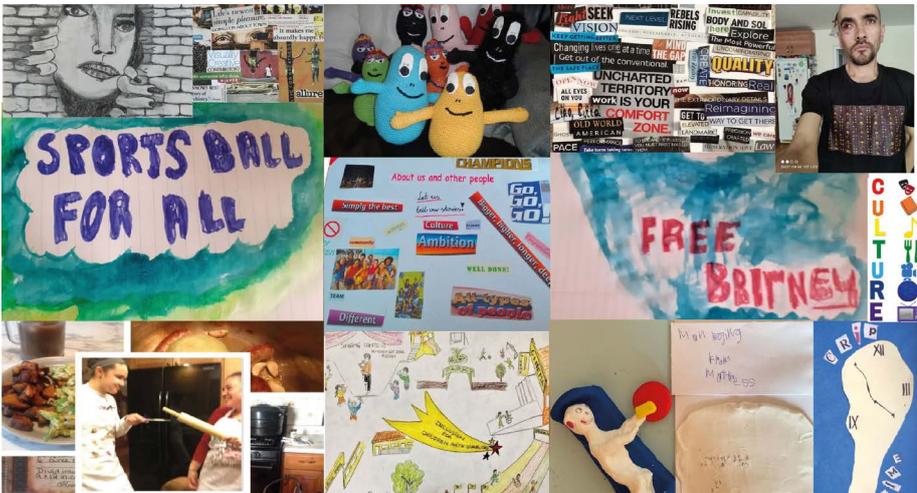




# Dliscéala Newsletter

For friends, students and alumni



Some of the craftivism pieces produced by participants under the guidance of Roisin Power Hackett. Craftivism is a visual handmade form of activism that usually includes elements of anti-capitalism, environmentalism and feminism.

## 12th International Disability Law Summer School

The world's largest Disability Law Summer School focusing on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities took place virtually from 31st May to 2nd July 2021. The Summer School, hosted by the Centre for Disability Law and Policy, focused on Article 30 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Access to Culture, Recreation, Leisure and Sport for People with Disabilities. Over 140 participants took part from over 40 countries including artists, academics and human rights activists. The Summer School took place over 5 weeks with the programme containing a mixture of specially pre-recorded content, live panel discussions, interactive events including comedy sets, and a DJ'd dance party.

Sinéad Burke, disability activist and Founder of Tilting the Lens, delivered the keynote address focusing on the right to participate in cultural life and how this right can be achieved in practice for disabled people. Speakers over the five weeks included Robert Martin of the United Nations

Convention for Rights of People with Disabilities Committee, comedian Rosie Jones, Irish author Louise Nealon, Jess Thom from Tourettes Hero and playwright Rosaleen McDonagh with many of the speakers having been directly and actively engaged in drafting and implementing the UN Convention.

Prof Eilionóir Flynn, Director of Centre for Disability Law and Policy and Co-Director of the Summer School, said: "The global pandemic has highlighted new ways to make culture more accessible, for example, through live streaming of cultural events. Nevertheless, disabled people are still excluded from accessing culture in different forms and much work remains to ensure full and meaningful participation of disabled people in all forms of cultural life. The summer school brings together those who are leading in establishing cultural rights for people with disabilities, advocates and human rights experts in order to learn from each other – and develop ideas in this crucial area."

### TOP 200

2021

Law

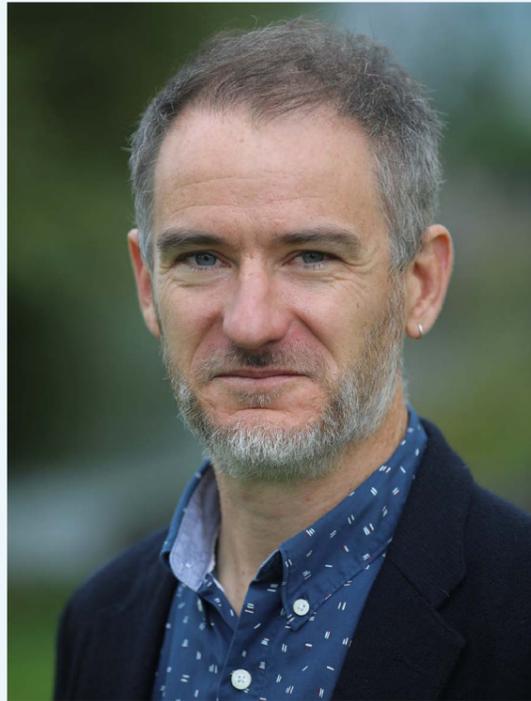


BY SUBJECT

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# Welcome from the Head of School



Dear Friends,

I hope you enjoy the eighth edition of *Dlísceala*, the annual newsletter of the School of Law at NUI Galway, prepared by my colleague Michael Coyne.

Since the publication of our last issue, we have experienced without question one of the most challenging periods ever in the history of the School. The Covid-19 pandemic has taken a heavy personal toll on many in our community and our condolences go out to those who have lost friends and family in these recent times.

Students and colleagues at the School have shown tremendous resolve in rising to the various challenges to studying and working in the University during this crisis. Not only has legal education continued to be delivered to a high standard and with as little disruption as possible, there have been numerous other positive achievements over the past year or so, which you can read about in this issue.

In a most exciting staffing development, the School of Law is delighted that Professor Martin Hogg will be joining us as Head of School in November. Professor Hogg brings with him a wealth of experience from his

time at the Edinburgh Law School at the University of Edinburgh, where he has served as Head of School and Dean of Law. He succeeds Dr Charles O'Mahony who lead the School with such distinction during his tenure as Head of School. Professor Siobhán Mullally has generously served as Interim Head over recent months. The School is also most pleased to welcome Dr Anna Arstein-Kerslake who has joined the Irish Centre for Human Rights from the University of Melbourne

In this issue, we celebrate the various achievements of our students and staff in the School of Law, the Irish Centre for Human Rights, the Centre for Disability Law and Policy and the Centre for Housing Law, Rights and Policy, and we look forward to the start of a new academic year. We will be announcing a number of exciting events for the forthcoming year, which you can find out about on our website (<http://www.nuigalway.ie/law/>) or by following our various social media. To stay in touch with the School and to hear about our events and programmes please contact us at [law@nuigalway.ie](mailto:law@nuigalway.ie).

**Professor Shane Darcy**  
Interim Head of School  
School of Law



## NUI Galway School of Law Ranked 85th in the World for Law

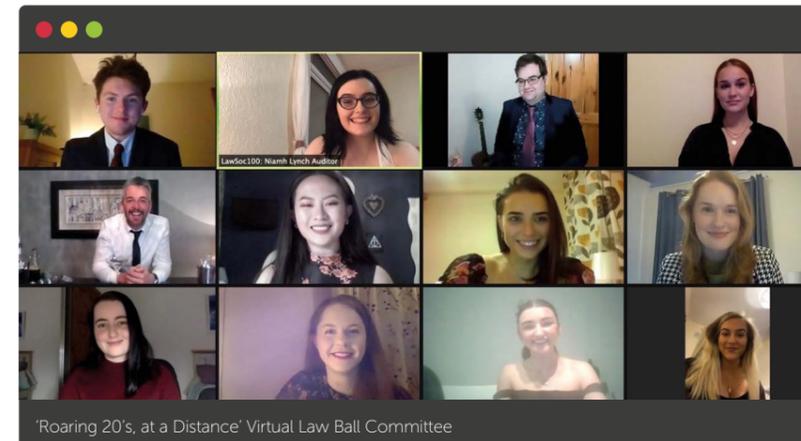
NUI Galway School of Law was ranked as 85th in the world for Law in the 2021 Times Higher Education World University Rankings by Subject. Times Higher Education's (THE) annual World Subject Rankings cover 11 subject areas, giving an overview of the best places in the world to study a chosen discipline. This ranking for NUI Galway School of Law recognises the School's innovative approach to teaching law and high quality legal research.

## Teaching in COVID times

It is trite but true to say that the past year has been "challenging" from a teaching and learning perspective. The Law School prides itself on its interactive and dynamic approach to in-class teaching. The public health situation did not fully allow for this in 2020-21. Staff and students had to switch to an entirely online method of delivery, literally at the last minute. Although this was not without its difficulties, we are proud of our students for proving so resilient and adapting to learning online. Special credit is due to all of our 1st year class representatives and CÉIM leaders who went above and beyond to help ensure that our new students were supported throughout the difficult year.

We are also proud of staff for redesigning their courses for the online format. All the hard work in doing so appears to have paid off with a number of exceptionally strong performances in exams and assessments. With luck, 2021-22 will provide the opportunity for everyone to return to the classroom without forgetting the lessons learned over the past year.

# Student Activities



## NUI Galway Law Society

The Law Society of NUI Galway, or LawSoc, established in 1920, is one of the oldest and largest societies on campus. Our aim is to assist students who wish to develop a range of legal clinical and social skills, through tailored events in a fun and friendly atmosphere.

With guest speakers, mooted competitions, livestream study sessions, volunteering opportunities, workshops and trips at home and abroad, we are working alongside the School of Law, the Careers Development Centre, ELSA and legal professionals to ensure you are constantly networking throughout your time in NUI Galway.

We have been awarded the 'Most Successful' Society in NUI Galway at the Societies Awards this year. The Committee of 2020-21 was Niamh Lynch [Auditor], Patrick McWalter [Vice Auditor], Lorraine Kelly [Treasurer], Shauna Burke [Secretary], Jessica O'Donoghue [Equality, Compliance & Guidance Director], Emma Rowe [Public Relations Officer], Matthew Mulrooney [Conventions Director], Zhonna Gonzalez Davis [Careers Director], Bryony Kelly [Social Secretary], Kelsey Ahern [OCM], Katie Ward [OCM] and Anna Lee Dowling [First Year Representative]. Heading into our 101st session, we hope to maintain our routed passion for providing our members with a head-start on their career path. Whether you are an

aspiring solicitor, barrister or are thinking of pursuing a different route following a Law degree, LawSoc will help you on your way, connecting you to firms, organisations and institutions.



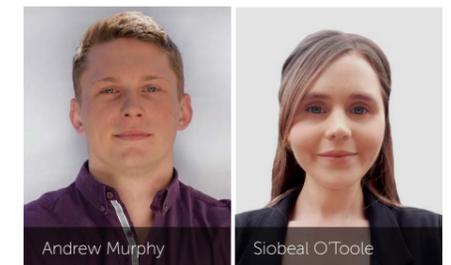
In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, our Digital First Strategy established virtual services such as the monthly LawSoc Gazette Newsletter, the LawSoc Database and the LawFirst Programme for our members. Our podcast 'The Legal Lens with NUI Galway's Law Society', which will be evolving into the NUI Galway Law Review, is available on Soundcloud, Spotify, Apple Podcasts, iTunes and all great listening services.

As always, membership is free and with 52% of our members being from non-law disciplines, you will be warmly welcomed. Feel free to give us a like on our social media, say hello on campus, or drop us a line via email at [lawsoc@soc.nuigalway.ie](mailto:lawsoc@soc.nuigalway.ie)

## Student Prize Winners

Congratulations to all our student prize winners over the past academic year. Ordinarily, these students would have been honoured at Lá na nGradam; we hope to resume those great occasions again soon. 2020/21 prize winners will be awarded in October 2021.

- The Oxford University Press Law Prize - Róisín Cowan Madden (1st BCL)
- LK Shields Hugh Garvey Memorial Prizes - Andrew Murphy (3rd BCL), Siobeal O'Toole (Final Corp Law) and Rachel O'Hara (3rd BCL)
- Val O'Connor Memorial Prize in Equity - Holly Johnston (3rd LLB)
- Thomson Reuters - Round Hall Prize - Ellen Cuffe Kelly (1st BA Law)
- Lexis Nexis Butterworth Law Prize - Thomas O'Connell (3rd BA Law)
- CDLP Gold Medal winner for 2019/20 - Eleanor Good (LLM in International and Comparative Disability Law and Policy)



## Graduates Secure Master of Laws Places at the University of Cambridge

Congratulations to graduates Andrew Murphy (Law (BCL) 2020) and Siobeal O'Toole (B Corp Law 2020) who came top of their class in their degrees and secured Master of Laws places in the prestigious University of Cambridge. Andrew's article on 'Deferred Prosecution Agreements' was recently accepted for publication in UCD Law Review, and he has also secured a traineeship with Arthur Cox.

Siobeal also secured the George Moore Scholarship to pursue her studies, which supports academically talented students who wish to undertake a Master's degree in the USA, Canada, UK, Australia or New Zealand.



Screenshot from Centenary Anniversary Zoom Webinar with Dr Tom Courtney (Author of 'The Law of Companies', FE1 Company Law Examiner, NUIG Alumnus)

## LawSoc Centenary Celebrations

To mark the centenary anniversary of LawSoc's establishment, we hosted a series of virtual events featuring some of the most respected legal minds in the country.

Our Webinar Events, which were reported on by Irish Legal News, the Law Society of Ireland Gazette and local and national broadcasting services, featured guests including The Honourable Mr Justice Frank Clarke (Chief Justice of Ireland, President of the Supreme Court), Dr Tom Courtney (Author of 'The Law of Companies', FE1 Company Law Examiner,

NUIG Alumnus), NUIG alumni representatives from A&L Goodbody Solicitors, and Franks Greaney (Courts Correspondent for Newstalk/Today FM, multi-award winning Journalist and NUIG Alumnus).

Celebrations continued at our 'Roaring 20's, at a Distance' Virtual Law Ball. Traditionally, the Law Ball is the highlight of every law student's calendar in NUI Galway. Guests dusted off their formal attire for an evening of comedy, cocktail making and networking, this year — via Zoom.

We concluded our celebrations marking 'International Women's Day, with guests Michele O'Boyle (2020 President of the Law Society of Ireland (NUIG Graduate)), Maura McNally (Chair of the Bar Council of Ireland, (NUIG Graduate)) and Anne Marie McMahon, Deputy Commissioner of An Garda Síochána.

Recordings are available at [www.youtube.com/channel/UCiTvqbg3F6YV8FSTc7L6aig](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiTvqbg3F6YV8FSTc7L6aig) or via our website [www.nuiglawsociety.wordpress.com/](http://www.nuiglawsociety.wordpress.com/)

## Human Rights Law Clinic

The Human Rights Law Clinic is a year-long postgraduate module open to all LL.M and PhD students at the Irish Centre for Human Rights. The Clinic enables students to participate in grassroots social justice movements, by first introducing the student to theories and tools of 'movement lawyering' (alternatively described as 'rebellious lawyering' or 'social change lawyering') and then supervising the student as they devise and carry out their contributions to a broader social justice effort in partnership with human rights practitioners and community activists.

32 postgraduate students participated in last year's Clinic. The students worked under the supervision of Dr Maeve O'Rourke and tutors Cillian Bracken BL, Judit Villena-Rodo and Pearce Clancy. Numerous members of academic staff at NUI Galway and members of civil society in Ireland and globally also provided guidance, for which we are extremely grateful. You can read more on the Irish Centre for Human Rights website about the students' collaborations with human rights practitioners and community organisers which included the following:

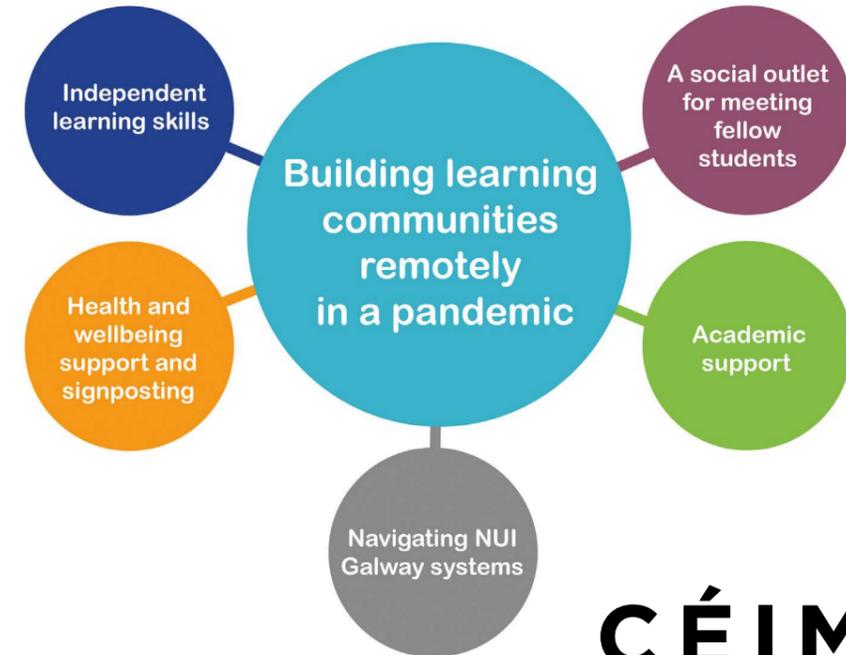
- Research and drafting to support the work of Professor Siobhán Mullally in

her role as United Nations Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children;

- Publication of a 'Know Your Rights' guide for people experiencing homelessness, in partnership with Will Cummings, Eimear O'Grady and Clare O'Connor of Inner City Helping Homeless and BABS Empowerment Service;
- Research and drafting of a legal submission to inform the Northern Ireland Executive-commissioned study on fracking, in collaboration with Dianne Little of Letterbreen and Mullaghduin Partnership, and publication of a research report on the international human rights impacts of fracking;
- Drafting of a United Nations General Assembly resolution calling for a global ban on fracking, and associated coalition-building, with Johnny McElligott of Safety Before LNG and Eddie Mitchell of Love Leitrim;
- Publication of a research report, carried out in collaboration with Evgeny Shtorn of the Movement of Asylum Seekers in Ireland, advocating statutory time-limits for international protection decision-making;
- Publication of online Information Guides and template letters to assist those affected by family separation to

obtain their personal data, in collaboration with Loughlin O'Nolan of Article 8 Advocacy, Cassie Roddy-Mullineaux of AWO data rights agency and Claire McGettrick of Adoption Rights Alliance;

- Creation and piloting of secondary school teaching resources introducing Transition Year students to the human rights abuses perpetrated in residential schools, Magdalene Laundries and Mother and Baby institutions, in partnership with Mary Harney and Fionna Fox, first- and second-generation survivors, and the Clann Project;
- Production of five-part podcast series and publication of research report analysing the potential human rights impacts of the EU-Mercosur Free Trade Agreement, with Saoirse McHugh and Bridgit Murphy of Talamh Beo;
- Support to Domestic Violence Response Galway to research and draft proposals for future projects;
- Publication of a report analysing period poverty as a multi-dimensional human rights issue and making legislative recommendations, with Galway Hygiene Bank; and
- Creation of Know Your Rights guides and research memoranda for Shannon Watch.



## CÉIM peer learning in the School of Law

All 1st year students in the School of Law continued to be offered weekly peer learning sessions in 2020/21 via the CÉIM programme. CÉIM runs as a partnership between the School and NUI Galway Students' Union with all sessions delivered by 2nd, 3rd, or final year students.

CÉIM pivoted online this academic year, continuing to support 1st year students' transition to higher education. Sessions focused on health and wellbeing, academic success, progression, and transferable skills development. For the first time, all 1st year CÉIM students were

assigned to a small Buddy/Study group within their CÉIM group to help them to make friends and form study groups. Engagement with CÉIM was very high, ranging from 75% for BA Law students to 84% for Law and Business students and 95% for Civil Law students.

The impact of CÉIM as a support system is clear. As one 1st year student stated, "I think the reassurance that you're not alone has been the best part of CÉIM. The students in your course, and who were in your course last year encountered the same difficulties and struggles and learning from their

experience and taking their advice on board has been invaluable." The programme has also been a very positive experience for Leaders. As stated by one of the Leaders, "It exceeded expectations - I've so many new skills, and have made so many new friends, I couldn't have asked for anything more. Fully the best thing I've ever done!"

The School of Law is incredibly proud of all the students and Leaders who participated this year and are delighted to continue to partner with the Students Union in this really valuable initiative.

## 2020 Terence O'Malley DLA Piper Scholars



In 2020 the School of Law announced its partnership with DLA Piper for the Terence O'Malley DLA Piper Scholarship. The new scholarship provides funding to support students studying in the School of Law, based on financial need and academic merit. The scholarship fund will support

Scholars throughout their four year degree to the value of €2,500 annually. The first scholars to receive this scholarship are Ava Cullinan, a First Year Law (BCL) student from Co. Clare and Emily Donnellan a First Year Law (BCL), Criminology and Criminal Justice student from Co. Galway.



Ava Cullinan

Emily Donnellan

# Internationalisation

## Study Abroad

The School of Law has recently revamped its study abroad programme and we are very excited to announce the addition of many destinations in the European Union and in the wider world.

Moreover, as part of a new strategy and efforts, the School is proud to announce the creation of a Study Abroad group, composed of EU and non-EU academic coordinators, study abroad officers and administrative staff of the School of Law. In this way, we have strengthened our Internationalisation agenda, currently focused on further developing our international portfolio and offering the best possible support to our students.

We have created a dedicated website page providing more detailed information about our partner universities and their programs. Through the Erasmus Exchange programme, Dr Edel Hughes and Nicola

Murphy, with the support of our study abroad officers, Larissa Lamb and Aisling Conroy, have established links with 26 first-class universities in the European Union. Despite the challenges brought by Covid-19, we are delighted to be supporting 82 Law students to complete their study abroad experience in the coming academic year.

The Director of Internationalisation, Dr Anita Ferrara, is also continuing to expand the student exchange agreement with Institutions all over the world. The School has currently student exchange agreements with universities in Australia, Canada, USA, China and India.

We are very much looking forward to the beginning of an exciting year ahead, allowing our students the chance to live the enriching experience of spending a year abroad.

### School of Law adds a number of new Erasmus partners

In response to the increasing demand amongst students who wish to study abroad for a year but who are not necessarily studying a language, the School of Law has added a number of new Erasmus partners in which it is possible to study law through English for the Academic Year 2021-22. The new links include those with Charles University in Prague, the University of Murcia, the University of Nantes, the University of Osnabruck, and the University of Lille. We wish all students studying in the coming academic year safe and healthy travels!

### Dora Papp (3rd Corp Law – International) studied at Julius-Maximilians Universität Würzburg in 2020/21

My overall experience at Uni Würzburg was very positive, despite the fact that we could not travel to Germany and had to do the whole year online. Once we made our situation clear to the lecturers they were very accommodating regarding examinations. All of our exams were oral exams, done through Zoom. I do have to say that all of the lecturers were very friendly and accessible. The Sprachkurse were also very helpful and I made friends with some other

students with whom I could practice my German with. The Erasmusbüro was always available when I needed them and answered all of the queries I had. One thing that I did find a bit strange was that they have so many Bank Holidays in Bavaria. In the second semester there was one almost every two weeks!



### Victoria Osikoya (3rd Corp Law – International) studied at the Georg August University of Göttingen in 2020/21

My Erasmus year was a very unique experience to say the least. Due to the outbreak of Covid-19 I and many other Erasmus students unfortunately had to complete the study abroad component of our degree remotely. When presented with the options of how to move forward with the study abroad aspect of our degree I knew I wanted to complete my Erasmus year no matter what it took. Although it was not quite the Erasmus experience

I had hoped for I was still extremely grateful to have been given the opportunity to improve my language skills in an environment where I was fully immersed in German, albeit a few hours a day. With the support of my Erasmus coordinators I was able to have a stress free learning experience and a successful year. I'm glad I was able to accomplish the goals I set out for myself despite the Covid-19 pandemic.



# Staff in the Media



# Doctoral Programme



Beatrice Canossi and Judit Villena Rodó



Kelsey Rhude

## Doctoral Scholarships

The School of Law had great success in the Hardiman Scholarship competition in 2020/21. Three of the four Hardiman Scholarships in the College of Business, Public Policy and Law recently awarded to applicants in the School of Law: Clara Bosch March (supervisor Dr Ciara Smyth), Kiran Mohandas Menon (supervisor Prof Shane Darcy) and Farjana Hossain (supervisor Dr Rónán Kennedy), all of whom will commence their PhD research in September 2021. Congratulations to all three scholars. Mary Harney (supervised by Dr Maeve O'Rourke) has also been awarded a College of Business, Public Policy and Law doctoral scholarship. Congratulations to all three scholars.

In addition, three doctoral candidates in the School were successful in their applications for Irish Research Council funding: Pearce Clancy (supervisor Prof Ray Murphy), Maëlle Noir (supervisor Dr Ekaterina Yahyaoui) and Rania Muhareb (supervisor Prof Shane Darcy).

This comes after a successful year in 2019/20 where Beatrice Canossi (supervisor Dr Anita Ferrara) and Judit Villena Rodó (supervisor Prof Siobhán Mullally) were awarded IRC Government of Ireland PhD scholarships in October 2020, and Kelsey Rhude (supervisor Dr Anita Ferrara) and Rania Muhareb joined the Irish Centre for Human Rights as Hardiman Scholars. Courtney Martin was awarded the School of Law PhD fellowship in 2020 (supervisor Dr Anita Ferrara)

## PhD Graduates



Dr Paul Bradfield



Dr Jurgita Bukauskaite



Dr Hasret Cetinkaya



Dr Luke Hamilton



Dr Sarah Hofmayer



Dr Noemi Magugliani



Dr Yeni Rosdianti

### Dr Paul Bradfield

Congratulations to Dr Paul Bradfield, who successfully defended his PhD thesis in March 2021. Paul's thesis, 'Forgiveness in the Age of Accountability - Assessing Amnesty in Northern Uganda', was supervised by Prof Siobhán Mullally. The examiners were Dr Anita Ferrara (internal) and Prof Louise Mallinder (Queen's University Belfast, external). The viva was chaired by Prof Ray Murphy.

### Dr Jurgita Bukauskaite

Congratulations to Dr Jurgita Bukauskaite who successfully defended her PhD thesis on domestic violence and the Istanbul Convention in June 2021. Dr Bukauskaite was supervised by Dr Ekaterina Yahyaoui of the Irish Centre for Human Rights. Her external examiner was Professor Johanna Niemi of the University of Turku, Finland, and her internal examiner was Dr Maeve O'Rourke of the ICHR. The viva voce exam was chaired by Professor Donncha O'Connell of the School of Law.

### Dr Hasret Cetinkaya

Congratulations to Dr Hasret Cetinkaya, who successfully defended her PhD thesis in April 2021. Hasret's thesis, 'Rethinking "Honour": Human Rights, Namús and the Self', was supervised by Dr Maeve O'Rourke and Dr Kathleen Cavanaugh. The examiners were Prof Siobhán Mullally (internal) and Prof Sumi Madhok (London School of Economics, external).

### Dr Maria Corbett

Many congratulations to Dr Maria Corbett, Irish Research Council scholar, on her successful PhD defence in June 2021. Her thesis entitled 'Human Rights Compliant Decision-Making in Child Protection: Lessons for Ireland from a Comparative Socio-Legal Case Study Analysis of Ireland, England and Germany' was supervised by Dr Connie Healy and Prof Carol Coulter. The examiners were Dr Ciara Smyth (internal) and Prof Helen Stafford (external) and her viva was chaired by Dr John Danaher.

### Dr Carla De Ycaza

Congratulations to Dr Carla De Ycaza, who graduated in June 2021 with a PhD in Law for research supervised by Prof William Schabas on transitional justice in Africa.

### Dr Sandra Duffy

Congratulations to Dr Sandra Duffy, who was awarded a PhD in Human Rights in June 2021 for research supervised by Prof Siobhán Mullally on Gendered identities, gender recognition and international human rights law. The external examiner was Prof Kendall Thomas (Columbia, NY) and the internal examiner was Dr Shivaun Quinlivan.

### Dr Andrew Forde

Congratulations to Dr Andrew Forde who was awarded a PhD in Human Rights in June 2021 for research supervised by Prof Siobhán Mullally and Dr Kathleen Cavanagh on the application of the European Convention on Human Rights in areas of contested statehood.

### Dr Luke Hamilton

Luke Hamilton successfully defended his PhD in February 2020. Luke's thesis was on '(Re)Conceptualising Vulnerability in International Refugee Law and Practice: An Exploration of the Value of a More Dynamic Approach to Vulnerability in Refugee Status Determination'. Luke was supervised by Dr Ciara Smyth.

### Dr Sarah Hofmayer

Congratulations to Dr Sarah Hofmayer, who successfully defended her PhD thesis in June 2021. Sarah's thesis, 'Work Integration Social Enterprises - A Tool to Further Inclusive Employment for Persons with Disabilities?', was supervised by Dr Lucy-Ann Buckley. The external examiner was Prof Mark Priestley from the University of Leeds, the internal examiner was Prof Shane Darcy, and the viva Chair was Prof Eilionóir Flynn.

### Dr Helen Kehoe

Congratulations to Dr Helen Kehoe who was awarded a PhD in Human Rights in June 2021 for research supervised by Prof. Siobhán Mullally on Gendered institutional abuses, illegal adoptions and truth recovery: the potential of human rights law.

### Dr Noemi Magugliani

Congratulations to Dr Noemi Magugliani, who successfully defended her PhD thesis in May 2021. Noemi's thesis, 'Trafficked adult males, gendered constructions of vulnerability and access to protection', was supervised by Prof Siobhán Mullally. The examiners were Dr Ciara Smyth (internal) and Dr Kim Thuy Seelinger (external).

### Dr Stephanie O'Flynn

Congratulations to Dr Stephanie O'Flynn, who successfully defended her PhD thesis in May 2021. Stephanie's thesis, 'From Animal Welfare to Animal Rights: Rethinking our Legal Paradigm', was supervised by Dr Maureen O'Sullivan. The external examiner was Dr Simon Brooman (Liverpool John Moores University) the internal examiner was Dr Ioanna Tourkochoriti and the viva Chair was Prof Donncha O'Connell.

### Dr Yeni Rosdianti

Congratulations to Dr Yeni Rosdianti, who successfully defended her PhD thesis in December 2019. Yeni is pictured here with her primary supervisor, Dr Lucy-Ann Buckley, along with Prof Ray Murphy (viva chair), Dr Aisling de Paor (DCU - external examiner) and Dr Shivaun Quinlivan (internal examiner). Yeni's thesis is entitled: 'Vindicating substantive equality in the right to work of persons with disabilities in Indonesia'.

### Dr Imran Smith

Congratulations to Prof Imran Smith, who successfully defended his PhD thesis in May 2021. His co-supervisors were Prof Pádraic Kenna and Dr Maureen O'Sullivan.

## CDLP Graduates

PhD graduates Dr Athina-Eleni Georgantzi, Dr Charlotte May-Simera and Dr Emily Loughlin were conferred virtually at an online ceremony in June 2021.

Athina-Eleni Georgantzi was awarded a PhD in Law for research supervised by Prof Eamon O'Shea and Prof Eilionóir Flynn on addressing human rights in older age and the potential for a new UN Convention.

Emily Loughlin was awarded a PhD in Law for research supervised by Prof. Kieran Walsh, Prof Thomas Scharf and Prof Gerard Quinn on the conceptualisation of community living for older persons with disabilities.

Charlotte May-Simera was awarded a PhD in Law for research supervised by Dr Shivaun Quinlivan and Prof Gerard Quinn, which examines solutions to the segregation of people with intellectual disability through sheltered employment.



Pictured after her viva in December 2019, are Charlotte May-Simera and her supervisor Dr Shivaun Quinlivan.

## New Staff Appointments

### Dr Anna Arstein-Kerslake

The Irish Centre for Human Rights is delighted to welcome Dr Anna Arstein-Kerslake as incoming Lecturer in Human Rights law, commencing in September 2021.

Anna is joining us from Melbourne Law School, where she is currently an Associate Professor in Law. She is an internationally recognised legal academic in the fields of human rights, gender justice and international disability rights. She has published widely in these areas, including her recent books, *Restoring Voice to People* (Cambridge University Press 2017) and *Legal Capacity and Gender* (Springer 2020).

Anna has led several large scale research projects, working with UN bodies, international NGOs, and Governments, including: World Health Organisation (WHO), United Kingdom Ministry of Justice, Irish Ministry of Justice, Amnesty Ireland, Interights, and Mental Disability Advocacy Center, among others. Recent research includes leading the Unfitness to Plead Project, funded by the Australian Government, which examined the application of a human rights framework to the indefinite detention of people with



Anna Arstein-Kerslake

cognitive disabilities after being found 'unfit to plead'.

In 2015, Anna founded the international Disability Human Rights Research Network (DHRRN), which currently spans Europe, India, USA, and Australia. She also developed the Disability Human Rights Clinic (DHRC) and the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and Disability Benefits Clinic at Melbourne Law School.

Anna previously held a Marie Curie Research Fellowship at the Centre for

Disability Law and Policy (CDLP) at NUI Galway. Her Marie Curie fellowship focused on the right to equal recognition before the law, and included research collaborations in Europe, USA, Asia, and Australia to engage with governments, international bodies, local communities, and academics.

Anna holds a PhD in Law from the National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG), a JD from the City University of New York (CUNY) School of Law, and a BA in Sociology from San Diego State University (SDSU).

## Staff News



Dr Lucy-Ann Buckley

### Dr Lucy-Ann Buckley

Congratulations to Dr Lucy-Ann Buckley and Dr Shivaun Quinlivan whose research has informed new equality laws in the States of Guernsey (Channel Islands). Dr Buckley and Dr Quinlivan were appointed as expert advisors to the States of Guernsey in 2018 to help develop the law.

Guernsey's parliament voted unanimously to approve proposals for the new law in July 2020. The first phase of the law will prohibit discrimination based on disability, carer status, race, religion and sexual orientation. Age and gender discrimination will be addressed in the second phase. The legislation will apply to employment and the provision of goods and services, including education. The new law is a key step in enabling Guernsey to ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and is an essential part of the island's Disability Strategy. Together with Dr Shivaun Quinlivan, Dr Buckley was awarded the NUI Galway President's Award for Societal Impact (2020) for her work in Guernsey.

### Dr Anita Ferrara

Dr Anita Ferrara was awarded the Research Millennium Funding in 2019 by the College of Business, Public Policy and Law to support the translation into Spanish of her monograph *Assessing the Long-Term Impact of Truth Commissions: The Chilean Truth and Reconciliation Commission in Historical Perspective* (Routledge: 2015). The monograph will be published by the Chilean Publisher, University Alberto Hurtado, which is a leading publishing house in Latin America.

Since 2019, Anita taken on the role of Director of Internationalisation at the School of Law and the Irish Centre for Human Rights. In this capacity, she is actively working in developing opportunities to strengthen the partnership between the School of Law and Latin American universities.

Dr Anita Ferrara organised and chaired a panel on Memory and Reparations in Latin America where she also presented her paper on "Memory Activism and Transitional Justice in Chile", at the annual Conference of the Latin America Studies Association (LASA), in May 2021. Dr Ferrara also presented a paper on "Archives as mechanisms of Transitional Justice", at the international conference on "The Machinery of Transitional Justice, Bureaucrats and victims" at the School of Law, Queen's Belfast, UK in December 2019.



Pictured are Dr Diarmuid Griffin receiving his award from President of NUI Galway, Professor Ciarán Ó hÓgartaigh

### Dr Diarmuid Griffin

Dr Diarmuid Griffin was presented with a President's Award for Societal Impact at a special event in November 2019. Diarmuid was successfully awarded for his pioneering work on sentencing and release of life sentence prisoners in Ireland and is highly commended for his efforts in terms of national policy change and practices to prepare for the release of life sentence prisoners.

Before Diarmuid's research and public engagement activities over a decade ago, at a national level there was little information on the release of life sentence prisoners. His work has engaged directly with the Prison system in Ireland, Life sentence prisoners, Dáil question lines, advocating and influencing of policy, judicial citations and his work has most recently culminated in the creation and the passing of the Parole Act 2019.



Dr Rónán Kennedy

### Dr Rónán Kennedy

Dr Rónán Kennedy was promoted to Senior Lecturer in April 2021. Rónán researches and teaches environmental law, information technology law, and the intersections between these. Rónán is a former member of the Advisory Committee of the Environmental Protection Agency and previously worked as Executive Legal Officer to the Chief Justice of Ireland, Mr Justice Ronan Keane.

Rónán was awarded a SFI Public Service Fellowship in November 2020 for his project "Algorithms, Big Data and Artificial Intelligence in the Irish Legal Services Market". The project, which is hosted by Oireachtas Research & Library Services, examines how information technology is enabling new approaches to legal practice and the work of courts, and how Irish law should respond to the rapid innovation that is taking place.

Dr Kennedy's research suggests that the rapid development and increased use of software and technology for legal services and in the courts could reduce costs and improve access to justice but may also deepen the digital divide and strengthen existing biases in the justice system. His research paper noted that AI software programs may also "learn" to discriminate in ways that are illegal, focusing on characteristics that are proxies for social class, race or gender such as home address or height.

The Spotlight paper is available to read at [www.oireachtas.ie/en/how-parliament-is-run/houses-of-the-oireachtas-service/library-and-research-service/for-researchers/researcher-in-residence-ronan-kennedy/](http://www.oireachtas.ie/en/how-parliament-is-run/houses-of-the-oireachtas-service/library-and-research-service/for-researchers/researcher-in-residence-ronan-kennedy/).

Other recent publications which he co-authored include "When is a Plan Not a Plan? The Supreme Court Decision in 'Climate Case Ireland'" and "Decamouflaging Chameleons: Requiring Transparency for Consumer Protection in the Internet of Things".



Professor Siobhán Mullally

## Professor Siobhán Mullally

Professor Siobhán Mullally, Director of the Irish Centre for Human Rights at NUI Galway, was appointed as UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, especially women and children, in July 2020. The position focuses on the human rights of victims of trafficking in persons, and Professor Mullally was appointed by the UN Human Rights Council, following an open competitive selection process. Special Rapporteurs are independent human rights experts with mandates to report and advise on human rights, and are a central element of the United Nations human rights machinery.

Professor Mullally said: "Human Trafficking is a serious violation of human rights, often targeting people living in poverty, victims of discrimination, and people fleeing situations of armed conflict or persecution. COVID-19 has limited access to critical support services for victims of trafficking, and deflected resources away from preventive action. Closures of borders and limited access to safe, regular migration, combined with increases in unemployment and poverty, all increase risks of sexual, labour and other forms of exploitation. Children who are increasingly in online environments and not attending school regularly, are particularly at risk of trafficking. It is critical now that effective protection measures are taken to vindicate the human rights of victims of trafficking, and that Governments and the international community take seriously their obligations to prevent human trafficking."

Professor Mullally was previously a member and President of the Council of Europe monitoring body, the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Persons. She is a member of the National Group of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, The Hague. In 2009-19, she was a Fulbright Scholar and Senior fellow in residence at the Gender and Sexuality Law Center at Columbia University. She has also held visiting positions at Harvard

Human Rights Program, Cornell Law School, National Law School of India University and University of Peshawar. She served as a Commissioner of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission from 2014-19 and Chairperson of the Irish Refugee Council 2006-8. She has undertaken human rights advisory roles in many parts of the world, in conflict and post-conflict settings, working with UN bodies and civil society organisations. She has published widely in the fields of gender and human rights, migration and refugee protection.



Professor Padraic Kenna

## Professor Padraic Kenna

Professor Padraic Kenna was promoted to Personal Professor in April 2021. Padraic is the Director of the Centre for Housing Law, Rights and Policy at the School of Law, NUI Galway. He researches, writes and lectures in housing and property law and policy.

Padraic publishes widely in housing, human rights and property law journals and books, providing a critical analysis of contemporary law and policy. He has extensive experience of working in housing development and advocacy in both the statutory and non-governmental sectors.

Padraic's recent publications on housing and housing rights at Irish and European level include a set of Briefing Papers on 'Integrating EU Charter Housing Rights into EU Economic Governance and Supervision' and 'A Lost Decade - Study on Mortgage Possession Court Lists in Ireland.'

His Research Report on the new 'Cost Rental Model' in Ireland as a Service of General Economic Interest, was launched by the Minister for Housing, Darragh O'Brien TD, in May 2021. Currently, Padraic is developing a course in European Housing Studies with six Universities and agencies across Europe, funded by EU Erasmus Plus.



Dr Connie Healy

## Dr Connie Healy

Dr Connie Healy was successful in securing a D'Arcy McGee Beacon Fellowship Award through the Ireland Canada University Foundation in February 2021. The Beacon Fellowship Lecture by Professor Shannon Salter of the University of British Columbia on 'Online and Human-Centred Court Reform' in March 2021 was attended by members of the Judiciary, Department of Justice, Court Service and practitioners. Two further small group seminars were held for students on the Masters Programmes at NUI Galway and also members of staff. As a result of this collaboration, Professor Salter has been asked to sit as external advisor on the Board established by the Irish Court Service to guide the Court Modernisation Programme.

Connie was also appointed to the Professional and Academic Advisory Group established to inform the Family Justice Oversight Group's work on Family Court Reform in May 2021.

## Dr Charles O'Mahony

Dr Charles O'Mahony's four-year term as Head of School ended in April 2021. Everyone at the School of Law would like to issue their thanks to Charles for the incredible job he has done as Head of School.

Building on the strong foundation laid by his predecessors, Charles' tenure as Head of School has been a period of truly impressive innovation, with an amazing record of new programme development and reform. It has also been a period of immense challenges, not least with the changes brought about by the new resource allocation model and most recently by the Covid-19 pandemic. Through it all Charles has shown tremendous calm, strategic foresight and attention to operational detail. He has been a pleasure to work with and a tireless and effective advocate for the School. Thank you Charles!



Tom O'Malley

## Tom O'Malley

Congratulations to Tom O'Malley, Senior Lecturer at the School of Law, who was called to the Inner Bar in June 2021 and designated Senior Counsel. The Government approved the granting of Patents of Precedence that recognised Tom's huge contribution to legal life in Ireland. Tom recently served as the chair of the review of protections for vulnerable witnesses in the investigation and prosecution of sexual offences, which published a review in August 2020.

Tom started a blog in April 2020. 'Sentencing, Crime and Justice', can be found at <https://sentencingcrimeandjustice.wordpress.com/>

"I have decided that when a man is under lockdown and knowing that it may be years before he gets busy again (at the bar at least) or that he might even be swept into oblivion at any moment by the Corona virus, he should take advantage of his leisure to start a blog. It will deal mainly with criminal law, sentencing and criminal procedure though it may occasionally stray into other areas of law as well." Past blogs have looked at popular culture in the English Court of Appeal, the NUIG Law Society at 100, sentencing guidance on witness intimidation, and the career of the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

## Dr Ciara Smyth

Dr Ciara Smyth's paper "Towards a Complete Prohibition on the Immigration Detention of Children" published by the Human Rights Law Review in 2019, made Oxford University Press Academic 'Best of Law' list 2019. <https://academic.oup.com/journals/pages/best-of-law>. The list comprises a collection of papers 'that have made the most impact in the field of law over the past year [based on] the most read articles from the Oxford University Press Law Journals portfolio published throughout 2019'. The paper can be found at: <https://academic.oup.com/hrlr/article/19/1/1/5315908>



Professor Donncha O'Connell

## Professor Donncha O'Connell

Professor Donncha O'Connell was appointed by the Government to an expert group to review the Offences Against the State Acts in February 2021. The independent review group is chaired by Mr Justice Michael Peart, a retired judge of the Court of Appeal. The other members of the group are: Mr Ken O'Leary, a retired civil servant from the Department of Justice, Dr Alan Greene, a Senior Lecturer at the University of Birmingham, Ms Anne Marie Lawlor, SC, a criminal law practitioner and Ms Caitlin Ni Fhlaitheartaigh, formerly of the Office of the Attorney General. Professor O'Connell was a member of the Law Reform Commission from 2012 to 2020. He was also a member of the Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland and the Legal Aid Board. From 1999 to 2002 he was the first full-time Director of the Irish Council for Civil Liberties. The review group is expected to complete its report by April 2022.

## Tom O'Malley and Prof Donncha O'Connell complete second terms on Law Reform Commission

Congratulations to Tom O'Malley, SC and Prof Donncha O'Connell who completed their second terms on the Law Reform Commission at the end of August 2020 having been appointed by Government on the recommendation of the Attorney General initially in 2012. During that time the Commission was led by two Presidents, Judge John Quirke (formerly of the High Court) and Judge Mary Laffoy (formerly of the Supreme Court), and produced over forty reports and issues papers.

As Commissioners Tom and Donncha led a number of key projects and acted as spokespersons for the Commission on those projects. They were joined for their second term on the Commission by another NUI Galway graduate, Ms Justice Carmel Stewart of the High Court.

## Dr Edel Hughes

Dr Edel Hughes recently commenced work as Principal Investigator on a project entitled 'Understanding and Addressing the Impact of Invisibility on Conflict-Related Male Sex Violence in Syria.' The project, funded by the UK-based Arts and Humanities Research Council and Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, is undertaking research that will address the gaps and limitations in how we understand and respond to male sexual violence in conflict-affected settings.



The co-investigators on the project are Lawyers and Doctors for Human Rights, an NGO based in Turkey that works with survivors of the conflict in Syria, and Synergy for Justice, an organisation that has been supporting and mentoring local actors in the Syrian conflict for more than seven years, to advance accountability for torture and sexual violence cases in particular. Dr Alexis Bushnell has also joined the School of Law as a postdoctoral researcher on the project.

The research will seek to identify risk factors and typology of men for conflict-related male sexual violence (CRSV) and examine how layers and drivers of invisibility, such as stigma, taboos, security risks, and gendered norms, can leave this group of CRSV survivors behind, failing to recognise their needs, facilitate access to support and address recovery. The project is due to be completed in June 2022 and the research will result in a number of peer-reviewed articles and policy papers.

## Dr Ioanna Tourkochoriti

Dr Ioanna Tourkochoriti's paper "What is the best way to realise rights?" published by the Oxford Journal of Legal Studies in 2019, was featured by Oxford University Press among the papers that have made the most impact in the field of law: <https://academic.oup.com/journals/pages/best-of-law>. Her paper on the Burka Ban comparing freedom of religion in France and the USA has also reached more than 10,000 downloads.

The paper can be found at: <http://scholarship.law.wm.edu/wmborj/vol20/iss3/4/> and [https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=2028341](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2028341). Her book "Freedom of Speech: The Revolutionary Roots of American and French Legal Thought" (Cambridge University Press, 2021) was characterised by reviewers as "leading", "innovative" and "based on extraordinary research".



Dr Maeve O'Rourke

### Dr Maeve O'Rourke

In March 2021, the Northern Ireland Executive appointed Dr Maeve O'Rourke, Lecturer in Human Rights and Director of the Human Rights Law Clinic at the Irish Centre for Human Rights, to a three-person Truth Recovery Design Panel alongside Professor Phil Scraton, Professor Emeritus at Queen's University Belfast School of Law, and Deirdre Mahon. The Panel is working with victims and survivors to establish the terms of reference for an independent investigation/inquiry into Northern Ireland's Mother and Baby and Magdalene Laundry institutions.

As co-director of the 'Clann Project' (www.clannproject.org) Maeve has continued her academic research and legal advocacy concerning the forced separation of unmarried families in Ireland and the continuing human rights violations and state obligations arising from this system. Maeve's work was instrumental to achieving the Taoiseach's commitment in October 2020 to a future dedicated national archive of historical care-related records, and she was central to the successful campaign to ensure access for those personally affected to the archive gathered by the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation.

Over the past year she has given oral evidence to the Oireachtas Committee on Children, Disability, Equality and Integration on both the Institutional Burials Bill and the Birth Information and Tracing Bill, and she has made written submissions to the Oireachtas Justice Committee on the data subject rights of those affected by 'historical' abuse. She was invited by the Scottish Parliament's Committee on Education and Skills to advise on Scotland's proposed redress scheme for historical child abuse in care, and she has made detailed written submissions to the Minister for Children, Roderic O'Gorman, on the requirements of a redress scheme related to adoption and Mother and Baby Homes in Ireland. She has written on these issues in the Irish Times, Business Post, Irish Examiner and journal.ie, and has

frequently appeared on RTÉ Radio and Television among other national and international medial channels.

Maeve is a lead lawyer in the case of Elizabeth Coppin v Ireland, in respect of which the United Nations Committee Against Torture issued a ground-breaking admissibility decision in early 2020. Maeve is working with Dr Barry Houlihan, Archivist at NUI Galway, to create a digital repository of Elizabeth Coppin's personal papers as well as a permanent archive of voluntarily donated witness statements created by participants in the Clann Project (which provided free legal assistance to those who wished to provide evidence to the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation).

During the past academic year Maeve was invited to lecture in Stanford Law School, University College London and the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, as well as for colleagues in other Irish university law schools and as keynote speaker at annual in-service training for Leaving Certificate Politics and Society teachers. She was included in the Irish Independent's list of '50 people to watch in 2021' and was featured in leading Italian daily newspaper, La Repubblica, in a presentation of 100 women changing the world. Most recently, she was shortlisted for the Justitia Awards in July 2021 in the International Academic category for her work on the Clann Project and in the Irish Centre for Human Rights. The winners will be announced during the second international Women in Law Conference in September 2021.



Dr Brian Tobin pictured at the expert group meeting in London in September 2019

### Dr Brian Tobin

In February 2020, Dr Brian Tobin was awarded a Charlemont Grant by the Royal Irish Academy to undertake a research visit to the Cambridge Family Law Centre at the Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge, in order to research and collaborate on surrogacy law reform initiatives with academic colleagues there who specialise in the areas of child and family law. Due to the COVID-19

pandemic this project has been postponed until late 2021/ early 2022.

In September 2019, Dr Brian Tobin was invited as national expert for Ireland to contribute to the International Social Service's UK Expert Consultation on Draft International Principles for the Protection of the Rights of the Child born through Surrogacy. Dr Tobin was among a group of forty academics, practitioners, UK High Court judges, surrogates and surrogate-born children invited to London to consult with the drafters of these international principles and contribute to their development. The 'Verona Principles' were published in March 2021.



Dr Shivaun Quinlivan

### Dr Shivaun Quinlivan

Dr Shivaun Quinlivan was promoted to Senior Lecturer in April 2021. Shivaun is the Vice-Dean for Equality Diversity and Inclusion in the College of Business, Public Policy and Law. Her research focuses primarily on the right to equality with a particular focus on the right to education for people with disabilities: see De Beco, G., Quinlivan, S., & Lord, J. (Eds.). (2019). The Right to Inclusive Education in International Human Rights Law (Cambridge University Press).

Dr Quinlivan acted as an expert advisor to the States of Guernsey in relation to the development of new multi-ground equality legislation from 2018-2020. In 2016-2017 she was an O'Brien Residential fellow in the Centre for Human Rights and Legal Pluralism in McGill University in Canada.

With Dr Lucy-Ann Buckley, she co-leads two inclusive learning projects at NUI Galway: an undergraduate project funded by the NUI Galway Student Project Fund, and a postgraduate project funded by the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. Both Dr Shivaun Quinlivan and Dr Lucy-Ann Buckley were awarded with an NUI Galway President's Award for Societal Impact in December 2020 for their transformative work in progressing the adoption of anti-discrimination legislation in Guernsey.

## Teaching Awards



Ursula Connolly is pictured receiving her award certificate from the then Executive Dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Law, Prof John McHale, at the College's Inclusive Teaching Workshop in October 2019.

Dr Maeve O'Rourke received the NUI Galway President's Award for Teaching Excellence (the students' award) in May 2021 and a Teaching Excellence Award from the College of Business, Public Policy and Law in February 2021. The Deputy President and Registrar, Professor Pól Ó Dochartaigh, congratulated Maeve for "...demonstrating commitment and developing approaching to learning which engage students in tackling challenging real-world issues through partnership with a variety of groups and organisations and

successfully doing this despite the challenges posed by remote-learning during the pandemic. As one student remarked, "The simplicity with which she teaches displays how knowledgeable she is on the subject matter and how comfortable she is with sharing that knowledge with others."

Ursula Connolly was awarded second place in the 2019 Dean's Awards for Inclusive Teaching (Individual Award) in October 2019. Ursula was nominated for the award by students, in recognition of her highly inclusive and empathetic approach to teaching and subsequently presented on her teaching approach to staff and students attending the College's Inclusive Teaching Workshop workshop.

Dr Connie Healy, Dr Conor Hanly, Dr Maeve O'Rourke and Ursula Connolly of the School of Law and our Legal German colleague Dr Deirdre Byrnes were recognised as Teaching Heroes during the livestreamed USI Student Achievement Awards in April 2021. The nomination process provides an opportunity for students to shine a light on some of those who have made a difference to them during their studies.



Ainsley McLean



Colin Caughey



April Parker



Suzanne Doyle-Guilloud

### CDLP Staff news

The Centre for Disability Law and Policy welcomed Ainsley McLean and Colin Caughey, Early-Stage Researchers on the DARE project. April Parker commenced working at the CDLP in March 2021 as a Research Assistant on the ResPONCE project. Suzanne Doyle-Guilloud will begin at the CDLP as a Postdoctoral Researcher in late August 2021.

## Professor Siobhán Mullally submits first annual report as United Nations Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons

Professor Siobhán Mullally, the Director of the Irish Centre for Human Rights in the School of Law, published her first annual report to the UN Human Rights Council as UN Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children. Professor Mullally was appointed to this role in July 2020. Her first report to the Human Rights Council as Special Rapporteur, presented in June 2021, focused on challenges in the implementation of the principle of non-punishment for victims of trafficking, and highlights new forms of punishment such as arbitrary deprivation of citizenship, non-repatriation and refusals of consular assistance, as well as immigration related detention. The themes of her Report are addressed in a recent third party intervention before the European Court of Human Rights in the cases of H.M. and H.F. v France. Her first annual report to UN General Assembly, just published, considers aspects of the relationship between trafficking and terrorism. In her report, Professor Mullally "examines the intersections between trafficking by proscribed groups and terrorism, and in

**The implementation of the principle of non-punishment of victims of trafficking is so central to the human rights based approach and response.**

#HRC47



Siobhán Mullally, Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women & children



particular the continuing failures in terms of identification of and assistance to the victims of trafficking and in terms of the protection of their human rights". The report makes a number of recommendations to States, and stresses that the empowerment of survivors of trafficking is critical to ensuring that the

human rights of victims are fulfilled without discrimination. The Report will be presented to the General Assembly on October 27th, with a side-event co-hosted by the Irish Mission to the UN scheduled for October 22nd. The full report can be accessed here: [www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Trafficking/Pages/annual.aspx](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Trafficking/Pages/annual.aspx)

# Selected Publications and Research

What follows is a selection of major publications by colleagues from the School of Law and its Centres published during the past two years. It evidences a consistently high quality of academic research and writing but, also, of engaged scholarship and impact both nationally and internationally.

Dr Eoin Daly, Associate Head for Research



## Books:

- John Zerilli with John Danaher, James Maclaurin, Colin Gavaghan, Alistair Knott, Joy Liddicoat and Merel Noorman, *A Citizen's Guide to Artificial Intelligence* (MIT Press 2020).
- Shane Darcy, *To Serve the Enemy: Informers, Collaborators and the Laws of Armed Conflict* (Oxford University Press 2019).
- Edel Hughes, Michelle Farrell and Eleanor Drywood (eds), *Human Rights in the Media: Fear and Fetish* (Routledge, 2019).
- Maeve O'Rourke, Claire McGettrick, Katherine O'Donnell, James M Smith and Mari Steed, *Ireland and the Magdalene Laundries: A Campaign for Justice*. (Bloomsbury/IB Tauris 2021).
- Maureen O'Sullivan, *Biotechnology, Patents and Morality: A Deliberative and Paradigm for Reform* (Routledge 2019).
- Maureen O'Sullivan and Uche Jack-Osimiri, *Conveyancing Transactions Law, Practice and Procedures* (Chigaug Law Publishers 2019).
- Ioanna Tourkochoriti, *Freedom of Expression: The Revolutionary Roots of American and French Legal Thought* (Cambridge University Press 2021).
- Ekaterina Yahyaoui Krivenko, *Gender and Human Rights: Expanding Concepts* (Elgar 2020).
- Ekaterina Yahyaoui Krivenko, *Space and Fates of International Law: Between Leibniz and Hobbes* (Cambridge University Press. 2020).

## Peer-reviewed articles:

- Lucy-Ann Buckley and Shivaun Quinlivan, 'Reasonable accommodation in Irish equality law: an incomplete transformation' (2021) 41(1) *Legal Studies* 19.
- Lucy-Ann Buckley, Dina Belluigi, Laura Czerniewicz, Su-ming Khoo, Anne Algers, Paul Prinsloo, Emmanuel Mgwashu, Catherine Camps, Chris Brink, Renee Marx, Gerrit Wissing and Nicola Pallitt, 'Needs Must? Critical reflections on the implications of the Covid19 pivot online for equity in higher education' (2020) *Digital Culture and Education*.
- Lucy-Ann Buckley, Shivaun Quinlivan, Dinali Wijeratne, Denis Dennehy, Cameron Keighron, Sharon Flynn, 'Learning Without Limits: Identifying the Barriers and Enablers to Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion in IS Education' (2021) *Journal Of Information Systems Education*.
- Kathleen Cavanaugh, 'On Torture: The Case of the Hooded Men' (2020) 42 *Human Rights Quarterly* 519.
- Eoin Daly, 'Citizenship, sovereignty and antipolitics in Rousseaus thought' (2019) *International Research in Eighteenth Century Studies*.
- Eoin Daly, 'Law and Religion in Ireland: Recent Developments' (2019) *Quaderni di Diritto e Politica Ecclesiastica*.
- Eoin Daly, 'Translating Popular Sovereignty as Unfettered Constitutional Amendability'. (2019) 15 *European Constitutional Law Review* 619.

- Eoin Daly, 'Providence and Contingency in Corsica: Rousseau on Freedom without Politics' (2019) *European Journal of Political Theory*.
- Eoin Daly, 'Constitutionalism and crisis narratives in post-Brexit politics' (2020) *Political Studies* 68.
- Eoin Daly, 'Rousseau's lawgiver as a model of constituent power' (2021) *History Of European Ideas*.
- John Danaher, 'Regulating Child Sex Robots: Restriction or Experimentation?' (2019) 27 *Medical Law Review* 553.
- John Danaher, 'Why Internal Moral Enhancement Might Be politically Better than External Moral Enhancement' (2019) 12 *Neuroethics* 39.
- John Danaher, 'In Defence of the Epistemological Objection to Divine Command Theory' (2019) 58 *Sophia* 381.
- John Danaher, Brian D Earp and Sven Nyholm, 'Direct-to-Consumer Neurotechnologies and Quantified Relationship Technologies: Overlapping Ethical Concerns' (2019) 10(4) *American Journal of Bioethics* 167.
- John Danaher, 'Robot Betrayal: a guide to the ethics of robotic deception' (2020) *Ethics And Information Technology*.
- John Danaher, 'A Defence of Sexual Inclusion' (2020) *Social Theory and Practice*.

- John Danaher, 'Technological Change and Human Obsolescence: An Axiological Analysis' (2020) *Techné: Research in Philosophy and Technology*.
- John Danaher, 'Welcoming Robots into the Moral Circle: A Defence of Ethical Behaviourism' (2020) 26 *Science and Engineering Ethics* 2023.
- John Danaher and Steve Petersen, 'In Defence of the Hivemind Society' (2020) *Neuroethics*.
- John Danaher, Hin-Yan Liu, Matthijs Maas, Luisa Scarcella, Michaela Lexer & Leonard Van Rompaey, 'Artificial Intelligence and Legal Disruption: A New Model for Analysis'. (2020) 12(2) *Law, Innovation and Technology*.
- John Danaher and Sven Nyholm, 'Automation, Work and the Achievement Gap' (2020) *AI and Ethics*.
- John Danaher, 'What Matters for Moral Status: Behavioral or Cognitive Equivalence?'.(2021) *Cambridge Quarterly Of Healthcare Ethics*.
- John Danaher, (2021) 'Axiological Futurism: The Systematic Inquiry Into the Future of Human Values' (2021) *Futures*.
- John Danaher and Sven Nyholm, 'Should we use technology to merge minds?'. (2021) 30 *Cambridge Quarterly Of Healthcare Ethics* 1.
- Shane Darcy, 'Coming to Terms with Wartime Collaboration: Post-Conflict Processes & Legal Challenges' (2020) 45(1) *Brooklyn Journal of International Law* 75.
- Shane Darcy, 'Embedding Business and Human Rights in Ireland: Legislating for Human Rights Due Diligence' (2021) *Irish Yearbook Of International Law*.
- Shane Darcy, 'Accident and Design: Recognising Victims of Aggression in International Law' (2021) 70(1) *International and Comparative Law Quarterly* 103.
- Larry Donnelly, 'Clinical Legal Education in Ireland: Are Placement Programmes Good Enough?' (2019) 41 *Dublin University Law Journal* 189.
- Caterina Gardiner, 'Principles of Internet Contracting: Illuminating the Shadows' (2019) 48(4) *Common Law World Review* 208.
- Diarmuid Griffin and Deirdre Healy, 'The pains of parole for life sentence prisoners in Ireland: Risk, rehabilitation and re-entry' (2019) 11 *European Journal Of Probation* 124.
- Diarmuid Griffin, 'Life imprisonment and the Parole Act 2019: Assessing the impact of legislative reform' (2020) 4(1) *Irish Judicial Studies Journal* 25.
- Conor Hanly, 'The Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect in Ireland in an International Context' (2020) 34(2) *International Journal Of Law, Policy And The Family* 145.
- Conor Hanly, 'Dependent Migration and Domestic Violence in Ireland: Implementing the Istanbul Convention' (2021) 44 *Dublin University Law Journal*.
- Conor Hanly, 'Jury Selection in Victorian England' (2021) 61 *American Journal of Legal History*.
- Connie Healy, 'Family Courts: Lessons from Baltimore' (2021) 59(3) *Family Court Review*.
- Connie Healy, 'Reform of the Family Courts: An Interdisciplinary Approach' (2021) 24(1) *Irish Journal Of Family Law* 9.
- Shivaun Quinlivan and Charles O'Mahony, 'The Irish Supreme Court judgment in *Nano Nagle School v Marie Daly: a saga of litigation*' (2019) 70(4) *Northern Ireland Legal Quarterly* 505.
- Connie Healy, 'Still my parents' child': Breaking through the Barriers of determining Best Interests and Voice of the Child post Separation and Divorce (2021) 3 *Child and Family Law Quarterly*.
- Geraint Howells, 'Inferred Defect from Causation' (2019) *Journal of European Consumer and Markets Law*.
- Geraint Howells, 'Protecting Consumer Protection Values in the Fourth Industrial Revolution' (2019) *Journal of Consumer Policy*.
- Geraint Howells, 'Reforming Consumer Protection in Hong Kong: How to Adequately Protect Consumers?' (2019) *Hong Kong Law Journal*.
- Geraint Howells, Marcus Pilgerstorfer, Peter Feldschreiber and Duncan Fairgrieve, 'Products in a Pandemic: Liability for Medical Products and the Fight against Covid-19' (2020) 11(3) *European Journal of Risk Regulation* 565.
- Geraint Howells, Duncan Fairgrieve, Søren Holm, Claas Kirchhelle and Samantha Vanderslott, 'In favour of a bespoke COVID-19 vaccines compensation scheme' (2021) 21(4) *The Lancet Infectious Diseases* 448.
- Rónán Kennedy, Maeve O'Rourke and Cassie Roddy-Mullineaux, 'When is a Plan Not a Plan? The Supreme Court Decision in "Climate Case Ireland"' (2020) *Irish Planning And Environmental Law Journal*.
- Siobhán Mullally, 'International Disability Law and the Experience of Marginality' (2019) 113 *Proceedings of the ASIL Annual Meeting* 289.
- Maeve O'Rourke, Katherine O'Donnell and James M Smith, 'Editors' Introduction, Special Issue: Toward Transitional Justice in Ireland? Addressing Legacies of Harm'. (2020) 55 *Éire-Ireland* 9.
- Maureen O'Sullivan, 'Vegetarian and vegan rights in Europe: chickening out or egging them on?' (2020) 11(4) *Derecho Animal (Forum of Animal Law Studies)*.
- Maureen O'Sullivan, 'Vegetarian Rights Denied: No Longer Cutting the Mustard?' (2021) 2 *European Human Rights Law Review* 181.
- Shivaun Quinlivan and Lucy-Ann Buckley, 'Reasonable Accommodation in Irish Constitutional Law: Two Steps Forward and One Step Back or Simply Out of Step?' (2021) 72(1) *Northern Ireland Legal Quarterly* 60.
- Ciara Smyth, 'A Turn Towards Fundamental Rights or Just a Swerve? The Jurisprudence of the CJEU on Family Reunification for Static Union Citizens and Third Country National Immigrants' (2019) 33(4) *Journal of Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Law* 283.
- Ciara Smyth, 'Towards a Complete Prohibition on the Immigration Detention of Children' (2019) 19(1) *Human Rights Law Review* 1.
- Brian Tobin, 'The (D)evolving Nature of Guardianship Rights for Unmarried Fathers under Irish Law?' (2020) 32(3) *Child and Family Law Quarterly* 285.
- Brian Tobin, 'Guardianship and Unmarried Fathers in Ireland: One Step Forward, Two Steps Back?' (2020) 23(4) *Irish Journal Of Family Law*.
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# News from the Centres

## Centre for Disability Law & Policy



### Purple Lights 2020

Gathering to celebrate International day for Persons with Disabilities on December 3rd 2020 in a rare socially-distanced photo. (L to R) Lisa Fenwick, Disability Federation of Ireland, Áine Sperrin, CDLP, Jenny Dagg, CDLP, Ainsley McLean, CDLP, Sharon Hegarty, CDLP and Charlotte May-Simera, County Council Public Participation Network.

### Disability Advocacy Research in Europe

Disability Advocacy Research in Europe (DARE), a Marie Curie Initial Training Network, is funded by the European Commission and co-ordinated by the Centre for Disability Law and Policy at NUI Galway. The aim of the DARE network is to train a new generation of disability scholars and policy specialists, who work on the implementation of different aspects of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities across Europe. The 15 Early Stage Researchers recruited through DARE and their academic supervisors participated in the conference, which addressed the core purpose of the DARE project – to give legitimacy, through research, to the lived experience of persons with disabilities as a basis for law reform. The conference focused on three global challenges facing persons

with disabilities and policy-makers 1) the voices of persons with disabilities 2) the power structures that impact on their lives and 3) the social movements required to bring about sustainable policy change.

A DARE event, 'Engaging with the CRPD Committee', was held in May 2021. This webinar was organised to help DPOs, NGOs and disability researchers to understand how to engage with the CRPD Committee in a variety of ways – through the dialogue with States, the Committee sessions, the individual complaints process under the Optional Protocol, etc. Speakers included current and former members of the UN Committee, lawyers and activists who have taken case before the CRPD Committee and participated in the dialogue between the Committee and States Parties.



### Making Rights Real for People with Disabilities in Prison (IPRT 2020)

Researchers from the Centre for Disability Law and Policy published a report on the rights of people with disabilities in prison in January 2020. The report examines the rights and experiences of people with disabilities in Irish prisons. Researchers carried out international literature review, legislative analysis, stakeholder interviews, and interviews with disabled people currently in prison and prison staff. Prof Eilionóir Flynn, Maria Ni Fhlatharta and Maria Gomez De Carillo wrote the report which identifies a number of areas of concern, including discrimination in terms of communication, access to prison support services and community release schemes. The research was conducted in 2019, and the full report can be found here: [https://www.iprt.ie/site/assets/files/6565/people\\_with\\_disabilities\\_in\\_detention\\_-\\_single-pages.pdf](https://www.iprt.ie/site/assets/files/6565/people_with_disabilities_in_detention_-_single-pages.pdf)

### ResPoNCE Project (December 2020–January 2023)

This project aims to explore the impact of strategic decision-making by states and healthcare systems in Europe during the Covid-19 pandemic in order to establish whether the rights and needs of people with disabilities are being met. Using the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) framework, this project will critically analyse relevant laws, policies and guidelines that emerged in response to the pandemic in Ireland, France, Spain, UK, Italy, Sweden and Germany. A combination of desk-based research, interviews and participatory research methods will capture the lived experience of disabled people during the pandemic. They then provide guidance to governments, medical councils and healthcare professionals in order to maintain states obligations under the CRPD. All of this, with the aim of ensuring States can equitably meet the healthcare needs of persons with disabilities amongst other marginalized groups while benefiting every member of society.

The Project website is [www.responce.ie](http://www.responce.ie)

## Irish Centre for Human Rights

### THE HUMAN RIGHTS PODCAST

IRISH CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

### The Human Rights Podcast

The Irish Centre for Human Rights started the Human Rights Podcast in September 2019. Now comprising 16 episodes, including a 5-part series on the EU-Mercosur Agreement, it is available now on Soundcloud, Apple Podcasts and Stitcher.

Here at the Centre, we are fortunate to be visited each year by an array of world-leading practitioners, researchers and policy-makers in the field of human rights and its associated disciplines. We also have a vibrant community at the ICHR and more broadly in NUI Galway of academic staff, postdoctoral and doctoral scholars, and postgraduate and undergraduate students focusing on human rights. We want to bring you some of their insights and invite you in to some of the debates and discussions that go on here during the year.

### 20th Doctoral Seminar at the Irish Centre for Human Rights

The annual doctoral seminar at the Irish Centre for Human Rights was held virtually from 10-14 May 2021. Professor Siobhán Mullally, Director of the Irish Centre for Human Rights welcomed all the participants to the 20th iteration of this event, which is the highpoint of the academic year for the Centre's doctoral community. Professor Jim Livesey, Vice-President for Research & Innovation, provided some opening remarks at the first session. Over twenty PhD students from the Centre, as well as from the School of Law and the Centre for Disability Law and Policy, presented on their doctoral research over the course of the week on a range of topics in the fields of human rights, refugee and migration law, humanitarian law and international criminal law. The doctoral seminar featured a special session on post-doctorate careers with a number of graduates of the Centre's programme: Dr Roja Fazaeli, Trinity College Dublin, Dr Daniel Aguirre, Roehampton University, Dr Silvia Gagliardi, University College Dublin and Dr Mesenbet Assefa, Addis Ababa University.



(L-R) Professor Shuichi Furuya, Waseda Law School, Professor Shane Darcy, NUI Galway and Peter Neary, Embassy of Ireland Japan

### 'To Serve the Enemy' Book Launch

The publication of Professor Shane Darcy's new book, *To Serve the Enemy: Informers, Collaborators and the Laws of Armed Conflict* (Oxford University Press) was launched at an event co-hosted by the Irish Centre for Human Rights and the Irish Embassy in Japan in Tokyo on 9 January 2020. The book was formally launched by Professor Shuichi Furuya, who is a member of the faculty at Waseda Law School and currently sitting on the United Nations Human Rights Committee. Opening remarks were made by Peter Neary, the Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Ireland. At the time of the launch, Professor Darcy was holding a Japan Society for the Promotion of Science visiting fellowship at Doshisha Law School in Kyoto.

## Centre for Housing Law, Rights & Policy



### Housing Experts visit NUI Galway

A group of housing experts and public representatives from Boston and Massachusetts visited the Centre for Housing Law Rights and Policy NUI Galway in October 2019, as part of their housing policy fact-finding mission in Ireland. Amongst those pictured here with Dr Padraic Kenna are Kevin. G. Honan, Massachusetts State Representative and Chair of Committee on Housing, Chrystal Kornegay, Director of Massachusetts Housing, and Michael O' Connor, President of M.J. O' Connor Contracting in Boston, who hails from Co. Clare. The group participated in a seminar comparing housing law and policy issues between Ireland and Massachusetts.

### CHLRP EU Funding to Develop European Online Course for Housing and Property Professionals

The Centre for Housing Law, Rights and Policy at the School of Law, NUI Galway, was successful in its bid for an EU ERASMUS+ funding award of €500,000 with five European partners in November 2020. Over three years, the project will design and create an international online course for housing and property professionals in the public and private sectors.

The modules, materials and learning tools will include PROPTECH – a term which includes blockchain, smart contracts, as well as online transactions and platforms for housing, property and real estate exchange and management. These will enhance digital skills and competences, and produce a skills management tool for housing and real estate operations, based on a mobile micro-learning platform. One part focusses on developing learning tools for professionals managing apartments/condominiums.

# Clinical Legal Education

## Lawyers for others—working for social justice and real change

Larry Donnelly

NUI Galway's School of Law has been a pioneer of an innovative approach to training lawyers, ensuring they work on cases for public good and gain a deeper awareness of the marginalised in society.

What is clinical legal education? It's an entirely logical question to raise for most outside the legal academy or legal profession, especially for those who have undeniably cynical views about lawyers and the legal system. Clinical legal education is a broad church and, hence, is not amenable to easy definition.

Among the best attempts to encapsulate it comes from one of the leaders of the global clinical movement, Richard Wilson, emeritus professor at American University's Washington College of Law. He says: "Clinical education, as the name implies, involves law students in learning law by guided practice during law school. Ideally, that setting involves real cases, clients, or other project-based work with client communities, usually with the poor or other marginalized populations without access to counsel. Clinical education, intensely learning-focused, is challenging the dominant traditions of teacher-centric legal education: the case method, largely taught using casebooks in the United States, and the lecture, still used almost exclusively in Europe and other traditional law schools throughout the world.

"Clinical education does not seek to overthrow that tradition, but to offer an alternative, additional route to learning, grounded in modern ideas of cognitive science and adult learning. In fact, clinical legal education is more than a method – it is a pathway toward personal and professional identity for students, manifesting itself in each student's distinctly personal experience, and it is a model, not only for all professional lawyering, but particularly for one of conscience in the service of individuals, groups, or

populations otherwise without equal access to law or lawyers."

While law schools in the US prominently embraced clinical legal education decades ago and were soon followed by their counterparts around the world, Western Europe was slow to come around. Owing to the vision of Prof Gerard Quinn, however, the School of Law at NUI Galway was an "early adopter" in Ireland and has been recognised nationally and internationally for its innovative approach to offering a training to students that is rooted in theory and bolstered by exposure to law in practice.

One element of the clinical legal education programme is the part-time placements available to final year undergraduate students. This optional one semester module – Clinical Placement – gives students the chance to see how the law and legal system they learn about in the lecture theatre operate in the "real world" beyond the University's campus. Instead of an ordinary examination, students are evaluated by their supervisors on their performance in the workplace and on an essay in which they must respond to a number of questions posed to them about the placement.

At its core, and in keeping with the School of Law's strong reputation as a hub of human rights and public interest law expertise, many of the placements are focused on instilling in students a cognisance of how marginalised groups and individuals are served – or all too often not well-served – under the status quo and of the duty of lawyers to foster expanded access to justice.

The extent to which students, placement supervisors, and, in turn, their service users have gained from the mutually beneficial partnerships at the heart of this module is extraordinary. For many years, law students have worked with Community Law and Mediation, which has offices in Coolock on Dublin's northside and in Limerick. Their aim is "to provide people in our communities with expert legal,

mediation, and education services they would not otherwise have access to and in doing so, to address underlying issues of injustice and exclusion while working for real change."

The demand for their assistance has escalated enormously during the pandemic. As such, two of our students, Nicole Mullan, in her final year of the LLB, and Aoife Donovan, a third year BCL candidate, are supporting the team of skilled solicitors and committed staff to meet the serious housing and other needs of their clients in Limerick and Dublin remotely. Aoife Donovan comments that "she loved the placement" and that "it was a great opportunity to learn how to create timelines for cases, anonymise and review client documents in connection with active matters at the Residential Tenancies Board. Knowing that my efforts were helping to make a difference in people's lives in an incredibly difficult period for them was amazing."

The Galway-based barrister Lorraine Lally, who is a proud public interest lawyer and equality activist, has long been a steadfast partner of and advocate for the clinical legal education programme in the School of Law. Last year, in a case that garnered national media attention, students aided Ms Lally in her successful representation of an Athenry man who overturned a deportation order.

Over the past few months, three students – Áine Cleary, Amber Gilgan and Clíona Ní Laoi – have been working on a range of issues.

These include: a submission to the Galway City Development Plan on housing with the aim of ensuring that accessibility and other factors that are central to European development goals are fully accounted for; presentations on the equality guarantee in Article 40.1 of the Irish Constitution, equality of women in sport and marine protection

legislation; and profiling the lives and accomplishments of Irish woman judges.

In all of these varied tasks, the students say that they are "encouraged to think outside the box"; that they are "required to get out of their comfort zone"; that "it's great in a legal sense, yet much bigger and more beneficial than that"; and that they are inspired by Ms Lally's "work ethic and dedication to the causes she cares so much about."

This is merely a small sampling of the types of work to promote diversity, equality and inclusion that students in the School of Law are undertaking under the broad umbrella of clinical legal education.

Many postgraduate students in the Irish Centre for Human Rights are involved in "movement lawyering" with community organisers and practitioners in the human rights law clinic. There are also a growing number of full-time, year-long placements in which these goals are to the fore.

Moreover, through a public interest externship exchange programme with Suffolk University Law School in Boston, students who have just finished their primary law degrees work every summer with organisations, such as the New England Innocence Project, Greater Boston Legal Services and the Legal Innovation and Technology Lab at Suffolk on an ongoing project "to rapidly create mobile-friendly accessible versions of online court forms and pro se materials in multiple-languages for key areas of urgent legal need amid the COVID-19 crisis."

Notably, while coronavirus has been an impediment to our students' engagement in this important work, it has not been an insurmountable obstacle. Technology has proved a hugely valuable tool in this regard.

In sum, flowing from their participation in the School of Law's clinical legal education programme, there is a sizable cohort of NUI Galway graduates in Ireland and around the world who readily identify as "lawyers for others" and believe passionately that they have a role to play in promoting a more equal, tolerant and just society. By continually endeavouring to update our clinical offerings, we hope to add considerably more of our students to their ranks.

First published in Cois Coiribe in April 2021

## Mooting Round-up

Mooting is a great way to build valuable research skills, develop oral advocacy skills and gain a valuable insight into the law in practice. The School of Law strongly encourages students to engage in moot opportunities at least once during their law degrees. To this end it offers a compulsory moot module at undergraduate level, an optional moot module at masters level and numerous opportunities to engage in internal and external moot competition. This is a brief round-up on our students' experiences in the past two academic years.



Left: Pictured are the competing teams with Mr Justice Peter Kelly, and Ursula Connolly, moot co-ordinator and competition organiser.

Right: Pictured are the winning team of Siofra Mahon and Louise Kelly, the second-placed team of Adam Connolly and Cara Clancy, with Ms Justice Mary Faherty.



Left: Pictured with Ms Justice Mary Faherty are the Best Speakers Connor Penrose, Justina Adeyerno, and Róisín Cowan Madden.

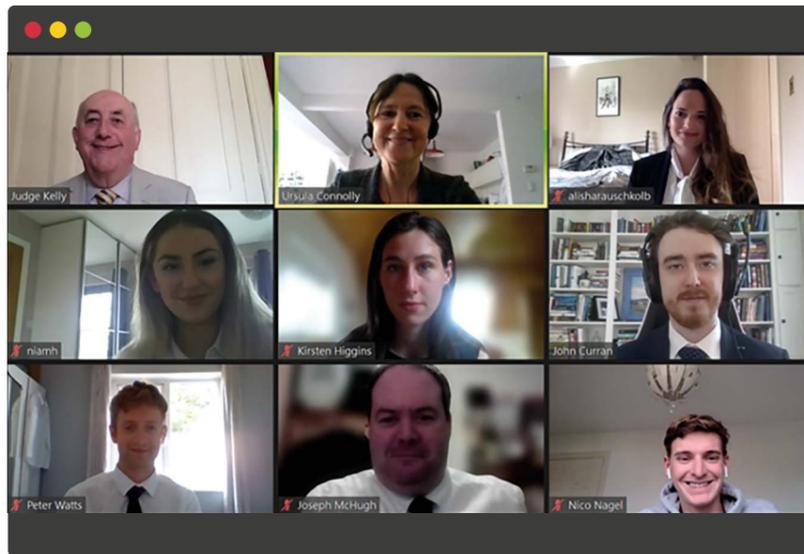
## Internal Moot Court Competition

The School of Law internal Moot Court Competition, whose competitors are selected from the top performing teams in the Moot Court module, was very different this year. Due to the effect of the pandemic, the Moot module took place entirely online. It was also its first year as a compulsory module, with almost 170 participating students, 80 teams, and 40 rounds of moot taking place. Students however, rose to the challenge and delivered some outstanding performances.

Once selected, the top 8 teams went on to compete in the Internal School of Law Competition in May 2021, presided over by Ms Justice Mary Faherty, judge of the Court of Appeal. Ms Justice Faherty had the unenviable task of selecting two teams for the final. Declaring that she felt that "All eight

teams seem to be seasoned performers" she ultimately declared the finalists to be the teams of Siofra Mahon (2nd Law & Human Rights) and Laoise Kelly (2nd Law & Human Rights), and Adam Connolly (2nd Law & Business) and Cara Clancy (2nd Law & Business). After a very accomplished round of mooting Siofra Mahon and Laoise Kelly were declared the winners, just 'shading' the team of Adam Connolly and Cara Clancy. Congratulations to both these teams! Ms Justice Faherty also specially commended Justina Adeyerno (2nd Law & Business), Róisín Cowan Madden (2nd BCL) and Connor Penrose (Final LLB) for their speaking skills, in particular their ability to deal with questions. Well done to all!

For more information on moot generally, visit <http://www.nuigalway.ie/law/students/mooting/>



Pictured are the competing teams with Mr Justice Peter Kelly, and Ursula Connolly, moot co-ordinator and competition organiser.

## Internal Moot Court Competition

Students on our International and Comparative Business Law Master's programme have the option to register for the International and Business Law Moot. Typically, the moot problem involves a novel issue of international business law. Recent moots have dealt with copyright issues, intellectual property, the nature of cryptocurrencies, and the liability of a parent company for the actions for their subsidiaries.

The assessment of the oral aspect of the moot takes the form of the Internal School of Law International and Comparative Business Law Moot competition, always adjudicated by a

judge of the High Court with a specialisation in commercial law. This year's competition took place on Friday 7th May before Mr Justice Peter Kelly, retired President of the High Court. As with the undergraduate moot it took place via Zoom, but this did not affect the excellent contributions from the teams of Kirsten Higgins, Joseph McHugh, John Curran, Peter Watts, Alisha Rauschkolb, Nico Nagel, Niamh O'Connor, and Anne Marie Ward.

We are indebted to Mr Justice Kelly for his expert adjudication. Sincerest thanks also to Dr Ioanna Tourkochoriti who drafted the moot problem.

## School of Law Students win National Negotiation Competition and come fourth in International Negotiation Competition

Two students from the School of Law, Katie Ward (2nd BCL) and Adam Connolly (2nd Law and Business), won the National Negotiation Competition, organised by the Kings Inns, in April 2021. Katie and Adam went on to represent Ireland and compete in the International Negotiation Competition hosted by the National University of Singapore in June 2021. The competition is the oldest and most renowned competition focused on international legal negotiation for law students from all over the world. After three challenging sessions Katie and Adam came fourth overall, after the USA, Germany and Scotland. It was a fantastic result for the Irish team from NUI Galway and a testament to their hard work and dedication, and the expert coaching provided by Lughaidh Kerin.



Pictured are Adam Connolly and Katie Ward holding the National Negotiation Moot Cup in the Quadrangle, NUI Galway



Some of the competitors at the Virtual Tom O'Malley Moot 2020

## The Tom O'Malley Moot

LawSoc hosts the annual 'The Tom O'Malley Moot' in honour of NUI Galway School of Law lecturer, barrister and recently appointed senior counsel Tom O'Malley. This year, Conventions Director, Matthew Mulrooney coordinated the event to a virtual format. The competition was adjudicated by Ms Justice Mary Faherty of the Court of Appeal, Tom O'Malley BL, and Venetia Taylor BL.

Alongside the Tom O'Malley Moot, our Virtual Conventions Schedule included our Inaugural Constitutional Moot Competition, Client Interview Competition and our Interschool Mediation Competition, which was nominated under the 'Best Interschool' category at the Societies Awards.

Moot 2020 Highlights can be found on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VOFXsnghaO0>

## External Competitions

Student interest in external mooting competitions continues to grow, below is a snapshot of activities in both national and international competitions.



L-R: Ciaran Dixon (2nd Corp Law), Charlena McLoughlin (2nd Law & Human Rights) and Simeon Burke (Final BCL)



L-R: John Joe Mulloy, Matthew Mulrooney and David Crawford (all 2nd Law & Business students).

## DCU National Moot

Two teams from the School of Law participated in the DCU National Moot in November 2019 and five teams in 2020, a clear indication of the growing interest in mooting among our student body.

## ICC Moot Court Competition



In the 2020/2021 academic year, the Irish Centre for Human Rights entered a team for the first time into the annual International Criminal Court Moot Court competition, a prestigious mooted competition organized by the Grotius Centre at Leiden University, Netherlands. The competition involved almost 100 university teams from all around the world.

Representing the ICHR were LLM students Padma-Dolma Fielitz, Pauline Pfaff, Róisín Flynn, who were the three oralists, and Research Assistant, Lucie Godfroid. The team were coached by Elisa Binon and Dr Paul Bradfield.

Preparation for the competition commenced back in November 2020, when the research and drafting of the written memorials began. The team were required to draft three memorials, one for each party (Prosecution, Defence and Government) in a fictional case scenario that alleged the commission of crimes against humanity in the form of a viral outbreak. The scenario also involved complex issues of international criminal

law, including territorial jurisdiction and the rights of self-represented accused persons.

Following the submission of the written memorials in March 2021, the team participated in the online oral rounds in June 2021, with each individual oralist appearing twice. Each of them faced challenging and highly interventionist benches that asked probing questions of fact and law. But each oralist rose to the challenge and displayed excellent standards of advocacy throughout.

Following the first oral rounds, and in combination with the marks of the written memorials, the ICHR team ranked an incredible 12th out of almost 100 teams, and qualified for the quarter-finals, rubbing shoulders with leading universities in the world such as Singapore, Case Western, Leiden, Osgoode, and Temple Universities.

While the team did not progress to the semi-finals despite a valiant display, the team was nevertheless awarded the prize of runner-up for best Prosecution Memorial, a deserved recognition of the high standards to which they reached. To finish among the top 12 universities in this competition is an incredible accomplishment, and we at the ICHR are very proud of Pauline, Padma-Dolma, Róisín and Lucie for representing the ICHR and NUIG so incredibly well. They have very bright futures of advocacy ahead of them.



L-R: Máirtín Seoighe and Cliona Ní Laoi

## Bréagchúirt Uí Dhálaigh

Is comórtas trí Ghaeilge é Bréagchúirt Uí Dhálaigh eagraithe ag Gael-Linn. Comhghairdeas le Cliona Ní Laoi (Final B Corp Law), Imogen O'Connor, agus Janine O'Connor a ghlac páirt i 2020 agus le Máirtín Seoighe (Final B Corp Law) agus Cliona Ní Laoi a rinne ard-jab sa mBréagchúirt i 2019! Maith sibh ar fad!



## International Chamber of Commerce Mediation Competition

Rebecca Cahill (LLB 2020) and Chuka Paul Oguekwe (LLM (General) 2020) represented NUI Galway and the School of Law at the International Chamber of Commerce Mediation Competition in Paris in February 2020. They were coached by Dr Connie Healy from the School of Law. Rebecca and Paul are pictured here with Brid Nhic Suibhne, solicitor, from A&L Goodbody, Solicitors, who kindly provided sponsorship to the students to attend the event. 66 Universities from across the world took part in the competition.

# Professional Work Placement Programme

AMOSS Solicitors graduate programmes are an integral part of the firm's strategic growth objectives and applications to take part in these programmes are sought from high-calibre candidates who are ambitious, bright, solutions focussed, have the ability to form strong relationships and have the potential to develop into leading lawyers.



Gavin Simons, Founding Partner: "As an alumnus of both UCG and NUIG I am delighted that AMOSS is participating in the NUIG Placement Programme. From a student's perspective a placement gives an insight into the practice of law and how a law firm operates and interacts with clients, colleagues and the courts. From our perspective, it introduces us to potential future trainees."



The Maples Group is delighted to partner with NUI Galway on the student placement programme. For students who are considering a career in law, we can offer a really great opportunity to experience what working in a truly global law firm is like. Students who join the programme at the Maples Group can make connections all across our business, while gaining relevant and meaningful experience. In addition to building their professional network and enhancing their personal and technical skills, all participants in our university student placement programmes have the opportunity to be considered for a future traineeship with the firm. Over the years, we have worked with a number of undergrad and post graduate students and we have always been extremely impressed by them and their engagement with the programme.

"I spent three months working in the tax department in the Maples Group as part of my Professional Workplace Placement with NUI Galway. I felt like an integral member of the tax team and was provided with meaningful opportunities to participate and I was exposed to quality work in a wide variety of areas in tax law. Every one of my colleagues focused on enhancing my professional and personal development and to ensure that I understood each assignment. The Maples Group was a fantastic place to work and has provided me with a wonderful opportunity to develop my skills and prepare for my future career in the area of corporate law. I would encourage any student to get involved in the internship and placement programmes the Maples Group can offer".

Jonathan Niall  
NUI Galway Placement Student 2021

Philip Lee is delighted to join PHILIPLEE NUI Galway's professional work placements programme. This programme provides third year law students with the opportunity to develop their professional and personal skills in some of Ireland's leading corporate law firms.

The placements, which will run from September to May each year, allow students to put their course theory into practice and help them to prepare for their future careers as solicitors. We look forward to welcoming a number of placement students in September.

"Legal interns have become an important part of the team within Criminal Justice Legislation in the Department of Justice. The small legal team there respond to short and long-term requests from colleagues for research assistance on a wide variety of subjects and the legal interns are a central part of responding to those requests. This internship affords the intern an intense experience in researching the most crucial issues of the day in the field of criminal justice and an opportunity to gain a deep understanding of the legislative process and the institutions of the State. Interns will work on some of the most challenging and contentious questions of public law facing Irish society and the experience will leave them with a sound grounding not just in criminal justice but also in human rights, constitutional law and EU law."

Frank McNamara (Taighdeoir Sinsir Dlí | Ceartas Coiriúil – Reachtaíocht Senior Legal Researcher | Criminal Justice Legislation)

William Fry have partnered with the NUI Galway placement programme for the past number of years and have worked with some excellent students. The programme is a fantastic opportunity for students to gain practical, hands-on legal work experience. For the firm, it ensures we meet top quality talent and we consider all placement students for traineeship offers.

Students work in one department for the duration of their placement and are paired with a trainee buddy. Working as part of a team, placement students improve their time management, accuracy, attention to detail and research skills. They also learn to work independently and when to ask team members for help which additionally evolves their communication skills. Throughout their time in the firm, students have access to a wealth of resources which assist in their personal and professional development, as well as improving their current awareness of corporate law.

## Law Careers Seminar Series

The Career Development Centre partnered with the School of Law to run a Law Careers Seminar Series throughout Semester 1 2020/21 with lots of firms, alumni and organisations taking part to help support student career development.

The Virtual Graduate Jobs Fair was attended by many leading law firms and organisations including: Arthur Cox - Matheson - Fieldfisher - DLA Piper - Ronan Jermyn Daly - Eversheds Sutherland - Pinsent Mason - Maples and Calder - Public Appointments Service Revenue.ie - Irish Tax Institute

The Graduate Jobs Fair 2020 was the Career Development Centre's flagship event of the year and provided students with the opportunity to connect with 90+ graduate employers including many leading law firms looking to recruit NUI Galway graduates from all disciplines in 2020/2021 and was hosted on a well-established virtual careers fair platform. Students browsed employers' virtual stalls, initiated online conversations and requested interviews with employers as they promoted their graduate programmes, internships and immediately available opportunities directly to NUI Galway students and graduates.

Further information on careers events can be obtained by contacting Dr Maureen O'Sullivan, Director of Student Career Development, directly at maureen.osullivan@nuigalway.ie

At Eversheds Sutherland, SUTHERLAND we believe that obtaining quality, relevant experience is a key step in the development of future lawyers. It provides an opportunity to experience the working life of a lawyer and, equally importantly, helps students to better consider what type of law firm they want to train and work in. We are proud to play our part in supporting this through initiatives such as the NUI Galway placement programme, and our award winning summer internship programme. We offer students a unique insight into what it's like to work in an international, full service law firm. During their time with us students are fully immersed into the teams they are assigned to – attending team and client meetings, working on interesting and challenging client work and, in normal times, involved in our social activities. Students are also provided with training on key skills such as drafting, communications and research. For anyone considering a career in law, the placement programme is an excellent opportunity to explore.

# Conferences and Events



Front row (L-R): Dr Rachel Hilliard, Justice Máire Whelan (Court of Appeal), Justice Leona Theron (Constitutional Court of South Africa), Dr Charles O'Mahony, Dr. Shivaun Quinlivan, Dr. Micheline Sheehy Skeffington, Back row (L-R): Dr Alistair Allen, Ms Regina Doyle, Mr Brendan Grehan SC, Mr Pádraic Brennan (Partner in Charge RDJ Galway), Grainne McMorrow SC, Mr Robert O'Shea (Partner & Head of Corporate Matheson), Mrs Sheyeda Allen, Mr Daniel Sive (Law Researcher to Justice Theron), Ms Sandra Murphy (Partner Gilmartin & Murphy Solicitors)



Justice Leona Theron of the Constitutional Court of South Africa

## Annual Distinguished Lecture 2019

The School of Law Annual Distinguished Lecture 2019, in conjunction with the Sheehy-Skeffington Annual Distinguished Lecture, took place on Friday 27th of September 2019. The lecture, "Are we all Equal? Is the new South Africa's promise of true equality a reality or still a dream?", was delivered by Justice Leona Theron of the Constitutional Court of South Africa.

From very humble beginnings Ms Justice Theron rose to the highest court in the Republic of South Africa. She was born during the apartheid regime in South Africa and began her life in a poor segregated township in KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa. She studied law at Natal University, and was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to study in the US. There she completed a Master of Law in Georgetown University in Washington DC and subsequently worked for the International Labour Organisation and for a firm of attorneys in Los Angeles. She returned to South Africa to practice law and in 2017, she was appointed to the Constitutional Court of the Republic of South Africa.

Her journey has been an incredibly inspirational one, but Justice Theron is also an inspirational justice. She is well known for a number of leading judgments and, in particular, for her defence of women's rights. As one

example, she provided a powerful dissent against the reduction of a sentence of a convicted rapist in the Nkomo case – in that dissent she stressed the necessity for the courts to send a clear message to the community that they are determined to protect the equality, dignity and freedom of all women.

Justice Theron spoke to the topic of equality and asks "Is the new South Africa's promise of true equality a reality or a still a dream?" She ended this inspirational paper with a personalised rendition of the beautiful Maya Angelou poem, "Still I Rise."

You may write me down in history  
With your bitter, twisted lies,  
You may trod me in the very dirt  
But still, like dust, I'll rise.

Does my sassiness upset you?  
Why are you beset with gloom?  
'Cause I walk like I've got oil wells  
Pumping in my living room.

Just like moons and like suns,  
With the certainty of tides,  
Just like hopes springing high,  
Still I'll rise.

Did you want to see me broken?  
Bowed head and lowered eyes?  
Shoulders falling down like teardrops,  
Weakened by my soulful cries?

Does my haughtiness offend you?  
Don't you take it awful hard  
'Cause I laugh like I've got gold mines  
Diggin' in my own backyard.

You may shoot me with your words,  
You may cut me with your eyes,  
You may kill me with your hatefulness,  
But still, like air, I'll rise.

Does my sexiness upset you?  
Does it come as a surprise  
That I dance like I've got diamonds  
At the meeting of my thighs?

Out of the huts of history's shame  
I rise  
Up from a past that's rooted in pain  
I rise  
I'm a black ocean, leaping and wide,  
Welling and swelling I bear in the tide.

Leaving behind nights of terror and fear  
I rise  
Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear  
I rise  
Bringing the gifts that my ancestors  
gave,  
I am the dream and the hope of the  
slave.  
I rise  
I rise  
I rise.

The full event can be watched back on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/0-KPcvbsr-Q>



The Hon. Mr. Justice Gerard Hogan

## Annual Distinguished Lecture 2020

Advocate General of the European Court of Justice, the Hon. Mr Justice Gerard Hogan, delivered NUI Galway's School of Law Annual Distinguished Lecture in December 2020. His lecture, "Re-examining McGee, Norris and the X case", discussed and reflected upon these seminal Irish constitutional law cases and recent constitutional reform. Mr Justice Hogan is a renowned legal scholar and has served as Advocate General of the European Court of Justice since 2018. Previously Mr Justice Hogan was a former Judge of the Court of Appeal and the High Court of Ireland.

The School of Law Annual Distinguished Lecture was chaired by Prof Siobhán Mullally, Director of NUI Galway's Irish Centre for Human Rights and UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, especially women and children.

The full event can be watched back on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/lZwSxsn1E6U>

Now in its tenth year, previous speakers of the Lecture have included: Prof Christopher McCrudden of Oxford University; Judge John T. Noonan of the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; Prof Neil Walker of Edinburgh University; Baroness Brenda Hale of the UK Supreme Court with Mrs Justice Catherine McGuinness of the Irish Supreme Court; Mr Justice Nial Fennelly of the Irish Supreme Court; Sir Declan Morgan, the Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland; Judge Siofra O'Leary of the European Court of Human Rights; and Justice Leona Theron of the Constitutional Court of South Africa.

## School of Law celebrates 10th Anniversary of the Charter of Fundamental Rights

To mark the 10th Anniversary of the Charter the School of Law NUI Galway arranged, together with the Irish Centre for European Law (ICEL), and Open Society Justice Initiative (OSJI), a major conference in December 2019, with speakers from across all areas of EU and human rights law and a range of EU Member States.

Panel discussions were chaired by The Hon Mr Justice Nial Fennelly, The Hon Mr Justice Aindrias Ó Caoimh, and the Hon Mr Justice Tony O' Connor.



Pictured are Dr Stephen Brittain BL, Director ICEL, Dr Padraic Kenna NUI Galway, Marguerite Angelari, J.D. (OSJI) The Hon Mr Justice Nial Fennelly (formerly of the Supreme Court), Professor Michael O'Flaherty, Director of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, Anna Van Duin, University of Amsterdam, Professor Jeff Kenner, University of Nottingham and Vice President of the Global Campus of Human Rights, Venice, Italy



## Virtual Symposium on Inclusive Learning

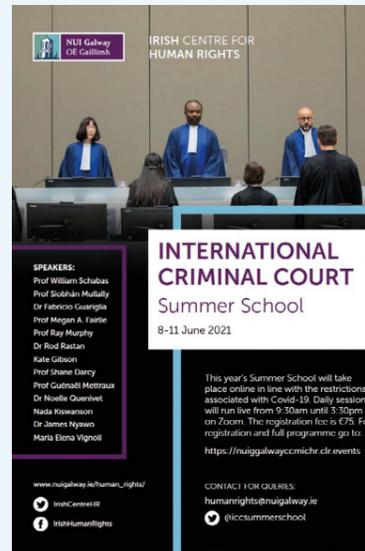
The Inclusive Learning at NUI Galway project team, led by Dr Lucy-Ann Buckley and Dr Shivaun Quinlivan, partnered with the University's Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching to host a virtual symposium on Inclusive Learning in April 2021. The two-day symposium, with an international line-up of speakers and panellists, explored issues of diversity and inclusion in higher education – locally, nationally and internationally.

The event highlighted the importance of centering the student voice through panel discussions and workshops on new insights into, and recommendations around, student experiences of inclusion and exclusion. As student populations become increasingly diverse, the symposium looked at what higher education institutions can do to create a truly inclusive learning environment.

The event was opened by the President of NUI Galway, Professor Ciarán Ó hÓgartaigh and featured a range of national and international panellists, including Dr Quinlivan and Dr Buckley, as well as Henriette Stoeber (European Universities Association), Dr Eburn Joseph (University College Dublin and the Institute of Antiracism and Black Studies), Anne Marie Stokes (Galway Traveller Movement), Dr Jesse Stommel (University of Mary Washington), Prof Julie Rattray (Durham University), Tracy Galvin (Queen's University Belfast), Hamsavani Rajeswaren (Alliance of Choice) and Dr Sharon Flynn (Irish Universities Association).

President Ó hÓgartaigh commented: "As our students bring increasingly diverse experiences to our university, representing all the talents in society, we recognise and respect the importance of exploring what we can do to create a truly inclusive learning environment. As a place of learning, we value openly listening, reflecting upon and responding to the needs and concerns of students, while also supporting our staff to navigate an increasingly complex teaching and learning landscape."

## International Criminal Court Summer School



The annual International Criminal Court Summer School took place virtually at the Irish Centre for Human Rights in June 2021. The Summer School was attended by over 150 delegates from all over the world who participated in a series of intensive and interactive lectures given by leading experts on the law, policy and practice of the International Criminal Court. "We were delighted to be able to welcome so many attendees to this year's Summer School", said Prof Shane Darcy, the convenor of the event. "Moving the event online allowed us to bring speakers and attendees from numerous countries, including those where the International Criminal Court is actively conducting or considering investigations and prosecutions".

The Summer School speakers were a mix of academic experts and legal practitioners, including those working at the Court itself or other international tribunals. Over four days, the sessions addressed the crimes within the Court's jurisdiction, including of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and aggression, prosecutorial policies, fair trial issues, and the participation of victims in proceedings. Speakers included Prof William Schabas (Middlesex University), Dr Fabricio Guariglia (Office of the Prosecutor, International Criminal Court), Kate Gibson (Defence Counsel), Prof Guénaél Mettraux (Judge, Kosovo Specialist Chambers), Dr Noelle Quenivet (University of the West of England), Nada Kiswanson (Independent Victims Counsel), Dr James Nyawo (School of Security, Diplomacy and Peace Studies, Kenyatta University) and Maria Elena Vignoli (Human Rights Watch).

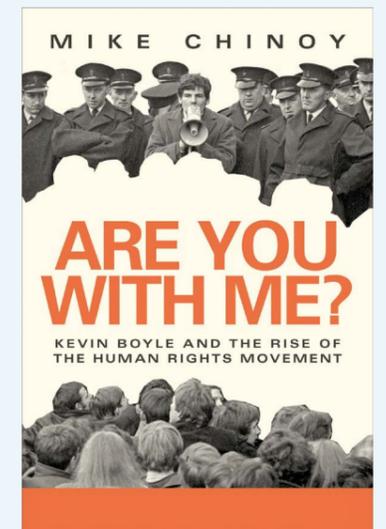


(L-R) Tristanne Silva, gradireland; Connie Healy, Programme Director, Masters in International and Comparative Business Law, NUI Galway; Mark Cumisky, Career and Skills Consultant, UCD, presenting the award

## LLM in International and Comparative Business Law wins the Postgraduate Course of the Year in Law

The LLM in International and Comparative Business Law won the Postgraduate Course of the Year in Law award sponsored by PwC in November 2019. This was announced at gradireland Higher Education Symposium & Awards 2020, where the LLM had also been shortlisted in the Best New Course category.

The judging panel's comments included, "Excellent innovation and teaching methodology, with strong links to industry". Our congratulations to programme director Dr Connie Healy and the entire teaching team of the Masters in International and Comparative Business Law.



## Dublin Book Festival public conversation

A public conversation took place at the Dublin Book Festival between Professor Donncha O'Connell and Mike Chinoy, the biographer of the late Professor Kevin Boyle, in November 2020. Professor Boyle was the Established Professor of Law in NUI Galway (then UCG) in the 1980s and, with Denny Driscoll, co-founded the Irish Centre for Human Rights. The event can be watched back on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/fBKQFV7aM8A>

## Workshop: 'Feminism, Fertility and Reproduction: Towards a Progressive Politics'

Dr Brian Tobin of the School of Law, Dr Sarah-Anne Buckley, lecturer in history at the College of Arts, Social Science & Celtic Studies at NUI Galway, Dr Rebecca Barr (University of Cambridge), and Dr Mary McAuliffe (UCD) held a successful two-day workshop on 'Feminism, Fertility and Reproduction: Towards a Progressive Politics' in December 2019 in the Human Biology Building at NUI Galway.



(L-R) Dr Brian Tobin, School of Law, NUI Galway; Dr Sarah-Anne Buckley, School of Humanities, NUI Galway; Dr Rebecca Barr, Faculty of English, University of Cambridge; Dr Mary McAuliffe, School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice, UCD

The group received funding for this event from the Irish Research Council under its 'Creative Connections' scheme.

## Webinar: '#FreeBritney and Human Rights Law: The Right to Legal Capacity'

CDLP held an international Webinar 7th July 2021 entitled '#FreeBritney and Human Rights Law: The Right to Legal Capacity'. This webinar discussed the implications of Britney Spears' conservatorship from a human rights perspective. It aimed to place Spears' experience in a broader global context, considering the human rights to legal capacity - that is, the right to make legally-binding decisions as adults in our own lives. Speakers included Dr. Anna Arstein-Kerslake (University of Melbourne), the Honorable Kristin Booth-Glen (Retired Surrogates Court Judge, New York), Michael Njenga (Users and Survivors of Psychiatry in Kenya) and

Alberto Vasquez (Centre for Inclusive Policy & SODIS-Peru) and was chaired by Professor Eilionóir Flynn.

The webinar covered the human right to legal capacity, principles of California conservatorship law, options available to judges in conservatorship cases, substituted decision-making as a global human rights violation and global law reform efforts to replace substitute decision-making systems with supported decision-making that respects the individual's rights, will and preferences. The recording is available in the Centre's Youtube channel: [www.youtube.com/channel/UCmtrfX18GvF050S0bxT1G3w](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmtrfX18GvF050S0bxT1G3w)

## Business and Human Rights: Taking stock, Looking Forward

In April 2021, the Irish Centre for Human Rights in the School of Law hosted its annual business and human rights symposium virtually. This year's event explored the achievements to date and future prospects of international and national efforts aimed at ensuring respect for human rights by business enterprises. Opening remarks were delivered by Eamon Gilmore, the EU Special Representative on Human Rights. Panel discussions on the day explored the future of the UN Guiding Principles on business and human rights, the revision of Ireland's national implementation plan, the prospects for EU or domestic legislation on human rights and environmental due diligence, and the challenges and possibilities for an international treaty on business and human rights.

Speakers were drawn from international organisations, governments, civil society and academia and included Professor Anita Ramasastry and Professor Surya Deva of the United Nations Working Group on business and human rights. There were over 125 registered participants in attendees, demonstrating the continuing interest in the field of business and human rights.

"This symposium was a great opportunity to take stock of the achievements in business and human rights and to consider possible future trajectories and for our LLM students to hear from some of the foremost thinkers in this field", said Professor Shane Darcy, Deputy Director of the Irish Centre for Human Rights and convener of the event. "After a decade of the implementation of the UN Guiding



The Hon. Mr Justice Peter Charleton

## Lecture and Seminar: Mr Justice Peter Charleton

Our thanks to the Hon. Mr Justice Peter Charleton, Judge of the Supreme Court, who visited the Law School in February 2020. Mr Justice Charleton delivered a lecture to undergraduate criminal law students and a seminar for students of the LLM in Public Law undertaking the specialisation in criminal justice. His lecture focused on consent in sexual offence cases, having delivered the Supreme Court judgment in the People (DPP) v OR (2016). His seminar focused on the prosecution of those connected with the murder of Veronica Guerin, with which he was involved as counsel for the DPP in the Special Criminal Court, Court of Criminal Appeal and Supreme Court.

Principles on business and human rights, it was important to see how current initiatives may develop and to ensure that human rights remain at the core of any further developments".



"We've been broadening the tools available to the EU, including through adoption of the global human rights sanctions regime for serious abuses of international human rights & humanitarian law." Eamon Gilmore presenting at the Galway Business & Human Rights Symposium 2021

# Alumni News

## Honorary Degrees

Congratulations to John Ging (BA 1984, LLB 1994), Director of the Operational Division at the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, who was conferred with an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa from NUI Galway in November 2019.

A double graduate of NUI Galway, with honors degrees in Arts and Law, John is a Barrister by qualification and former military officer, with three decades leading and coordinating International humanitarian efforts across the globe. His military service included three six month tours of duty as a United Nations Peacekeeper with UNIFIL in South Lebanon. He then served for 18 months as Regional Field Director for the Irish NGO GOAL during the horrific Rwandan Genocide and its aftermath. Moving to the Balkans he was appointed Chief of Staff for the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe in Bosnia and Herzegovina and latterly Kosovo, where he spent 8 years coordinating programs in human rights, democratisation, elections, education and security sector reform in a region whose ferocious wars gave us the term ethnic



(L-R): Prof Siobhán Mullally, John Ging and Prof Ciarán Ó hÓgartaigh, President of NUI Galway

cleansing. This was followed by 5 years as the Director of the UN Refugee Agency for Palestine Refugees in Gaza, where he managed the delivery of Education, Health and Emergency humanitarian services for over 1 million refugees. This was one of the most violent periods in Gaza's troubled history as John himself would personally experience, surviving 2 direct assassination

attempts. At the conclusion of his Gaza assignment, he was appointed by the United Nations Secretary General as Director of Operations for the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in New York in 2011, spending 8 years supporting UN Humanitarian operations in 100+ countries for 90+ million victims of conflict and natural disasters across the world

## Woman Lawyer of the Year Award 2020



Michele O'Boyle



Maura McNally

Congratulations to NUI Galway graduates Michele O'Boyle (BA 1987, LLB 1989) 2019/20 President of the Law Society of Ireland and Maura McNally SC (BA 1987, LLB 1989), the current Chair of the Bar of Ireland, who both received the 'Woman Lawyer of the Year Award 2020' from the Irish Women Lawyers' Association in December 2020. Michele was is the 149th president of the Society and a partner in the family law firm O'Boyle Solicitors. Maura was the second female head of the barristers' body. She was called to the Bar in 1992, and practised on Circuit until her appointment to the Inner Bar in 2017.

## Dliscéala Newsletter

### Alumni

We would like to hear from you, wherever you are in the world. Alumni Links is an annual online newsletter produced by the Alumni Relations Office to keep you connected.

To submit your class note, please email [alumni@nuigalway.ie](mailto:alumni@nuigalway.ie) or visit [nuigalway.ie/alumni-friends](http://nuigalway.ie/alumni-friends)

# Judicial Appointments



## Ms Justice Mary Faherty

Congratulations to our alumna, Ms Justice Mary Faherty (BA 1982, LLB 1994), who was appointed to the Court of Appeal in November 2019. Ms Justice Faherty has served on both the High and Circuit Courts and, prior to her appointment as a judge, she chaired the Employment Appeals Tribunal. She joined another distinguished alumna of NUI Galway, Ms Justice Máire Whelan, on the Court of Appeal. Both have in the past been recipients of an NUI Galway Alumni Award for Law, Public Service & Government.



## Mark Heslin

Congratulations to our alumnus, Judge Mark Heslin (BA 1990, LLB 1992), formerly a senior Partner in Beauchamps' litigation and dispute resolution team, who was nominated by Government for appointment to the High Court in November 2019. Mark is a graduate of our BA and LLB programmes and was Auditor of Lit & Deb while a student at NUI Galway (then UCG).



## Mary Morrissey

Congratulations and warmest good wishes to our alumna, Mary Morrissey (BA 1993, LLB 1994), who has been nominated for appointment as a judge of the Circuit Court in July 2020. She qualified as a solicitor in 1999 and won accreditation with distinction in mediation in January 2014. The vacancy in the Circuit Court arose following the death of fellow alumnus, Judge John Hannan, in February.



## Sandra Murphy

Congratulations and warmest good wishes to our alumna, Sandra Murphy, who was nominated by the Government for appointment as a judge of the District Court in October 2020. Sandra is a graduate of our BA, LLB and LLM programmes and she is currently completing a PhD under the supervision of Prof Padraic Kenna. Sandra, who is from Ballinrobe originally, has practised for many years with the firm of Gilmartin & Murphy in Kiltimagh, Co Mayo. She is a member of the Conveyancing Committee of the Law Society of Ireland and has taught on a part-time basis in the School of Law.



Sean Aherne



Richard O'Hagan

## Sean Aherne & Richard O'Hagan

Congratulations to our Law (BCL 2013) graduate Sean Aherne who recently won the John Brooke Memorial Prize, for the highest overall mark in 2020 in the degree of Barrister-at-Law course at The Honorable Society of King's Inns.

Congratulations also to fellow Law (BCL 2016) graduate Richard O'Hagan who had the third highest overall mark and received the James Murnaghan Memorial Prize.



## Dr Bo Chen

Bo Chen graduated from the PhD in Disability Law programme, NUI Galway in 2019. Since then he joined the Faculty of Law, Macau University of Science and Technology as an Assistant Professor. He has been appointed as an adjunct lecturer at the School of Law and the Centre for Disability Law and Policy in 2020.



## Fiachra Mac Suibhne

Comhghairdeas le Fiachra Mac Suibhne (BCorp Law 2017, LLB 2019) a rith as Léim an Bhradáin i gCill Dara 168km i 96 uair an chloig agus é ag bailiú airgid ar son Chumann Ailse na hÉireann. Bhaill sé os cionn €8,500 don charthanacht i mí Nollag 2020.



## Maura Conway

Congratulations to our alumna Prof Maura Conway (BA Legal Science, 1997) who was appointed as the new Paddy Moriarty Professor of Government and International Studies in the School of Law and Government at DCU in December 2020. Professor Conway is one of the world's leading authorities on the intersections of extremism, terrorism, and the internet. She is the author of over 40 academic journal articles and chapters, with her research appearing in, amongst others, *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism, Media, War & Conflict, Parliamentary Affairs, and Social Science Computer Review*. She has presented her findings before the United Nations in New York, the Commission of the European Union in Brussels, the UK House of Lords, and elsewhere. She is a member of the academic advisory board of Europol's Counter-terrorism Centre and a member of the editorial board of the flagship terrorism studies journal *Terrorism and Political Violence*.



## Luke McDonagh

Congratulations to our alumnus, Dr Luke McDonagh (BCL 2005), who started a new position as Assistant Professor at LSE Law Department in July 2020. In his academic career Luke has previously been a Senior Lecturer at City, University of London 2015-2020 and a Lecturer at Cardiff University from 2013-15. His expertise is in Intellectual Property Law and Public Law. He has presented his research on IP law before the European Parliament and has been cited in UK Parliament (House of Commons) debates on IP litigation.



## Mary Harney

Our inspiring alumna Mary Harney, LLM 2020, MA 2013, spoke to Dr Maeve O'Rourke about her lifetime's advocacy for social justice following childhood abuse in state care, on the NUI Galway Cois Coiribe podcast in April 2021: <https://impact.nuigalway.ie/podcasts/cois-coiribe-podcast-mary-harney-survivor-and-social-justice-activist/> Mary was a tutor in the ICHR Human Rights Law Clinic for the 2020/21 academic year.

Mary Harney and Dr Maeve O'Rourke also took part in an Irish Times Women's Podcast Episode in October 2020 (Episode 441: Sealing the Records: Maeve O'Rourke & Mary Harney) which received a Merit Award at the Law Society's 2021 Justice Media Awards.



## Rebecca McKittrick

Congratulations to our alumna, and first year trainee with A&L Goodbody LLP, Rebecca McKittrick (BCorp Int 2016, LLB 2017, LLM 2018) for breaking records with her Law Society team members. Rebecca won the European Regional Rounds and placed 9th globally in the Monroe E Price Media Law Moot Court Competition 2021 participating with the Law Society of Ireland. They were the first ever Irish team to win the Northern European title and the first ever Irish team to reach the top 10 globally. Rebecca was recognised for her skilful rebuttal throughout the competition. The competition would normally have been held abroad. However, due to COVID-19 the competition was held virtually. Since the competition, Rebecca undertook a Diploma in Commercial Litigation while completing PPCI and commencing her training contract with ALG. Rebecca placed first and will receive an award from the Law Society of Ireland recognising her achievement at the conferral ceremony in November



## Eoin Mac Giolla Ri

Congratulations to one our graduates, Eoin Mac Giolla Ri (BA 1994, LLB 1998), on his recent appointment as a Magistrate for Brisbane and Mt Isa in Queensland, Australia. Magistrate Mac Giolla Ri was first called to the Bar in Ireland in 2000 after completing his legal studies at the National University of Ireland, and was admitted to the Bar in Queensland in 2002. His appointment follows an extensive selection process involving the Judicial Appointments Advisory Panel, which includes representatives from the Queensland Law Society and the Bar Association of Queensland.



## Mathilda Twomey

Chief Justice Dr Mathilda Twomey, recently appointed Adjunct Professor at NUI Galway School of Law, was awarded the Franco-German Prize for Human Rights in December 2020. Dr Twomey is one of 15 people to receive this prestigious annual award which marks Human Rights Day and recognises the efforts of all those who work endlessly to advance the causes of human rights and the rule of law.

The award commends Dr Twomey's work in the protection of minors. She was appointed as Chairperson of the Child Law Reform Committee in 2020. In this role she has led the committee's work in identifying and reviewing the laws of Seychelles to prevent and punish child abuse, sexual abuse and exploitation. This work seeks to strengthen the legal protection offered to children in accordance with the Constitution of Seychelles, and with international and regional human rights law.

In 2015, Dr Twomey became the first woman to be appointed Chief Judge of the Supreme Court of Seychelles. She served as Chief Justice until September 2020.



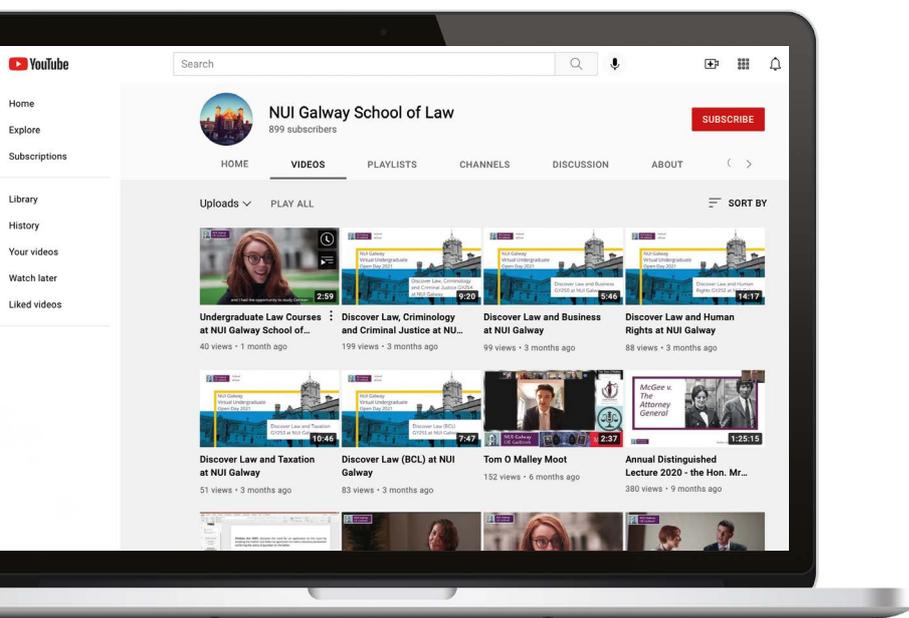
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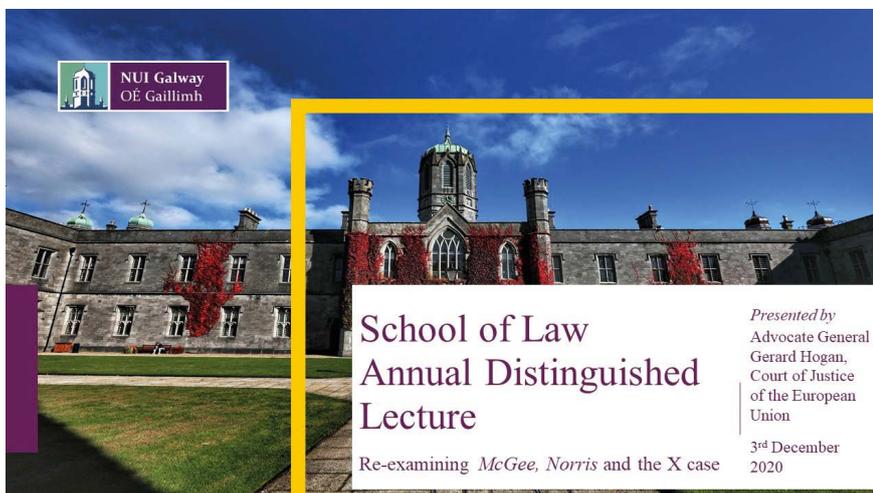
For friends, students and alumni

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You can find videos of some of our events on our YouTube channel:  
[www.youtube.com/NUIGSchoolofLaw](http://www.youtube.com/NUIGSchoolofLaw)

## Annual Distinguished Lecture



**THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS 2021**  
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