



## Service for the Thanksgiving for the Gift of Sport

This year's Service for the Gift of Sport was indeed a special one with a procession of the Special Olympics World Summer Games Torch, carried into the College Chapel by Special Olympics athletes.

The annual Service, part of DUCAC's tradition of celebrating the achievements of its sporting clubs, was organised by the College Chaplains and involved wonderful singing by the Chapel Choir. In his Address, the Senior Dean, Prof. Cyril Smyth warmly welcomed the athletes, coaches and officials of the Special Olympics Irish team.

The Senior Dean reflected that the Olympic Flame in its cauldron is one of the most visible symbols of the modern Olympic Games. "It will burn brightly in Croke Park this summer at the Special Olympics World Games. Not only will it symbolise purity, endeavour for perfection and struggle for victory or achievement, but peace and friendship among nations, much needed commodities in today's turbulent World," he said.

Two of Ireland's first Olympic medallists were referred to by the Senior Dean, both of whom had links to Trinity - Oliver St. John Gogarty, writer and poet, was a graduate of the university and artist Jack B. Yeats was conferred with an LL.D. *honoris causa*. They were competitors for Ireland at the VIIIth

Olympiad in Paris in 1924, although not in sport. From 1912 to 1948, in addition to athletic competitions, artists could compete in the areas of architecture, sculpture, painting, music and literature. Each work had to be related to sport. Jack B. Yeats won the Silver Medal for Painting for *The Liffey Swim* which now hangs in the National Gallery. Oliver St. John Gogarty won the Bronze medal for Literature for his epic poem *Ode to the Tailtean Games*.

The Service for the Gift of Sport was followed by Sporting Commons during which the Chapel Choir performed and guests joined in the College's sporting anthem, *Nos Nomine Dominum*. Prof. T.T. West, Chairman of DUCAC congratulated the 17 clubs present. A number of them won intersites, including DU Badminton, Boxing, Climbing, Equestrian, Hockey (Ladies), Karate and Rifle Clubs. The Men's Hockey Club First XI have made it back to Division One of the Leinster Hockey League for next season. DU Harrier and Athletics Club won the JP O'Sullivan Cup for the Men's Track and Field Athletic Intersarsity, adding to the Green Fox Trophy for the Men's Cross Country won earlier in the year. The DU Football Club Under 20s beat Buccaneers in the All Ireland Championship and the First XV were promoted to Division Two of the All Ireland League next season for their 150th year of rugby.

## TCD fasts for Africa



Justin Kilcullen, Director of Trocaire is presented a cheque for €15,000 for Trocaire's Emergency Relief Fund for Africa by Vanessa Liston, outgoing President of DU One World Society and Rev. Richard Sheehy, College Chaplain. Over 200 staff and students took part in the 24-hour sponsored fast.

## Fulbright Scholars

Congratulations to the two Trinity students who have been awarded Fulbright Scholarships for the 2003-04 academic year - Wendy Murray, Centre for Deaf Studies, has been awarded the Fulbright-American Ireland Fund Scholarship in Deaf Studies at Gallaudet University while Tanya Sheridan, a final year student on the BA in Law and German course, has been awarded a Fulbright Commission Scholarship to pursue an LLM at Harvard University.

The next edition of the Gazette will be published in July 2003. Items for inclusion should be sent to Sally-Anne Fisher, Communications Officer, House 4, e-mail: [fishers@tcd.ie](mailto:fishers@tcd.ie) / Fax: 608 1800.

[www.tcd.ie/secretary/communications/news/](http://www.tcd.ie/secretary/communications/news/)



## President McAleese opens Ussher Library



The President of Ireland, Mary McAleese admires the architecture of the James Ussher Library with the Librarian, Mr. Robin Adams, left, and Provost, Dr. John Hegarty.



## DNA co-discoverer comes to College for 'DNA at 50' celebrations

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the discovery of the double helix of DNA by Nobel Prize winners James Watson and Francis Crick, the Department of Genetics organised a series of events, the highlight of which was a keynote lecture by Dr. James Watson.

The Nobel Laureate's talk, 'DNA 50 years ago and today', organised in association with Science Foundation Ireland, BioResearch Ireland and The Irish Times, was Webcast live and related events were held at universities across Ireland. Dr. Onora O'Neill, the distinguished philosopher and Principal of Newnham College, Cambridge delivered the response to Dr. Watson's lecture.

At the lecture the Tánaiste, Mary Harney, TD, announced the winners of 'DNA Times' - a competition for schools to produce a

report in the form of a newspaper supplement dealing with DNA and genetics from 1953-2003 and beyond. The winners were Ruth Waldron, Ella Tyrrell and Victoria Shevlin and their teacher Ms. Pat Lally from the Dominican College, Galway.

Other celebratory events included a Public Lecture Series. Dr. Watson unveiled a large bronze sculpture beside the Smurfit Institute of Genetics entitled 'The Double Helix' by Brian King, one of Ireland's foremost modern sculptors. "This wonderful piece of art will be a long standing testimony to the DNA at 50 celebrations. I am delighted that Dr. Watson himself performed the unveiling and is in Trinity to deliver his lecture. I wish to gratefully acknowledge Dr. Beate Schuler's generosity in funding the sculpture," commented Prof. Kevin Devine, Head of the Genetics Department.

## Trinity Annual fund gathers momentum

Now in its second full year of operation the Trinity Annual Fund has grown to become a regular feature of College's contact with Alumni. Managed by Trinity Foundation, the Fund has so far contacted over 39,000 graduates in Ireland, the UK and US. To date the Fund has raised over €358,000. The aim is not only to raise funds for worthy College projects but also to keep the lines of communication with graduates open. This is achieved via a phone operation where trained student callers telephone alumni in a follow-up to mailings despatched.

All monies raised are allocated to the projects of the graduate donors' choosing. The list of projects includes:

- Academic Research.
- Trinity Access Programme.
- Capital projects.
- TCD Association & Trust.
- Unrestricted to be allocated in accordance to College priorities.

Trinity Access Programme (TAP) has proved the most popular with donors with 41% of funds being allocated to this area. This means that 13 TAP students will be sponsored directly as a result of the Fund. The unrestricted option is the next most popular with donors. Projects which will benefit from this area include: non-academic student awards, support for events in celebration of 100 years of women students in Trinity, provision of infrastructure for the Usher Library orientation space and the provision of student space.

Many thanks are due to alumni for all their support. In addition a special thanks to staff who, as graduates, have also given support.

For further information on any aspect of the Trinity Annual Fund, please contact Jillian Coffey, Alumni Director, Trinity Foundation. Tel: 01 608 2662. Email: [coffejj@tcd.ie](mailto:coffejj@tcd.ie).



## Policy Institute Publication

At the launch of 'The Containment of Heritage: Setting Limits to the Growth of Heritage in Ireland' were, from left, Prof. Bob Holton, Director of the Policy Institute, author Mr. Pat Cooke and Dr. Michael Ryan, Director of the Chester Beatty Library and President of the Royal Irish Academy who launched the publication. The study is the 11th Blue Paper in the series 'Studies in Public Policy' published by Trinity's Policy Institute.

## RESEARCH FOCUS

### TCD researchers en route to Kenya

A team from the Department of Geography is travelling to Kenya in July to research environmental change in the Laikipia Plateau. Led by Prof. David Taylor, Head of the Department, the research is fully funded by the British Academy and the British Institute in Eastern Africa in Nairobi.

The Laikipia Plateau extends northwards from the base of Mount Kenya and is one of the main locations for wildlife conservation and human-wildlife conflicts in eastern Africa.

Students Fiona Kelly, Patricia Kenny, Ruth McKeevar and Anne Marie Rutledge will join Prof. Taylor and his colleague Tara Nolan to spend three weeks carrying out fieldwork, alongside archaeologists, conservation biologists and sociologists. They will work with a group of Kenyan University students and will camp on the Plateau.

"The research aims to provide an environmental context for archaeological research that is currently taking place on the Laikipia Plateau. The students will collect cores of sediments from perennial springs for analysis in our Departmental laboratories to produce a description of changing environmental

conditions on the Laikipia over the last ca. 1000 years or so," explained Prof. Taylor.

"We will be looking for evidence of past changes in vegetation and climate, especially abnormally dry wet periods, and evidence of processes such as soil erosion and gulleying during the pre-colonial and colonial periods," he continued.

The Laikipia is relatively rich in archaeology and several archaeological sites, such as rock shelters and burial cairns, have recently been excavated. These excavations date mainly to the last 1000 years, and to the period of pre-colonial occupation by the Mukogodo. The Mukogodo were hunter-gatherers who became pastoralists during the late 19th century and have now largely been assimilated by the Samburu / Masai. The local pastoralism-based economy was severely disrupted in the late 19th and early 20th centuries by colonial farmers who displaced many of the Samburu / Masai / Mukogodo from their land - with the area subsequently becoming known as the 'White Highlands'. Many of the colonial-era ranches still remain and now are the focus for the ecotourism industry.

## New Fellowship Award in Dementia Studies is launched

Links between the Dementia Services Information and Development Centre (DSIDC) at St. James's Hospital and Trinity were further consolidated with the recent launch in College of a new post-graduate research award in Dementia Studies. The scheme forms part of a growing commitment in Ireland to increase professional awareness about dementia and to improve standards of care and services for all those affected by the condition.

Avril Dooley, a MSc student in Applied Social Research, is the first recipient of the award and is now on a placement at the DSIDC. Her thesis will focus on the topic of dementia as a disability and the role of specialist care units in promoting quality of life and fostering more independent living.

"This new fellowship award will enable students from across a wide range of health and social science disciplines to undertake Masters research training leading to an improved understanding of the social and psychological needs of persons diagnosed with dementia," explained Dr. Suzanne Cahill, Director of the DSIDC.

"Dementia is an age-related condition with an estimated 30,000 sufferers in Ireland. Population ageing means that the numbers of people presenting with Alzheimer's Disease, which

is the most common type, will increase significantly in the future. In the absence of a cure or treatment, it seems evident that the disability will need to be managed by social and community care policies aimed at providing the economic, social and emotional support needed by individuals and their family members," Dr. Cahill added.



Congratulating Avril Dooley on being the first recipient of a new Fellowship Award in Dementia Studies were, from left, Dr. Suzanne Cahill, Director of the Dementia Services Information and Development Centre, Dr. John Hegarty, Provost and Dr. Evelyn Mahon, Course Director of the MSc in Applied Social Research



## News from the Departments

### Business

Mr. Pearse Colbert has been appointed the first Horwath Bastow Charleton Visiting Professor in Accounting. Mr. Colbert spoke on 'Financial Reporting and Corporate Governance Reform - a Global Perspective' in College in March.

Thomas Stafford is the winner of The Trinity Business Alumni / Bank of Ireland Business Student of the Year. This award is presented to the student who maintains a high level of academic performance as well as demonstrating sporting prowess or business acumen or service to the wider community.

### Computer Science

*Internet Research Methods: A Practical Guide for the Social and Behavioural Sciences*, a book written by Claire Hewson, Peter Yule, Dianna Laurent and Carl Vogel has been published by SAGE in its series 'New Technologies for Social Research'.

The first ever spell-checking application licensed by Microsoft, specifically designed for the Irish language was recently launched. The Proofing Tools 2002 Win32 Irish Spell Checker was designed in association with the Department of Computer Science and the Linguistics Institute of Ireland.

### Education

James Dunne, who graduated with a Bachelor in Music Education Degree last year, has just been appointed Assistant Principal Percussionist with the RTE Concert Orchestra.

### English

Prof. Brendan Kennelly was the recipient of the Ireland Fund of France Wild Geese Trophy 2003 presented during a gala dinner at which he was guest of honour in March.

### French

Dr. Derval Conroy was invited to give a seminar entitled '*Représentations visuelles et textuelles de la reine dans les entrées royales (1622-1639)*' to the Groupe de recherche sur les entrées solennelles, Université Concordia, Montréal in February.

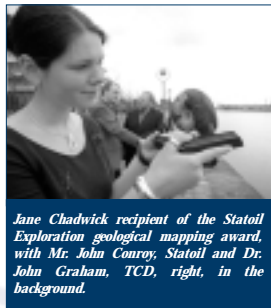
*Thresholds of Otherness/Autrement Mêmes: Identity and Alterity in French-Language Literatures* (London: Grant & Cutler, 2003), the Proceedings of the Conference held in September 1999 to mark the retirement of Prof. Roger Little, were launched in March 2003. Edited by Dr. David Murphy and Dr. Aedin Ni Loingsigh, the text contains essays by these former students of the Department, and also by Prof. Johnnie Gratton, Prof. Little's successor. There are 22 essays in all, including some by other former students of the Department (Dr. Alan English, Dr. Mary Gallagher and Ms. Ingrid Johnston). The book reflects the intellectual interests of Prof. Little, who held the Chair of French (1776) at TCD from 1979-98. The essays, written in either English or French, are grouped into six parts: Perspectives on 'La Francophonie'; France and the Other/The Other in France; Literature of Exile, Identity and Belonging; The Otherness of Poetic Discourse; Imagining Africa;

The Search for African Identities; Poems Written for Roger Little.

### Geology

Students Susan McDonnell, David Brock and Rebecca Gould were awarded the best poster prize for their work '*Intrusive history of the Slieve Gullion ring-dyke, Co. Armagh: implications for the internal structure of silicic sub-caldera magna chambers*' at the recent Irish Geologists' Research meeting held in the Ulster Museum. This project was carried out with Dr. Valentine Troll and two external colleagues, Dr. C.H. Emeelus of the University of Durham and Ian Meighan of Queen's University Belfast.

Jane Chadwick, a Senior Sophister student, was awarded the Statoil Exploration Geological Mapping Award for her field-based project entitled '*The Geology of the Maas Lettermacaward area, Southern Donegal*'. Graeme Nichol, a fellow Senior Sophister student, was short-listed for the award.



Jane Chadwick recipient of the Statoil Exploration geological mapping award, with Mr. John Conroy, Statoil and Dr. John Graham, TCD, right, in the background.

### Irish

Prof. Cathal Ó Háinle lectured on '*Ó Cadhain, King James II, Joyce and Molly Bloom*' and conducted a seminar under the auspices of the Celtic Conference at the University of California at Los Angeles in March.

### Irish School of Ecumenics

Dr. Geraldine Smyth OP will be conferred with an honorary degree by Queen's University Belfast in July.

Dr. David Tombs's book '*Latin American Liberation Theology*' has been published by Boston and Leiden (2002). Dr. Bill McSweeney was Visiting Research Fellow of the University Jaume I in Castellon, Spain in January and February. While working on a new book on US Foreign Policy, he was part of the teaching faculty of the University's Masters Programme for Peace and Development.

Dr. Gillian Wylie gave a paper on '*Trafficking in Women*' at a conference on 'Migrant Women Transforming Ireland' in March in TCD.

Ms. Yvonne Naylor was in Macedonia in March

where she and a colleague from TIDES Training were training youth workers in small group work and conflict resolution, using experiential learning techniques.

### Mathematics

Prof. Samson Shatashvili, Professor of Natural Philosophy has been elected to the prestigious Louis Michel Chair of the Institute des Hautes Etudes near Paris, the European equivalent of the Institute for Advanced Study. Prior to joining College last summer, Prof. Shatashvili was an Associate Professor of Physics at Yale University, before which he spent 5 years at the Institute for Advanced Study. Prof. Shatashvili is a distinguished theoretical physicist who works in quantum field theory and string theory, which is a framework for addressing nature's most basic questions such as quantum gravity and the number of space-time dimensions.

### Music

Dr. Jacqueline Waeber was invited as guest professor for a postgraduate seminar held at the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris in March, where she gave eight lectures on '*Charles Burney lecteur de Rousseau: autour des articles musicaux de la Cyclopaedia de Re*'. She also a paper entitled '*Clarté versus Difficulté vaincue: placing Music in the Encyclopédie Méthodique*' at the conference 'Reactions in the Long Eighteenth Century' held by the Institute of Romance Studies, University of London in April.

### Psychology

Laura McAvinue, a second year PhD student, has been awarded a place on the European Diploma in Cognitive and Brain Sciences. This prestigious part-time course takes place over two years, and accepts only 20 students from throughout Europe. Her supervisor is Prof. Ian Robertson.

Dr. Ray Fuller presented the Linda Tosh Memorial Lecture at the University of Dundee in February. He has been invited to become a member of the Comissão Externa de Avaliação (external review committee) of the Centre for Research in Psychology, Universidade do Minho, Portugal and has also been invited to become a member of the Department of Transport Working Group to review current speed limits structures and metrication.

Dr. Stuart Smith gave an invited lecture to the Annual Meeting of the Association of Optometrists, Ireland, in Galway in April. He also presented a keynote speech to the inaugural Vision Sciences Research Conference held in DIT in January. He recently became a founding member of the Vision Sciences Research Association of Ireland.

### Sociology

Ms. Yvonne McGivern has published a major book '*The practice of Market and Social Research*'. It is published by FT Prentice Hall and will have online resources (isbn 027365506X)

## President McAleese opens Ussher Library



Ms. Susan Bioletti, Keeper of Preservation and Conservation, outlines the conservation treatment of the Library's collection of drawings from the Harry Clarke Studio to the President, Librarian and Provost.

The James Ussher Library, Trinity's first 21st century building, was officially opened by the President of Ireland, Mary McAleese in April. The eight storey, €27 million building provides 9,500 square metres of high quality accommodation for staff and students of the College, in addition to being an important resource for scholars and researchers from higher education institutions elsewhere.

The James Ussher Library is the third library to be opened in Trinity's 400 year history. It provides 750 new reader spaces, each of which is provided with connections to the campus network and the World Wide Web, greatly enhancing the quality of access to the rich diversity of information available to scholars.

The Ussher Library makes available more than 450,000 volumes of printed books and periodicals on shelving adjacent to study facilities. Much of the Library's collections of 4.5 million items has to date remained in closed access, resulting in a reliance on catalogues to find materials and delays before the publications were made available to the user.

Some 100 workstations have also been provided for the staff carrying out the acquisition, description and cataloguing of over 100,000 new items each year, which Trinity receives as a Legal Deposit Library for Ireland and also one of only six Libraries acquiring UK Legal Deposit material. The flow of published material into collection can now take place as a continuous integrated process, enabling the prompt delivery of academic material into the catalogues and onto the shelves.

The James Ussher Library also houses the Glucksman Map Library, Ireland's largest map collection, with more than 650,000 printed and digital items in its care, dating from the sixteenth century to the present day.

Within the new building, the Glucksman Conservation Department has been provided with a custom-built facility for the further development of innovative techniques and quality benchmarks for its work on the care of manuscripts and early printed material.

"The opening of the James Ussher Library provides a statement of Trinity's continued commitment to maintain its responsibilities to preserve what is best of the past and to facilitate the future exploitation of information resources. This Library will provide for the integrated use of the great range and diversity of media now available to the academic community in a flexible and stimulating environment," said Mr. Robin Adams, Librarian.

"The Library also recognises the importance of the provision of services to the widest possible range of readers through appropriate services for students with disabilities, in the design of study spaces and the availability of assistive technology facilities."

The Library, named after James Ussher, one of the university's first graduates and responsible for bringing together the core of the Library's works at the end of the sixteenth century, is funded by the Government's Higher Education Authority's Programme for Research in Third-Level Institutions initiative. Private donations were also received from Lewis Glucksman and Loretta Brennan-Glucksman, Atlantic Philanthropies and the Getty Grant Program for conservation equipment.

Designed by McCullough Mulvin Keane Murphy Duff, a collaboration of two Dublin firms of architects, the Ussher Library scooped the top prize in the latest Architectural Association of Ireland awards list when it was awarded the prestigious Downes Bronze Medal.



Drs. Lewis and Loretta Glucksman, right, whose generosity provided accommodation for a new Map Library, study an 1837-8 Railway Commissioners map of Ireland with the President, Provost and Map Librarian, Mr. Paul Ferguson.



## News from the Board

The following are the main issues discussed by the Board at its meetings on **19 February, 12 March** and **2 April 2003**.

### Strategic Plan 2003 - 2008

In presenting the draft Strategic Plan to a joint meeting of Board and the University Council, the Provost outlined the five strategic goals. The draft Strategic Plan, incorporating amendments from the joint meeting, is to be made available for consultation on the College's local website prior to its final approval by the Board. The Provost has been invited to present the Strategic Plan to a meeting in the HEA in July.

### Provost's Report

- **Sports Centre** - discussions on the feasibility of the Sports Centre are reaching a satisfactory conclusion. Planning permission for the modified design will be submitted in the near future.
- **CAO applications** - There has been an increase in total CAO applications to Trinity for 2003 by 14% and in first preference applications by 9%. This compares favourably with other universities.
- **e-learning** - A proposal to develop e-learning in College, building on the success of the work undertaken by the Centre for Learning Technology, has been submitted as part of CHIU's e-learning initiative.

### Trinity Foundation

Since its establishment in 1994, Trinity Foundation has raised over €150 million. Its sole purpose is to support Trinity's educational, research and social mission. The Director of Trinity Foundation advised the Board that greater involvement of alumni in fund-raising activities is a significant part of the Foundation's strategy and it will seek the active involvement of all members of the College community in supporting its fund-raising in the future. Improving the retention of students with disabilities in third level.

## Improving the retention of students with disabilities in third level

Enhancing the uptake of a third level option by students with disabilities and improving subsequent retention is the focus of a project within the Careers Advisory Service. Funded by the HEA, this three year partnership project between Trinity and the Institute of Technology Tallaght is being co-ordinated by Jim Jordan, Project Officer. Staff from each college, a student representative and representatives of the Institute of Guidance Counsellors make up the steering committee.

A report of a survey commissioned by AHEAD of 42 higher education institutions in the academic year 1998/99 shows a significant increase in the numbers of students with disabilities attending third level over the numbers attending in 1993/94. While this is an encouraging trend and represents a 90% increase, it still means that students with disabilities represent just 0.9% of the total undergraduate population.

The groups targeted for consultation in relation to this project are students, staff in each institution and second level guidance counsellors. Students in each college as well as second level guidance counsellors have already been surveyed in order to identify the issues and inform the work of the project. A survey of staff is in progress.

### Final Report of the Working Party on Teaching and Learning

The Senior Lecturer outlined the implementation arrangements for the recommendations of the Working Party on Teaching and Learning, including the establishment of the Centre for Academic Practice and Student Learning (CAPSL) which will have three areas of activity: (a) academic practice; (b) learning development; (c) educational applications of information technology.

### Chair of Theology

Prof. Nigel Biggar from the School of Theology and Religious Studies in the University of Leeds has been appointed to the Chair of Theology (1980) and will take up his appointment early in 2004.

### Associate Professorships

The following have been promoted to Associate Professorship:

<i>Dr. Vincent J. Cahill</i>	(Computer Science)
<i>Dr. David J. Dickson</i>	(Modern History)
<i>Dr. Sheila M. Greene</i>	(Psychology)
<i>Dr. T. Anthony Kavanagh</i>	(Genetics)
<i>Dr. A. Mona E. O'Moore</i>	(Education)
<i>Mr. Gerard F. Whyte</i>	(Law)
<i>Dr. Mark P. Lawler</i>	(Haematology)*
<i>Mr. Bernard E. McCartan</i>	(Oral Surgery, Oral Medicine & Oral Pathology)*
<i>Dr. John J. Nolan</i>	(Clinical Medicine)*

\*part-time

Please note: The above informal record of Board's meetings does not in any way influence the official minutes of the meetings. Full minutes may be viewed at <http://www.tcd.ie/Secretary/Board>.



## Provost's Teaching Awards mark outstanding contribution to teaching excellence



Recipients of the Provost's Teaching Awards for 2002 celebrate their achievements with the Provost, Dr. John Hegarty, centre. Dr. Ray Fuller, Department of Psychology, left. Dr. Nicola Marples, Department of Zoology, Ms. Agnes Higgins, School of Nursing and Midwifery Studies and Mr. Brendan Tangney, Department of Computer Science. The Provost's Teaching Award Scheme rewards academic staff members who have made an outstanding contribution to teaching excellence in College.

## TCD academics honoured in 216 year old tradition

Three Trinity staff members are among the newly elected members of the Royal Irish Academy. Prof. Michael Jones, Department of Botany, Prof. John McGilp, Department of Physics and Prof. Eunan O'Halpin, Department of Modern History join those individuals who have gained an international reputation in their disciplines.

For 216 years the Royal Irish Academy has been honouring Ireland's foremost academics by electing them as members of the Academy on the eve of St. Patrick's Day. Today there are 320 members from the sciences, humanities and social sciences.

"Ireland can be proud of the high standards achieved by its top scientists and scholars. They are of a high international calibre and can be compared favourably against the best in the world. We are

delighted to welcome these outstanding individuals to membership of the Royal Irish Academy and look forward to their contributions to our future activities," commented Dr. Michael Ryan, President of the Royal Irish Academy.

**Prof. Michael Jones** researches climate-plant interactions, particularly the effects of climate on photosynthesis, growth and productivity. He is internationally recognised for his research on plants with C4 photosynthesis, their adaptation to temperate climates and their potential uses as energy crops. His current work has focussed on the effects of changing climate, and in particular the effects of rising levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide, on agricultural and natural grasslands.

**Prof. John McGilp** has an international reputation in surface and interface physics,

particularly in the area of the surface optical response, where he is one of the leaders in Europe of the emerging field of optoelectronics. His current research is focused on understanding exploiting the nonlinear optical response of surfaces and interfaces using ultra-short laser pulses.

**Prof. Eunan O'Halpin** specialises in 20th century Irish and British history. He is among the most distinguished historians of modern Ireland. His recent research has focused on aspects of domestic and international security. *Defending Ireland: the Irish state and its Enemies since 1922* (1999) and *MI5 and Ireland, 1939-45: the official history* (2003) represents the very best of contemporary Irish scholarship. His works adds significantly both to our understanding of modern Ireland, as well as to more general aspects of intelligence and state security policy.