes understanding of the role of the sciences.

New Director of NCBES



Professor Frank Barry has been appointed as Director of the National Centre for Biomedical Engineering Science (NCBES).

In taking up the post, Professor Barry stated; "I am very happy to take on this new role and I look forward to the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. NUI Galway has established itself as a world leader in cancer biology, biomedical engineering and regenerative medicine, and we must strive to expand this effort over the next few years. We must also continue to work with our industry partners to ensure that we can contribute to the economic development of the region. These are serious tasks and I have no doubt that we will rise to the challenge".

In 2004 Professor Barry, along with NUI Galway's Professor Timothy O'Brien and Professor Terry Smith, co-founded the SFI-funded Regenerative Medicine Institute (REMEDI) at NUI Galway. His research interests focus on the biology and therapeutic applications of stem cells derived from bone marrow in the areas of arthritic diseases and joint injury, tissue engineering applications in orthopaedic medicine, cartilage biology and extracellular matrix biology. He is the coordinator of the FP7-funded project PurStem, which focuses on advanced manufacturing systems for stem cells. Currently he is Professor of Cellular Therapy at NUI Galway.

Professor Gerry Loftus has been appointed for a second term as Dean of Medicine. Professor Loftus has served as Dean since 2006. His second term runs until 2013.



Taoiseach 'Turns Sod' for Engineering Building

An Taoiseach, Brian Cowen T.D., made his inaugural visit to NUI Galway on 25 September to 'turn the sod' for the new Engineering Building. Around 300 construction jobs are being created and the building is due to be completed by September 2011.

BAM Building Ltd. has been signed as the main contractor for what will be one of the largest construction projects west of the Shannon and on completion will be the largest Engineering Building in the country. The building was designed by architects RMJM (Scotland) in partnership with Taylor Architects of Castlebar, Co. Mayo.

Speaking at NUI Galway, An Taoiseach said: "The new building will bring benefits to Galway City and its surrounds by creating jobs for the next two years. Longer term it will enable NUI Galway to continue to produce excellent engineering graduates supporting the Smart Economy in areas such as innovation and renewable energy technologies".

Minister Lenihan Launches New Research Cluster

Mr Conor Lenihan T.D., Minister for Science, Technology and Innovation recently launched the Alimentary Glycoscience Research Cluster (AGRC) on campus. AGRC is an NUI Galway-led collaboration of research institutions and industry partners and was established following a grant earlier this year of €5.2million from Government through Science Foundation Ireland (SFI).

Launching the Strategic Research Cluster, Minister Lenihan said: "The AGRC is dedicated to conducting invaluable study into key research areas that impact enormously on each of us, directly or indirectly at some point in our lives".

"This is an extremely important initiative for NUI Galway and a very exciting development for Glycoscience research in Ireland.



Pictured is Professor Lokesh Joshi with Minister Conor Lenihan T.D.

The international consortium of academic and industry partners, led by Professor Lokesh Joshi will ensure that Ireland is positioned as a global leader in this emerging research area", said Professor Terry Smith, Vice-President for Research, NUI Galway.

AGRC is one of 18 SFI Strategic Research Clusters around the country involving unprecedented engagement between higher education institutions, commercial enterprises and a variety of agencies.

OLLSCÉALA

€112,000 raised for Honduras

Following on two successful house-building projects in Ghana and Zambia in 2007 and 2008, the Chaplaincy added another successful project to the list during the summer.

Under the leadership of Fr Iomar Daniels, 21 students helped to build six houses in a two-week period in Honduras, one of Central America's poorest countries. This project aims to alleviate house poverty in developing countries. This would not have been possible without the

generous support of the staff and students of the college. Financial support was generously given by the President, Dr Browne, Mary O'Riordan, Vice-President for Student Experience, United Charities, the Alumni Office, Brendan Smith (DERI) and past pupils, the staff of Student Services and countless other staff and students. A total of €112,000 was raised. The Chaplaincy thank you all for your support to date and will continue to work on this mission to create homes for the poor of the world.

Open Day



Some 8,000 prospective students, their parents and Guidance Counsellors recently attended the NUI Galway Open Days. Pictured at the event (l-r) are Emma Ní Bhrádaigh, Gemma Connolly, Rachel Cloonan and Seán Keane, all from Coláiste na Coiribe, Galway City.

CKI Visiting Scholar

Professor Bob Bringle of IUPUI (Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis) is a visiting scholar at NUI Galway on the invitation of Campus Engage, a HEA SIF 1 funded network to promote civic engagement activities within Irish higher education.

Following the inaugural Campus Engage conference in June 2009, a significant number of innovative civic engagement activities were showcased from across the island of Ireland and Professor Bringle will work with the network to formally document these activities through an

audit. Between September and early December 2009, he will meet with academic staff, students and senior managers in the Campus Engage network that includes DCU, NUI Galway, UCD and UL. Given his extensive experience and reputation as an expert in service learning, it is a great honour to host him for such an extended period.

If you would like to meet with Professor Bringle, appointments can be made through the Campus Engage Coordinator at ann.lyons@nuigalway.ie

Access to Higher Education

The Access Office held a four day orientation for students who participated in the new Higher Education Access Route (HEAR), which is a third-level admissions scheme for school leavers from socio-economic groups that are under-represented in third-level.

The initiative sees students applying through the CAO and allows some pupils to gain a college place with fewer than the standard points. Some 112 students have entered the University in this, the first year of NUI Galway's involvement in the programme. They have entered the colleges of Arts, Science, Business, Public Policy and Law, Engineering, Medicine and Health Sciences. NUI Galway has also joined a national drive to fill over 1000 places for students with disabilities. The Disability Access Route to Education (DARE) is a supplementary admissions scheme which recognises the impact of disability on educational attainment and on progression to higher education. Approximately 300 students accepted places through DARE in 2009. The eleven participating colleges aim to greatly increase this number in 2010 by offering on average 5% of first year places on a reduced points basis. Further details on www.accesscollege.ie

'Ireland Illustrated' Project

The creation of an extensive database of illustrated travel accounts about Ireland, from the 16th-19th century, is underway at NUI Galway. The 'Ireland Illustrated' project will provide an online collection of images showing how Ireland was portrayed in centuries gone by to travellers around the world. According to NUI Galway's Professor Jane Conroy, one of the team heading up the project, "In a way, travel accounts were the *Lonely Planet* or *Rough Guide* of their day, often containing drawings or sketches of the scenery and people". Large numbers of images and other documents will be scanned and catalogued, including those housed in libraries and museums around the country. Researchers at NUI Galway are asking anyone with books containing images about travelling to Ireland from 1500-1900 to contact them so that copies might be included.

NUI Galway - Connacht Tribune Centenary Conference

Denis O'Brien, Chairman of Digicel Group and founder of Communicorp Group, was the keynote speaker at a recent conference to mark the 100th anniversary of *The Connacht Tribune* newspaper and to celebrate the partnership between NUI Galway and *The Connacht Tribune* in journalism education.

Mr O'Brien is one of Ireland's leading entrepreneurs with extensive investments across several sectors including international telecoms, radio, media, property, aircraft leasing, golf and other leisure interests. A full auditorium listened with great interest to his keynote address on Media - The Future.



Other speakers at the conference included: Roy Greenslade, Professor of Journalism at City University London and a media commentator since 1992; Pat Loughrey, Director of BBC Nations and Regions, and also currently a visiting Professor of Journalism at the University of Ulster;

Professor John Horgan, the Press Council of Ireland's inaugural Press Ombudsman; and Niall O'Dowd, founder of IrishCentral.com and of *Irish America Magazine* and the *Irish Voice Newspaper* in New York. Niall is also an Adjunct Professor at Columbia University Journalism School.

Research Projects at NUI Galway Secure SFI Funding

Three groundbreaking research projects at NUI Galway recently secured funding awards under the Science Foundation Ireland Principal Investigator Programme. From a total of €20m in funding granted by the SFI, the following NUI Galway projects received €2.7m: Professor Robert Woods, School of Chemistry & NCBES; Professor Corrado Santocanale, NCBES; and Dr Henry Curran, School of Chemistry & ECI.

These SFI awards followed an announcement on Government funding of €11.3m for 68 research projects under the Science Foundation Ireland Research Frontiers Programme (RFP) for 2009 of which NUI Galway was awarded over €1m. Recipients were Dr Harald Berresheim, School of Physics & ECI; Dr Dimitrios I. Zeugolis, Mechanical & Biomedical Engineering,



Pictured at the Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) funding announcement were (l-r): Professor Pat Fottrell, Chairman, SFI; Dr Henry Curran, NUI Galway; Professor Robert Woods, NUI Galway; Conor Lenihan T.D., Minister for Science, Technology and Innovation; Professor Corrado Santocanale, NUI Galway; and Professor Stephen Simpson, Director, Life Sciences, SFI.

& NCBES; Dr Anne Marie Power, Zoology & Martin Ryan Institute; Professor Michael Redfern, School of Physics; Dr Michael Tuite, School of Mathematic, Statistics & Applied Mathematics;

Professor Afsin Samali and Dr Adrienne Gorman, both from Biochemistry & NCBES.

OLLSCÉALA

National Report to Highlight Role of Migrant Carers in the Care of Older People



Pictured at the launch were Dr Kieran Walsh, ICSG, President Browne, Minister Áine Brady T.D., and Professor Eamon O'Shea, ICSG.

The Role of Migrant Care Workers in Ageing Societies research report was recently launched by the Minister for Older People, Áine Brady T.D.. The report examines the role of registered nurses and care assistants from other countries in caring for older people in Ireland.

Written by Dr Kieran Walsh and Professor Eamon O'Shea of the Irish Centre for Social Gerontology (ICSG) the research confirms the important and highly valued role of migrant workers in the care of older people. However, the report also highlights a number of issues and these include: communication, language proficiency, cultural understanding, education and training, discrimination and inadequate regulation.

The report feeds into a larger cross-national study involving the University of Oxford, Georgetown University and the University of Ottawa. An international comparative report for Ireland, the US, the UK and Canada will be published later this year. A full copy of the report can be viewed at <http://www.icsg.ie/news.html>

EuroCreator Launched

To celebrate the 'European Year of Creativity and Innovation 2009', the School of Education was selected to host the West of Ireland launch of the EuroCreator project and website: www.eurocreator.com.

EuroCreator enables educators and learners, from 27 countries across the EU, to share their educational media and digital resources safely in a moderated environment.

The projects that students and teachers upload to EuroCreator are assessed by educational experts and they receive certificates from Ján Figel, the EU Commissioner for Education, Training, Culture and Multilingualism. EuroCreator covers all areas of the school curriculum and special educational needs (SEN). It is also a multilingual project, with the imminent roll-out of the Irish language version of EuroCreator, which was announced at the NUI Galway event.



Pictured at the launch is (l-r) Dr Tony Hall, School of Education and Vice-Dean for Learning and Assessment, College of Arts, Social Sciences and Celtic Studies; Jim Lenaghan, Chief Technical Officer, School of Education; and Ciaran McCormack, EuroCreator.

Visiting Professor in Biomaterials Research

Professor Abhay Pandit is happy to welcome a visiting professor to work with his team in the Network of Excellence for Functional Biomaterials (NFB). The NFB is a dynamic group of scientists, engineers and clinicians focusing on implantable materials. It is one of the largest biomaterial groups in the EU. The NFB has developed this capacity mainly through funding by Science Foundation Ireland under the Strategic Research Cluster programme but also using funding by Enterprise Ireland, DEBRA, and EU FP7 amongst others. Professor Francisco del Monte, has just begun a one-year sabbatical visit to

NFB. Professor del Monte is a scientist at the Instituto de Ciencia de Materiales de Madrid-Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (ICMM-CSIC), in Spain since 2000.

He has co-authored over 70 scientific papers. His scientific career first involved the preparation of hybrid silica materials with tailored structures for optical applications. Since 2004, he has led the group of Bioinspired Materials at the ICMM-CSIC.



Focal ón Uachtarán

Tús maith, leath na hoibre!

As another academic year begins, I am delighted to inform you that the year has started particularly well with NUI Galway having been named Irish

University of the Year by *The Sunday Times* last month. *The Sunday Times* citation made reference to our achievements across a range of activities, including research outputs, undergraduate programmes, access for non-traditional and second-chance students and our strong record in technology transfer.

In the past week the UK-based *Times Higher Education Supplement* (THES) published its annual review of world universities. NUI Galway was ranked 243rd in the world, a jump of 125 places from our position in 2008 and of over 240 places since 2007. While this spectacular leap in our standing certainly reflects the fact that we have engaged more fully with this process, it also confirms our growing reputation based on research success in recent years.

This recognition by *The Sunday Times* and our rise in the THES ranking system reflects extremely well on our University and in particular the tremendous efforts of our staff to engage fully with the research and teaching agenda. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your commitment and hard work.

Strategic Plan 2009 – 2014

The University's Strategic Plan 2009 – 2014 has been completed and published. I acknowledge the contribution of colleagues on UMT and the leaders of the many academic and support units across the University who have worked hard to develop a clear roadmap for our future. The plan is evidence-based and ambitious but it is realistic in its targets. We will consolidate our position in the top tier of universities; make significant contributions to the social, cultural and economic life of our hinterland; and be recognised internationally for our research in priority research areas. See www.nuigalway.ie/strategicplan

UMT Appointments

Following the restructuring of UMT, two new appointments have been made: Professor Chris Curtin has been appointed Vice-President for Innovation and Performance and will lead the implementation of the Strategic Plan. In this role he will work closely with UMT, Deans, Heads of Schools, and heads of support units with support from the Quality Office, the Institutional Research Officer and my office.

Dr Kieran Loftus has taken up the position of Acting Executive Director of Operations. His immediate task is to develop an integrated strategic plan for support services across the University. An early success has been the integration of Computer Services and Management Information Services into Information Solutions and Services (ISS) under the leadership of Sean O'Farrell.

Capital Programme Update

There have been a number of important developments in the Capital Programme and much credit is due to the Buildings Office and Vice-President for Capital Projects, Keith Warnock.

1. Áras na Mac Léinn has re-opened following a major refurbishment, including the conversion of the former Sports Hall into the **Bailey Allen Hall**, named after alumnus, Frank Bailey. Bailey was born in Galway in 1938 and graduated from NUI Galway in 1962 with a BA degree. An active member of DramSoc, he went on to work with Radio Éireann as an actor and producer and had established his own successful theatre company before his untimely death in 1971. Through a generous bequest from the Bailey Allen family, the spirit of Frank Bailey will be memorialised at NUI Galway, while continuing to foster artistic endeavour in Galway.
2. Two new social spaces have been developed on campus recently, funded by the Student Projects Fund. **The Memorial Garden**, adjacent to Áras de Brún, commemorates deceased students and members of staff who die while in office. **An Gairdín Sosa**, adjacent to the Chapel of St Columbanus, was officially opened and blessed by Cardinal Sean Brady on 11 October.
3. The new **Visitors' Car Park** on the grounds of the former tennis courts along with the **new car park at Dangan**, will enable significant improvements to mobility management on campus.
4. Construction has commenced on the **New Engineering Building** on the North Campus. The first sod was turned by An Taoiseach, Mr Brian Cowen T.D. during a visit to the University on 25 September. The building is scheduled to be completed in September 2011.

In addition, preparatory work is proceeding on three major buildings to support priority areas of research ranging from the humanities to advanced medical research. With planning decisions scheduled for the coming months and very significant progress made on securing the necessary funding, construction work is expected to begin on some of these buildings as early as December 2009 or January 2010. Work is also well advanced on designing and identifying funding for a **Human Biology Building**, reflecting the greatly increased numbers entering medical education.

Research Success - Alimentary Glycosciences Research Cluster

A new SFI-funded Strategic Research Cluster on glycosciences led by Professor Lokesh Joshi was launched on 1 October by Conor Lenihan T.D., Minister for Science Technology and Innovation. The event provided an opportunity to discuss the national innovation strategy with the Minister and to impress on him the need to take an all-Ireland approach to this important element of the Smart Economy.

Galway University Foundation Activity in USA

There have been a number of important recent events in the US organised through Galway University Foundation. Extracts from the James Hardiman Library's John McGahern Archive were exhibited at two public lectures for alumni and friends at Boston Public Library and the American-Irish Historical Society in New York in mid-September. Both lectures, delivered by Dr John Kenny (English) were very well received, and served to further cement our growing relationships with alumni, and friends in these areas.

A new chapter of NUI Galway Alumni and Friends was successfully launched in San Francisco at an event hosted by the Irish Consul General in that city on 22 September.

As we work together for the continued development of our University, we should take great pride in and encouragement from our recent successes. I would like to thank you for your efforts and for your willingness to face the challenges of an uncertain financial climate. I look forward to working with you in the academic year ahead.

Beir bua agus beannacht,
James J. Browne Ph.D., D.Sc., M.R.I.A., C.Eng.
Uachtarán - President

Student & Staff Awards

Career Development Advisor wins Award



Pictured at the 2009 AGCAS award for Excellence in Research presentation were (l-r): Wilma Martinelli, President of AGCAS and Director of Centre for Career and Skills Development, City University, London; David Stanbury, Joint Director of the Centre for Career Management Skills in Reading University; and award recipient Deirdre Sheridan, Career Development Advisor, NUI Galway.

The 2009 AGCAS (the UK Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services) award for Excellence in Research has been won by Deirdre Sheridan, NUI Galway. The winning research was the only entry from an Irish higher education institute to be shortlisted across eight different categories.

Interights Board

Former Dean of Law, Donncha O'Connell, has been invited to join the Board of Directors of the London-based NGO, Interights - The International Centre for the Legal Protection of Human Rights. The organisation, which was founded in 1982 by a group of human rights lawyers (including its current Honorary President, Lord Lester of Herne Hill), focuses mainly on strategic litigation, capacity building, standard-setting and institution building. Donncha is spending the current academic year as a Visiting Research Fellow at the LSE.

Technical Conference Chair for 2010 IEEE Conference in Consumer Electronics

Peter Corcoran from the College of Engineering & Informatics has been appointed the technical conference chair for the 2010 IEEE Conference in Consumer Electronics, which will be held in Las Vegas in January 2010. Peter has been a member of the technical committee for over 12 years.

Italian wins European Language Award for an unprecedented third consecutive year.

For the third year running, Italian has won the European Award for Languages (also known as the European Language Label) recognising creativity and innovation in improving the quality of language learning and teaching. The Award, which is coordinated by the European Commission, is an annual award given to projects where participants have found creative ways to improve the quality of language teaching, motivate students, and make the best of available resources. Dr Laura Incalcaterra McLoughlin and Dott. Jennifer Lertola were awarded the European Language Label for their course *Learning Italian* through creation of subtitles, which exploits the innovative opportunities afforded by digital technology for the development of cultural awareness and translation skills. This project is part of a research programme sponsored by the IRCHSS.

Fellowship of the Academy of Medical Educators

Dr Gerard Flaherty, Lecturer in Medical Education and Clinical Skills, has been granted Fellowship of the Academy of Medical Educators in the UK. Established in 2006, the Academy is a professional organisation which exists to provide leadership, promote the highest educational standards and support all those involved in the academic discipline of medical education. Dr Flaherty will receive his Certificate of Fellowship at the Academy's awards ceremony in London in January 2010.

Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree Awarded

Professor Bill Schabas, Director of the Irish Centre for Human Rights, was awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree by Case Western Reserve University, in Cleveland, Ohio in May of this year. Professor Schabas was also elected president of the International Association of Genocide Scholars, for a two-year term. The IAGS is an interdisciplinary body, made up of academic specialists drawn from history, philosophy, sociology, anthropology, law and other fields. It has several hundred members located at academic institutions around the world.

Honorary Membership of International Honour Society

Professor Anthony Moran, Microbiology, School of Natural Sciences, was recently elected an honorary member of Golden Key International Honour Society for his research in Microbial Glycobiology and its impact in the field of infectious diseases.

The honour society, originally established in the US, was founded to recognise scholastic excellence and promote leadership and service in the community. Membership is gained by invitation and is extended to the top 15% of honour students in the arts, humanities and scientific disciplines.

Bonn Óir RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta



Ó chlár tá Seán Ó hÉanaigh, Stiúrthóir Cláir RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta le Diarmaid Ó hAinifidh (buaiteoir) agus Rómán Ó Dubhthaigh, Riarthóir na Cumarsáide le hAcadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge.

Tá Bonn Óir Raidió na Gaeltachta buaite ag Diarmaid Ó hAinifidh, as an gcaighdeán is airde a bhaint amach ar an Ard-Diplóma i gCumarsáid Fheidhmeach sa bhliain 2008. Bronntar an Bonn Óir, atá urraithe ag RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta, go bliantúil ar an té is fearr a dhéanann dul chun cinn ar chúrsa an Ard-Diplóma i gCumarsáid Fheidhmeach. Is cúrsa é seo a chuireann oiliúint phraiticiúil ar mhic léinn i gcúrsaí raidió agus teilifíse, i dteannta le hoiliúint i gcúrsaí Gaeilge, Dlí agus Scileanna Ríomhaireachta. Ní critéir acadúla amháin a chuirtear san áireamh i mbronradh an Bhoinn Óir ach forbairt iomlán an mhic léinn le linn an chúrsa bliana seo.

New models of delivering education to professionals working with children with communication impairments



Speech and Language Therapy recently received funding from the Professional Education Unit in the HSE to conduct an action research project which aims to explore different models of delivery of interdisciplinary learning events. In phase one of the research, participants were invited to attend this interdisciplinary event in May 2009 in three different formats i.e. attendance at the event in NUI Galway, attendance at a live video-link of the event in UL and UCC or attendance at a facilitated event using a DVD recording of the event.

One hundred and ten participants from a range of disciplines in health and education attended the event with 30 attending the live video links with UL and UCC. A further 50 registered to attend a facilitated event using a DVD recording of the event.

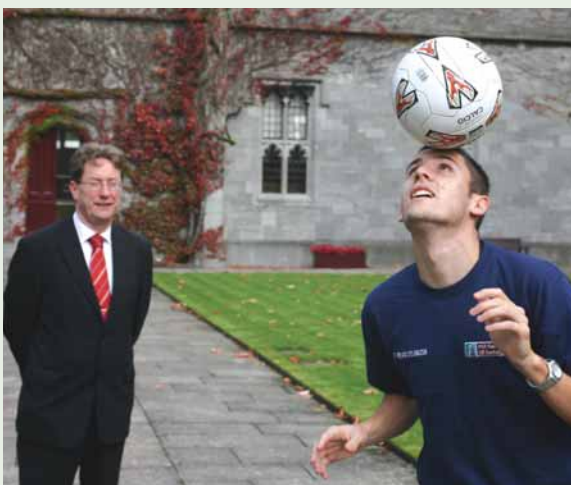
Pictured at the NUI Galway event (front row l-r): Clare Carroll, Speech and Language Therapy; President Browne; Celine Gordon, Speech and Language Therapy; Professor Somaia Tawfik, Ain Shams University Cairo; Professor Terri James Bellis, University of South Dakota; Maria Logue Kennedy, Speech and Language Therapy. (Back row l-r): Jackie Reed, Professional Education HSE; Lucy O'Hagan, HSE; Rena Lyons, Speech and Language Therapy and Eilis Dignan.

McGahern Archive Toured to US Alumni

President Browne is pictured in the American Irish Historical Society, New York, with former Junior Year Abroad student Tina Jones and her husband, alumnus and Galway University Foundation US Board member, Adrian Jones, at *John McGahern in The New Yorker*. The event, sponsored by Galway University Foundation, featured an illustrated talk by Dr John Kenny and an exhibition of the University's archive of the work of John McGahern. The talk and archive also toured to the Boston Public Library and was similarly attended by alumni and friends of the University. The President extended his US trip to launch a San Francisco Alumni Club in the Irish Consulate, San Francisco, upon requests from alumni in the area.



Sporting Success



NUI Galway applauded the outstanding performance of one of its heroic graduates, Olive Loughnane (BComm 1996), as she took the silver medal position in the 20k walk at the World Athletics Championships, held this summer in Berlin. Tony Regan, Head of Sport at NUI Galway, said: "Olive's achievement is one of the most deserved in Irish sport. It is a triumph of hard work, dedication and perseverance that has seen Olive deliver on the potential she showed in her early years at NUI Galway. She is a wonderful role model for all sportspeople and we are delighted to congratulate her on this remarkable success".

The University also recently congratulated Seamus Conneely, captain of NUI Galway Mens Soccer Club's Collingwood team, who has been called to the Ireland Under-21 squad by manager Don Givens. Seamus is a native of Camus in Connemara and is currently studying for a Higher Diploma in Business Studies. Seamus, who is also part of the NUI Galway Sports Scholarship Scheme, describes it as an "exciting opportunity for me to bring all that I have learned from my football career to date to a higher level".

Seamus is pictured with President Browne.

Fulbright Scholars

Senator J. William Fulbright set up the Fulbright Program to enable academics and experts to gain insights into other cultures and new ideas by way of cultural exchange. This year sees a record number of NUI Galway scholars of varied disciplines involved in this two-way academic and cultural exchange.

Ms Una Faherty will be a Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant at Lehman College in the Bronx, New York.

Ms Jacqueline Hynes is one of 43 world-wide recipients of the International Fulbright Science and Technology Award. Jacqueline will be fully funded by the US Department of State and Brown University to pursue a Ph.D. in Neuroscience at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island.

Mr Micheál Ó Leidhin holds a Bachelor's Degree in Irish and Economics and will be a Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant at the University of Montana.

Mr Hugh Rowland completed his LL.B and Masters in Nua-Ghaeilge in 2008 and will be a Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant at the Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas.

Ms Caroline Sullivan is currently completing her Doctorate in Botany and Ecology. Caroline will be a Fulbright Scholar at Humboldt State University in Arcata, California researching rare forest communities in Redwood National Park, California.

Dr John Walsh is the recipient of the Fulbright Irish Language Scholar Award and will teach Irish Language at University of California Santa Cruz and conduct research on the links between the Irish language and Ireland's socio-economic development.

Dr Kristen Billiar of Worcester Polytechnic Institute will be based in the Network of Excellence for Functional Biomaterials (NFB). He will conduct research on the interaction between nanoscale structures in tissue engineering scaffolds and design inquiry-based biomaterials teaching laboratories. He will also teach graduate courses in biomedical engineering.

Mr Kevin Conroy a graduate of Boston College, will enrol on a Masters in Nua-Ghaeilge. Kevin is the recipient of a Fulbright Student Award in the Irish Language, sponsored by the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and the National Lottery.

Dr Leslie Aileen Duram of Southern Illinois University Carbondale will be based at School of Geography and Archaeology, Department of Geography. Dr Duram will lecture and contribute to courses in organic, local food, environmental management and sustainable land use policy.

Ms Emily Ann Ravenscroft a graduate student at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill will enrol on a Masters in Nua-Ghaeilge. Emily is the recipient of a Fulbright Student Award in the Irish Language, sponsored by the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and the National Lottery. She will also conduct research on the communal narratives of Gaeltacht communities in Donegal, Connemara and Belfast.

Dr Elizabeth Skowron of Pennsylvania State University will be based in the School of Psychology. Dr Skowron will conduct cross-national research focused on at-risk families, parenting and risk factors associated with children's health outcomes. She will also contribute to the development and expansion of NUI Galway's professional training of psychologists and practitioners in the field of family psychology.

The Fulbright Commission is currently accepting applications for the academic year 2010-11, with full details on www.fulbright.ie.

Parents Benefit from Latest DERI Innovation

Atom, an innovative new internet tool from NUI Galway's Digital Enterprise Research Institute (DERI), is allowing parents easy access to information on activities, classes, camps, events, or services for their children. The technology has been licensed to the family listings website, www.mykidstime.ie. A circle-based browser, Atom allows the user to quickly and intuitively browse different categories in a way which mirrors the brain's activity. The Atom browser is available in the 'look and book' service offered by www.mykidstime.ie and facilitates the way that parents interact with the listings data. The Atom Interface has two patented techniques for manipulating increased amounts of data and

intuitively supports users through its easy-to-use functions.

Originally created by DERI, the Atom browser was further developed and refined through research and development with Mykidstime, supported by the Enterprise Ireland innovation voucher scheme.

John McGuire, Commercialisation Executive in the Technology Transfer Office: "This is pure technology transfer in action, from University to the market. It is also an example of a smaller entrepreneurial enterprise benefiting from research carried out at third-level institute. Hopefully this technology will be of use to many other organisations".

Irish Academy of Management Doctoral Colloquium



Pictured at the recent Irish Academy of Management Doctoral Colloquium at the J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics (l-r): Dr James Cunningham, Director, CISC; Professor Terry Smith, Vice-President for Research; Dr Noel Harvey, GMIT and organiser of the IAM Conference 2009; Professor Thomas Lawton, Cranfield University School of Management; Professor Tom Redman, Durham Business School; and Dr David Collings, School of Business & Economics.

In Brief



(l-r): Philip Henderson (Biochemistry), Kumar Saidha (Mechanical and Biomedical Engineering), Brid Thompson (SIPTU), John Muldoon (Chemistry), and Stewart Baker (Paediatrics).

The University Technical Officers Section of SIPTU recently made presentations to colleagues at an event to mark their retirement from the University. During their combined years of professional service to the University (nearly 125 years) they have contributed to the teaching and research programmes of thousands of students. The Technical Officers also marked the retirement of Brid Thompson from the local SIPTU office.

Self-discovery in the Library

Users of the Library can now discover the wide range of Library services and resources by taking a self-guided tour. A new brochure contains detailed maps of the Main Library and the new Nursing and Midwifery Library. The brochure can be used independently, and it can also be used in conjunction with an audio tour, which is available for download from the Library's website www.library.nuigalway.ie. Alternatively, portable audio wands are available for loan from the Customer Services Desk.

Intercultural Health Fair

The 2nd Intercultural Fair organised by NUI Galway and the Galway Refugee Support Group will take place on 4 November from 12 to 3pm, in Áras na Mac Léinn. The Fair will promote healthy living and equal access to health services among staff, students and all cultural communities living in Galway. Organisations will have their own stand with information about the scope of their community work. This event will make students aware of the range of available services and will offer an opportunity for staff to establish networks with community organisations. The fair will also present an opportunity to NUI Galway students participating in the ALIVE Programme. For further details please contact Helen Bartlett (GRSG) at healthfair@grsg.ie

Galway Homes required for Air Pollution Project

NUI Galway, in partnership with the Institute of Occupational Medicine in Edinburgh and the University of Aberdeen, are looking for 50 homes in Galway to participate in a study to measure the levels of indoor air pollution. The Indoor Air Pollution and Health project will run until December 2010 and is looking to recruit homes which use solid fuels for heating or cooking, or homes which have a resident smoker, to estimate how air pollution in homes affects our health. All information collected during the course of the research will be kept strictly confidential. Anyone interested in participating in the study please contact Paul Whelan, School of Physics paul.whelan@nuigalway.ie

Full Economic Costing (FEC) & Academic Activity Profiling (AAP)

NUI Galway is involved in developing and implementing a Full Economic Costing system to help sustain current levels of funding and seek additional funds to adequately cover the full costs of teaching, research and other educational activities.

The Full Economic Costing system will provide accurate and robust financial data to highlight the deficiencies in funding of research overheads and the extent to which cross-subsidisation exists between teaching and research. It will assist strategic resource deployment and will provide significant valuable information to help ensure the recovery of these research overheads. Academic Activity Profiling was carried out for the first time in June '09 for the period Jan-Apr '09. Further detail available on www.nuigalway.ie/fec.

Sláinte Society Organ Donor Survey

From 2006-2008 members of the Sláinte Society conducted a survey as part of their annual organ donation promotion, to assess attitudes towards organ donation and donor card-carrying rates among university students. The study, led by medical students Gerard Healy and Kapil Sharma, was carried out in conjunction with the Galway branch of the Irish Kidney Association. The full results of this survey appear in the October 2009 issue of the *Irish Medical Journal*.

Video Conference Network

Earlier this year NUI Galway joined the first wave of Irish Universities to participate in HEAnet's new High Definition Video Conference network, with the latest state-of-the-art hardware installed in the main video conference suite. The University also embarked on a programme of upgrades and installations at a number of other venues (including meeting rooms and lecture theatres). Whilst in the past videoconferencing was primarily used for project meetings, interviews and oral examinations, the technology is now increasingly seen as a key means of developing and delivering joint courses between institutions. Previous experience with pilot studies in Law, Medicine and Physics is now being augmented with collaborative modules in structured PhD and Masters level programmes. It provides incredible opportunities to considerably extend seminar and guest speaker programmes, cutting down on travel costs, minimise your carbon footprint and avoid long tedious journeys. There are no call charges since the connections are mainly now over the internet. Further information is available from audiovisual@nuigalway.ie

Celebrating 10 years of Procurement

In September 1999, the Procurement & Contracts Office first opened its doors for business. The current economic climate change has brought about new and diverse challenges for Procurement professionals, with more visibility on cost reduction and value added savings. Collaboration has always been at the top of our agenda and the office is currently involved with a number of both formal and informal consortia i.e. UPPOG (University Procurement & Contracts Officers Group); Shannon Consortium: WPPNG (Western Procurement Professionals Network Group).

The procurement office extends a warm invitation to all staff to join in their 10th Anniversary celebrations – details to be circulated through email once finalised.

Memorial Garden

A Memorial Garden to mark the death of students and staff during their time in NUI Galway has been recently completed. Located in the green area adjacent to Áras de Brun, the garden was financed by the Students Project Fund.

The centrepiece of the garden is a water feature on which is inscribed 'To everything there is a season / Tá a ionú féin ag gach uile ní'. The fountain is surrounded by limestone cobbles or setts, each of which can be inscribed with the name of the student or staff-member to be commemorated.

There are four stone seats which delineate the memorial area and a large number of trees have been planted in the vicinity.

This reflective space is a tangible expression of the acute sense of loss felt by the entire University community when one of its members dies unexpectedly or prematurely. Two setts will be engraved to remember all deceased staff and all alumni. There are no plans to move or eliminate any of the existing memorials to students or staff on campus.

The first setts to be inscribed will commemorate staff member Catherine O'Connell from the

Admissions Office and the four students who died during the past summer - John McGrath, Keith O'Reilly, Kate Birmingham and Sarah Morrissey. A short dedication ceremony will be planned for the family, colleagues and friends of each person and it is hoped that the Memorial Garden will become a focal point for students and staff to relax, to remember, to contemplate and to pay tribute to those who have passed this spot in life and are now lying in peace. Suaimhneas síoraí dóibh.

Access Summer Camp



Pictured at the Access Summer Camp in NUI Galway with Dr Zoë Popper from the University's School of Natural Sciences, were (left) Jordan O'Reilly and (right) Katie Lambe from 5th class, Scoil Bhríde, Shantalla, Galway.

Genocide in International Law

Professor Bill Schabas' pioneering work, *Genocide in International Law: The Crime of Crimes* is now in its second edition. First published in 2000, the new edition reviews case law on genocide, as well as key academic contributions and political developments, such as the doctrine of the responsibility to protect. Professor Schabas is Director of the Irish Centre of Human Rights.

The book was launched by Professor David Scheffer, who served as the first United States Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes Issues during President Bill Clinton's second term in office. Professor Scheffer said of the book: "Future generations of lawyers will accord the name Schabas the same high honour we accord all those titans of our legal curriculum, scholars who educate not only us mere mortals, but also the judges who rely on their insights and wisdom to decide hard cases".

The third John McGahern International Seminar took place in July.

The John McGahern International Seminar and Summer School is organised annually in Co. Leitrim to commemorate the work and literary achievements of this distinguished author. The keynote lecture, 'The Local and the Universal: Ordinary Heroes in John McGahern', was delivered at the opening ceremony by Professor Kevin Whelan of Notre Dame University.

The second volume of the *John McGahern Yearbook* was also launched on the opening evening. The Yearbook, published in a collectable hardback format, is the associated publication of the Seminar and Summer School. The Yearbook is compiled and edited by Dr John Kenny, John McGahern Lecturer in Creative Writing at NUI Galway and Academic Director of the Seminar and Summer School. This year's volume contains all of last year's Seminar lectures as well as a wide range of other essays. Contributions include the keynote address by Professor Gearóid Ó Tuathaigh and lectures given by Professor David Malcolm of the University of Gdansk, Poland, and Gerardo Gambolini, the Argentinian poet whose Spanish translation of John McGahern's collected stories has recently been published to great acclaim. The Yearbook is available in the University bookshop or from the Press and Information Office.