

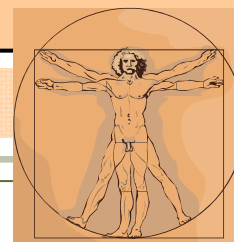
ARTS, HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

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TRINITY COLLEGE LIBRARY

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2009 centenary of the ITGWU – Caoimhe Ní Ghormáin, Assistant Librarian Manuscripts Department (nighormc@tcd.ie)

An exhibition is currently in place in the Long Room of the Old Library to mark the 2009 centenary of the ITGWU, the organisation known today as SIPTU. The Services, Industrial, Professional and Technical Union was established in 1990 following the merger of its two founding Unions - the Irish Transport and General Workers Union and the Federated Workers Union of Ireland. The Union traces its lineage back to the early years of the 20th century when "Big" Jim Larkin began organising among the transport and dock workers of Dublin.

The exhibition features items for the collections of the Department of Manuscripts dating from the 6th to the 20th century, relating to labour and labourers. Among these is a draft labour contract in Greek on papyri (TCD PAP GR 136, 6th/7th century); a beautifully illuminated Book of Hours, open on the months of August and September, showing a woman with a scythe and a man pruning trees or vines. A common element in the design of such books was the calendar, which was often illustrated with depictions of seasonal labour and zodiacal symbols (TCD MS 94 f 4v-5, mid 14th century); a chronometer or clock stamp from the Medical School of Trinity College (TCD Object, 20th century); Skips Wage Records, 1920. Skips were the men employed by the College to look after the rooms inhabited by the students. They play a significant role in the reminiscences of the older graduates who recall that they often looked after the students as well, keeping them out of trouble and making sure they were eating properly (TCD MS 3712 fi, 20th century); a letter from James Connolly (1868-1916, socialist and former ITGWU leader) 10 Risk St, Glasgow to 'Anderson', c.1901-02 (TCD MS 11074/9).

The exhibition will run until the end of March 2009 and is on view in the West End of the Long Room, Monday to Saturday 9.30am to 5pm and Sundays 12 noon to 4.30pm. Entry is free of charge for staff and students.

Access all accessions : Mellon Retrospective Conversion Project – Shane Mawe, Mellon Project Manager (smawe@tcd.ie)

In summer 2005 the Library with the generous assistance from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation embarked on an ambitious four year retro-conversion cataloguing project. The aim of the project is to provide electronic records for our holdings in the Accessions Catalogue and the Printed Catalogue. Phase I of the project has seen a team of up to eight staff members focus on the

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Accessions Catalogue while working in conjunction with Prof. John Byrne and his impressive advancements in making the Printed Catalogue available online via our GEAC interface.

The initial phase is being devoted to obtaining or creating electronic records for all entries listed in the catalogue. Records are primarily sourced from two international databases, RLUK and OCLC/Worldcat. Each record is coded for quality according to very specific standards so that it can be retrieved and upgraded at a later date, if necessary. By working through the volumes alphabetically the team performs a search and then selects a suitable matched record. The holdings information is attached to the bibliographical record and immediately downloaded to our online catalogue making it available to the academic community. In cases where no suitable record is found the team will create an original entry which is then also available for consultation and download by member institutions of RLUK and OCLC thus increasing the library's level of international co-operation.

To date the project has made available over 250,000 records, including 6,000 original records created in-house. The team has also had the opportunity to enhance 10,000 existing records, making a genuine contribution to the accuracy and reliability of our online portal.

It is hoped to extend the life-time of the project beyond 2009 and concentrate on enhancing some of the major Long Room collections currently accessible via the Printed Catalogue Online. By enhancing the records to a scholarly level we will support and make a significant contribution to the objectives of the Long Room Hub. This process would include adding notes on aspects such as provenance, binding, illustrations, and marginalia. A second phase of the work would also see the Library tackle our uncatalogued collections and make key resources available and deliver significant momentum to academic initiatives across all faculties in TCD.

Trinity's Access to Research Archive (TARA) – Garret McMahon, Institutional Repository Content Manager (garret.mcmahon@tcd.ie)

'Trinity's Access to Research Archive (TARA) is an Open Access Institutional Repository designed to amplify the impact of Trinity's research publications by allowing free access to the fulltext of our research papers on the internet.

International studies have shown that providing free electronic access to your research papers via Google, Google Scholar etc. can increase citations of between 50-250% on average. A number of funders (Wellcome Trust, NIH, HEA, IRCHSET and many others) now require open access to research outputs as

a condition of funding. We've tried to make it as easy as possible for TCD researchers by putting a 'Upload fulltext document' button on the Research Support system publication input screen. If you don't have time, we'll locate and upload the papers for you.

Once a paper is in TARA, it's exposure to web harvesters, crawlers, aggregators etc., is maximized. In addition, a 'persistent' link is created for every paper in TARA which automatically appears in the Research Support System, College webpages, the Peoplefinder, Expertise Ireland, etc.

What about publishers' copyright policies? In fact, over 90% of journal publishers allow us to upload some version of a research paper – ideally this should be the author's final version of the paper (post peer-review) which we link to the 'official' publisher version. Please upload your research papers to TARA via the Research Support System as soon as possible after acceptance for publication. Or contact us and let us do it for you!

Email: **Garret McMahon** [garret.mcmahon@tcd.ie] or **Niamh Brennan** [niamh.brennan@tcd.ie]

Further information on TARA:

<http://www.tcd.ie/Library/resources/tara.php>

Taboos: a new interdisciplinary seminar series at TCD – Jason McElligott, Long Room Hub (jmcelligott@tcd.ie)

Dr Deana Heath of the School of Histories and Humanities is organising a new interdisciplinary seminar series under the auspices of the Trinity Long Room Hub. The aims of the seminar are to highlight the wealth of research at Trinity; promote interdisciplinary dialogue and exchange; and provide opportunities for Trinity staff, postgraduates, and post-docs to engage in intellectual debate.

The initial topic of the series is the concept of 'taboos', which will be interpreted through a wide range of intellectual and methodological frameworks. The first of these informal seminars will take place on Thursday 26 February from 12.00 to 1.00 p.m. in Room 6002 on the 6th Floor of the Arts Building.

Mr Micheal O'Loughlin from the School of English will present a short paper of about 10-15 minutes on 'Literary The Politics of Literary Reputation'. Ms Sarah Crider Arndt, a

Ph.D. student in the 'Texts, Contexts, and Cultures' programme will then give a short presentation entitled 'Historical Taboos: On Liking the British in Ireland' If you would like to submit a paper proposal for the 2009-10 academic year, or would like further information about this year's seminar series, please contact Dr. Deana Heath at heathd@tcd.ie.

The Conservation of Ms. 55 - Ray Jordan, Senior Conservator, Conservation Department (jordanr@tcd.ie)

Ray Jordan will be treating one of the Library's important early medieval manuscripts over the next few years. Ms. 55, Codex Usserianus Primus, is a parchment gospel book believed to be 7th century Irish. It is made up of 181 folios, all of which are badly damaged. The text has been written with iron-gall ink with some red pigment decoration throughout part of the text. In the 19th century the single folios were mounted in paper frames and rebound. The mounting of the folios in paper frames has caused the parchment to distort due to the differential expansion rate between paper and parchment.

To conserve the manuscript it has to be taken out of its paper mounts, photographed, examined, cleaned, and prepared for repair. New parchment has to be stained with suitable dye to enable it to blend in with the colour of the original material. Then the original parchment folios, after repair, will have to be grafted onto the new parchment. The repaired folios will then be flattened and allowed to dry within predetermined humidity levels. The repaired folios will then be sewn together before being placed into a new conservation binding and enclosed in a suitable protective box.

Historic Ordnance Survey maps online - Paul Ferguson, Map Librarian (pferguson@tcd.ie)

The maps of the first Ordnance Survey of Ireland are now available online in the Map Library. The systematic mapping of Ireland was one of the most ambitious projects in the first half of the nineteenth-century. Working from north to south, the survey began in Antrim and Derry in 1829 and was completed in Kerry in 1842. Drawn at the detailed scale of six inches to one mile (1:10,560), Ordnance Survey maps show townlands, parishes, baronies and county boundaries as well as buildings, factories, fields, roads, streams, etc. Today the maps provide a unique record of the crowded pre-Famine landscape.



Scanned at 400dpi from the original maps in the Library, Ordnance Survey Ireland have placed the images on their Irish Historic Maps website. This is a paytoview and paytoprint site (<http://www.irishhistoricmaps.ie>) but free access is available in the Map Library. The Survey have reconfigured the 2,000 maps onto a single projection and edge-matched them into a seamless national map so it is possible to pan from coast to coast. Places can be found by either zooming in or from a townland name.

The Irish Historic Maps website can be accessed in the Glucksman Map Library located in the basement of the Ussher Library. It is open on Tues & Thurs 2.00 to 4.45pm, and on Weds 9.30am to 1.00. Tel: 896-2087 / 1544 Fax: 896-3537 Email: map.library@tcd.ie