

TRINITY LONG ROOM HUB

ARTS & HUMANITIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE

ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS 2019 -2020



Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin



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TRINITY LONG ROOM HUB ARTS AND HUMANITIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The Trinity Long Room Hub Arts and Humanities Research Institute is dedicated to advancing Trinity College Dublin's rich tradition of research excellence in the Arts and Humanities, on an individual, collaborative and inter-disciplinary basis. Join us in these pages to find out about how we advanced research excellence, drove innovative approaches to research, and connected with even wider publics during the academic year 2019-20, with video and audio links to our discussions and online events.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

AS I END MY FINAL YEAR AS DIRECTOR OF THE TRINITY LONG ROOM HUB, THE LAST THING I EXPECTED WAS TO BE DOING SO REMOTELY, AND UNDER GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS TO CONTROL THE SPREAD OF A GLOBAL HEALTH PANDEMIC.

However, now more than ever, the work and insights from the Arts and Humanities, and many of the initiatives we have been championing in the Hub over the past 5 years have sustained us through this difficult period. We began the academic year 2019-20 with our plans for celebrating the **10th anniversary of the Trinity Long Room Hub** and its opening on Fellows' Square culminating in a wonderful event to mark the occasion on February 19th (more on this in the following pages). We wanted to focus on a few key themes that we knew would be of relevance to the wider national and global context: **Futures of this Island**; the Crises of Democracy and What does it Mean to Be Human in the 21st Century. Since Trinity College Dublin closed in March 2020 due to the Covid-19 crisis, the Hub team and our colleagues in Trinity's Arts and Humanities have been highlighting how **the Covid-19 virus has challenged diverse communities, across Ireland and the world**, including the measures instituted to stop its spread. We teamed up with colleagues in the Society of Fellows and the Heyman Institute of the Humanities in Columbia University in New York to bring these insights to a wide global

audience in a five-part series called 'Rethinking Democracy.' We also launched one of the key outputs for the international Crises of Democracy project led by the Trinity Long Room Hub – **an online free curriculum with multi-modal resources** for policy makers, students, teachers and public audiences. We're thrilled to be able to share in these pages some highlights on new projects, including Human+ in partnership with the Adapt Centre, the world-leading SFI Research Centre for Digital Media technology hosted by Trinity College Dublin. From a personal point of view, I am also ending the year on a high. **I am delighted to be handing over to Professor Eve Patten, the incoming Director of the Trinity Long Room Hub.** I have no doubt she will take the Hub and Trinity's Arts and Humanities to even greater heights. I was also delighted to receive the Research Excellence Award in the category 'Stand up for Research' in April of this year. I can only end my Directorship by thanking everyone, especially Caitriona Curtis and the Hub's core team, for what has been **one of the privileges of my career** and hope that you too will continue to 'stand up for research'.



PROFESSOR JANE OHLMEYER

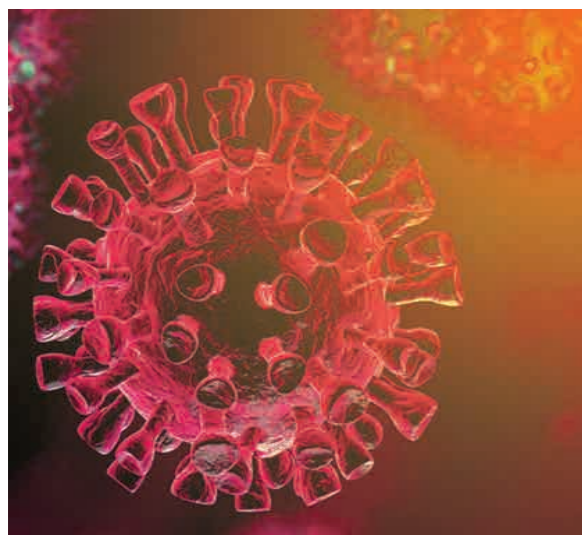
DIRECTOR'S PICK

JANE OHLMEYER WILL STEP DOWN AS TRINITY LONG ROOM HUB DIRECTOR ON 30TH JUNE 2020. HARD AS THEY ARE TO PICK, HERE SHE REFLECTS ON HER TOP #HUBMOMENTS IN FIVE YEARS AT THE HELM OF THE TRINITY LONG ROOM HUB.



PROFESSOR OHLMEYER WILL NOW FOCUS ON HER RESEARCH AS A VISITING FELLOW AT ALL SOULS COLLEGE, OXFORD. IN SPRING 2021, SHE HAS BEEN INVITED TO GIVE THE PRESTIGIOUS FORD LECTURES ON 'IRELAND, EMPIRE AND THE EARLY MODERN WORLD' AT THE HISTORY FACULTY IN OXFORD. THE FORD LECTURES DATE FROM 1896 AND OVER THE YEARS, FEWER THAN 10 WOMEN HAVE DELIVERED THEM. THE LAST PERSON FROM A UNIVERSITY IN IRELAND INVITED TO GIVE THE FORDS WAS F.S.L. LYONS IN 1977, WHEN HE WAS THE PROVOST OF TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN.

- 1. Weekly research coffee mornings with the Hub community:** "I love the serendipity of these discussions and a sense of a 'lucky draw' in hearing about the diverse range of research in the Arts and Humanities." [Read about our early career researchers here.](#)
- 2. Annual Edmund Burke Lecture 2017 – "Sometimes it Matters Who is in Power":** "Margaret MacMillan is a phenomenal historian; she's who I want to be when I grow up." [Watch here.](#)
- 3. Fellow in Focus & Covid-19:** "It has been a privilege to have collaborated over the years with outstanding fellows. Hearing from our current Artist in Residence Rita Duffy and former visiting fellow Professor Premesh Lalu during this challenging time really inspired me and filled me with a sense of hope." Listen now and [read about our visiting research fellowships here.](#)
- 4. Future of Ireland and its Borders:** "Our Behind the Headlines event in September 2019 was a critical reminder of the importance of bringing diverse communities together in conversation, particularly amidst the Brexit crisis." [Listen here.](#)
- 5. Hub's 10th Birthday, 2020:** "The 19th of February was an amazing day for the Hub and its community; it really captured the spirit of all that the Hub represents." [Watch here.](#)



COVID-19

ADAPTING TO THE 'NEW NORMAL'

Facing the pandemic

We have pushed through and from March to June 2020 we have proudly:

- moved our weekly coffee mornings online, keeping our connection with early career researchers and visiting research fellows, and **supporting the community** to navigate this crisis by inviting speakers such as Dean of Research, Professor Linda Doyle; Helen Shenton, Librarian and College Archivist and Dean of Graduate Studies, Professor Neville Cox;
- launched the timely **online curriculum** arising from the CHCI Mellon funded Global Humanities Institute on the crises of democracy;
- partnered with the TCD Library in the **Living in Lockdown: Archives of the Trinity Community**;
- organised — with the Irish Humanities Alliance and Horizon 2020 funded Shape-ID project — **a discussion on the importance of funding bodies to include the arts and humanities** in funding awards related to tackling COVID-19 and its implications for society;
- launched the **Irish Literature in Transition book series** in collaboration with the British Association for Irish Studies 2020 online conference;
- supported the students-led **Art and Science Reading Group** in partnership with Science Gallery Dublin.

When Trinity College Dublin closed its doors on March 13th due to government measures to tackle the spread of Covid-19 Coronavirus, the Trinity Long Room Hub had to come up with new ways of working and connecting with our community and publics. We quickly realized that **the Arts and Humanities had so many important insights to provide on pandemics** such as Covid-19 – their context, their social and cultural impact and their precedents. With a captive online and global audience, we brought our popular **Behind the Headlines** discussion format to an exclusively online setup through webinar and livestream, starting with the topic 'Pandemics and Plagues'. We then followed with a Behind the Headlines discussion on 'Democracy and Pandemics', which initiated **a new 5-part workshop series** in collaboration with the Society of Fellows and The Heyman Centre for the Humanities at Columbia University. This series was multi-disciplinary, global in reach and expertise, and highlighted the diverse nature of how people and democratic institutions are experiencing the Covid-19 pandemic. Another important initiative we spearheaded was the creation of a new weekly blog, the **Covid-19 Crisis Blog**, where our research community, partner schools and the Library have been actively contributing new posts for insightful dialogue each week on topics from literature to prisons, and from human rights to art. We also **connected with our international community** and caught up with former Visiting Research Fellow Prof Premesh Lalu (Professor of History and the Former Director of the Centre for Humanities Research at the University of the Western Cape) for a special Fellow in Focus discussion on how Covid-19 has impacted South Africa and to ask: **'What do the humanities and arts have to offer during this extraordinary time?'** As we move into the 'new normal' of this pandemic, we are facing into a term where we may not be operating at full physical capacity within our building. We are glad to report that we continue to represent the perspectives of the Arts and Humanities in providing responses and reflections on this crisis, and that we continue to give visibility to this research across our platforms. In the following pages you will find links to watch and listen back to our Behind the Headlines discussions, to read and re-discover the 'Rethinking Democracy in an Age of Pandemic' series, and to look at our weekly blog contributions.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES

POPULAR HUB DISCUSSION SERIES GOES ONLINE AND ADDRESSES THE PANDEMIC, COLLABORATING WITH NEW AUDIENCES

PLAGUES AND PANDEMICS

Be it quarantine or social distancing, responses to the current Covid-19 pandemic have not changed much since the pandemics of the past, speakers noted in the Behind the Headlines discussion Plagues and Pandemics which was livestreamed to over 7000 viewers on a Thursday evening, March 26th 2020 and was followed by an article in the Irish Independent.

Speakers:

- Dr Brendan O'Connell, School of English, TCD
- Dr Jacob Erickson, School of Religion, TCD
- Professor Luke O'Neill, School of Biochemistry and Immunology, TCD
- Dr Ida Milne, Carlow College

[▶ Watch here](#) [🔊 Listen here](#)

"A great group of experts with great knowledge, a trusting source, provided in simple terms an explanation of the current COVID -19 situation in relation to previous pandemics. Very useful to be aware of what's to come regarding the current situation."

audience feedback

CLIMATE CHANGE AND PANDEMICS

The Trinity Long Room Hub's Behind the Headlines series on Tuesday, April 7th 2020, brought to the fore how the climate crisis and the biodiversity crisis are strongly linked to the increase and outbreak of pandemics. With over 250 registrations to the event, the international panel discussed climate, culture, biodiversity and farming.

Speakers

- Professor Katharine Hayhoe, Texas Tech University
- Professor Michael Cronin, School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies, TCD
- Professor Jane Stout, School of Botany, TCD
- Darragh McCullough, Journalist and Farmer

[▶ Watch here](#) [🔊 Listen here](#)

"The insight from the varied speakers, both geographically-and specialty-wise, provided a good balance of perspectives about the pandemic and climate change."

audience feedback

DEMOCRACY IN AN AGE OF PANDEMICS

Behind the Headlines tackled the topic of democracy and pandemics, on April 27th 2020, with an international panel of speakers from Trinity College Dublin, Columbia University and the University of California, Los Angeles, kicking off a five-part series 'Rethinking democracy in an Age of Pandemics' in collaboration with the Society of Fellows and The Heyman Centre for the Humanities at Columbia University. Attendees in the virtual room joined us from the USA, the UK, Germany and Malaysia, among others.

Speakers:

- Professor Ahuvia Kahane, Department of Classics, TCD
- Dr Lilith Acadia, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Cofund Fellow at the Trinity Long Room Hub
- Professor Shamus Khan, Professor of Sociology at Columbia University
- Professor Peter Baldwin, University of California, Los Angeles

[▶ Watch here](#) [🔊 Listen here](#)

"We take our various forms of Democracy for granted but we need to be vigilant in watching the changes that can so easily take place within each community/area/state/country."

audience feedback

RETHINKING DEMOCRACY IN AN AGE OF PANDEMIC



NEW 5-PART SERIES IN COLLABORATION WITH SOF HEYMAN CENTRE FOR THE HUMANITIES

In response to the Covid-19 crisis and building upon our ongoing AH-led democracy research programme, the Trinity Long Room Hub organised a special five-part workshop series in partnership with the Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities at Columbia University, New York. Rethinking Democracy in an Age of Pandemic developed out of the longer partnership between the Trinity Long Room Hub and SOF Heyman Center, including an 18-month Global Humanities Institute (GHI) on the crises of democracy funded by the CHCI (Consortium of Humanities Centres and Institutes) and A.W. Mellon Foundation. Outputs from this earlier project include a free, online living Crises of Democracy curriculum launched in April 2020. Material from the 'Rethinking Democracy in an Age of Pandemic' will be added to this curriculum, including videos, podcasts and

suggested reading materials. Across the series, international panels of experts considered whether the pandemic is changing how we think about nations and borders. They explored the implications for the marginalised groups hit hardest by the virus and interrogated the role of inequality in the public health emergency. As billions of people worldwide adjust to living in some state of lockdown, the implications of the new normal on the everyday were discussed. Finally, with normal civic life disrupted and news media facing a potential crisis, the implications of a restricted public sphere were examined. Workshop speakers and invited virtual room participants included academics, journalists, authors, arts practitioners, civic society representatives, activists and policy makers. The workshop participants were drawn from 18 countries and from across 5 continents.

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN BACK OR WATCH AGAIN](#)

Rethinking Democracy was also livestreamed to the Trinity Long Room Hub Facebook page and through Irish Central, the largest site dedicated to Irish-related content in North America. At least 4.5k people have engaged with each of the 6 available event recordings. The Behind the Headlines discussion, which launched the series, has had 7.3k views to date.

Watch Democracy without a Public Sphere, with Professor Melody Barnes, Bill Emmott, Professor Eileen Gillooly and Fintan O'Toole.



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COVID-19 CRISIS BLOG



WEEKLY BLOG REFLECTS ON NEW SOCIETAL CHALLENGES POSED BY PANDEMIC

A new weekly blog from the Trinity Long Room Hub looks at how the Arts and Humanities engage with and reflect on the new societal challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic. In a recent post for the blog, Professor Sam Slote of Trinity's School of English looks at the learnings we can take from Joyce's *Ulysses* as we mark Bloomsday 2020 in the midst of a global pandemic. He says, "as readers of *Ulysses*, one of the things we're used to is the idea of living with ambiguity and the unknown", adding, "in living on in the shadow of SARS-CoV-2, there are many unpleasant uncertainties that we have to deal with; our life, for the moment, is an exercise in trying to abide ambiguity." This blog examines what it means to live through a public health crisis, and provides a refreshing opportunity for meaning-making in these challenging times. The initiative has been read by 1.2k people to date, from over 15 countries, including Australia, Indonesia, the Netherlands, Norway, and South Africa.

[CLICK HERE TO READ THE LATEST BLOG POSTS](#)

"...AFTERWARDS' HAS BECOME A HEAVILY BURDENED WORD."

PROFESSOR EVE PATTEN, SCHOOL OF ENGLISH

"COVID-19 HAS CAUSED GOVERNMENTS TO INTRODUCE TAILORED LIMITATIONS ON SOME OF THE MOST BASIC RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS..."

DONNA LYONS, SCHOOL OF LAW

"...POTENTIALLY BLEAK FUTURES ACTUALLY OVERWHELM US INTO FEELINGS OF POWERLESSNESS."

DR JACOB J. ERICKSON, SCHOOL OF RELIGION

"...IN MARCH, ALL EDUCATORS AND LEARNERS INSTANTLY LOST THE SOCIAL CONTEXT OF THEIR USUAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT."

DR ANN DEVITT, SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

CELEBRATING #HUBAT10



“The hub is a really exciting part of Trinity College Dublin. It marries humanities, innovation, entrepreneurship, and the great global footprint attracting professors, fellowships, taking it all together, and providing what’s one of the most exciting programmes that I have seen, coming out of the school in many years”

Sean Reynolds, Friend and supporter of the Trinity Long Room Hub

2020 marks a significant milestone for the Trinity Long Room Hub Arts and Humanities Research Institute: the 10th anniversary of the opening of our iconic building in Fellow’s Square, at the heart of Trinity’s historic campus. There are so many achievements to celebrate!

Over the past ten years, the Hub established itself as a beacon for the Arts and Humanities at Trinity College Dublin, the highest ranked faculty in Ireland, underpinned by generous university, state and philanthropic support. We have nurtured world-class talent, hosting and financing 270 early career researchers, over 170 visiting research fellows and 130 TCD researchers; spearheaded innovative approaches having secured over €10 million in external funding for interdisciplinary research projects; and created a trusted space for informed discussion, encouraging critical thinking through hosting and supporting over 2k workshops, seminars, lectures and panel discussions, attended by over 200k people, with an online global reach of over 1M people via podcast, social media and website. We launched the celebratory programme centred around ‘the futures of

Ireland’ on the 30th of January 2020 – the eve of Brexit day –, when Rita Duffy’s ‘The Raft Project’ was installed on the exterior of the Hub building. The photomontage mural created by the Belfast-based artist currently in residency at the Hub attracted widespread media coverage across BBC, Irish Times, Newstalk, Business Post, RTE, University Times, and Irish Independent – a testimony of the identity-forming and meaning-making powers of the arts and humanities. On the 19th of February, we devised a special day dedicated to the Hub and its community. During the day, a symposium reflected on the work done by our community over the last decade to **pioneer new arts and humanities led approaches to the complex problems** of today and take account of the social, political and cultural change in the world during those years. With 400 attendees, the evening celebration reflected on the story of the Hub through a series of conversations and performances and showcased **the arts and humanities at Trinity** in a fast-paced and well-timed event hosted by RTE broadcaster and presenter Bryan Dobson with special guests and researchers from Trinity’s Arts and Humanities schools and the library.

[READ MORE](#)

#Hubat10 trended on Twitter in Ireland during our 10th anniversary celebrations; we had an increase of 141 new followers on social media, with over 180 plays on the podcast playlist from the panel discussions, and over 1.8k people were reached via Facebook, in England, Northern Ireland, New Zealand, Italy and the United States.

“On behalf of the University of São Paulo and the William Butler Yeats chair of Irish studies, I wish the Hub a very happy tenth anniversary. The TLRH is an inspiring model to all institutions that aim to promote research excellence in arts and humanities, and mainly to strengthen its relevance in present times.” **Laura Izarra, Associate Professor at the University of São Paulo**

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DIGGING INTO THE ARCHIVES

EXPLORING PODCASTS FROM THE PAST

As the Trinity Long Room Hub celebrates the 10th year since its opening on Fellows’ Square, we asked some long-time friends, colleagues and supporters of the Hub to dig into our archives of over 400 recorded discussions and lectures and pick their top three. Here, Professor Roy Foster, Queen Mary University of London and a leading voice on Irish history and literature, and Catriona Crowe MRIA, and Former Senior Archivist at the National Archives of Ireland give us their top selection.

ROY FOSTER

Behind the Headlines: *Brexit*

Dominick Chilcott, former British Ambassador to Ireland; Dr Etain Tannam, Professor of International Peace Studies; Eunan O’Halpin, Professor of Contemporary Irish History; Gerald Dawe, Professor Emeritus, School of English.

Europe’s Violent Memories: *Instant History: 1912, 1916, 1918*

David Fitzpatrick (1948-2019), Professor of Modern History, TCD

Annual Humanities Horizons Lecture 2013: *The Humanities and Society*

Professor Peter Strohschneider, former President of the German Research Foundation (DFG)

[READ MORE FROM Roy Foster here](#)

CATRIONA CROWE

Annual Edmund Burke Lecture 2017: *Sometimes it Matters Who is in Power* Professor Margaret MacMillan, Professor of International History at the University of Oxford and the former Warden of St. Antony’s College.

Writing and Politics

Fintan O’ Toole, columnist with *The Irish Times*, visiting lecturer in Irish Letters at Princeton University and former drama critic and literary adviser to the Abbey Theatre.

Out of the Ashes: ‘All that remained’ – The Four Courts Blaze of 1922 Catriona Crowe MRIA, Former Senior Archivist, National Archives of Ireland;

Zoe Reid, Senior Conservator, National Archives of Ireland; and Lar Joye, Port Heritage Director at Dublin Port and Chair of the Irish National Committee of the Blue Shield.

[READ MORE FROM Catriona Crowe here](#)

“WITH HER CUSTOMARY ACCESSIBLE ELOQUENCE, MACMILLAN [...] PROPOSES THAT WHILE GREAT FORCES PROPEL HISTORY, CERTAIN LEADERS AT CERTAIN TIMES MAKE CRUCIAL DIFFERENCES TO HOW EVENTS PROCEED.”

CATRIONA CROWE

PROJECTS

SHAPE-ID

We are delighted to share with you the results from Work Package 2 of SHAPE-ID, “IDR integration evidence scanning.” are now available.

These include a series of reports and a policy brief providing concrete guidance to policy makers and funding organisations, underpinned by our systematic review of academic and policy literature and our survey and interviews about existing research on interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research.

This EU-funded project led by the Trinity Long Room Hub is addressing the challenge of improving interdisciplinary cooperation between the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (AHSS) and STEM (Sciences, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) and other disciplines. SHAPE-ID results will help the European Commission assess the potential of AHSS integration for responding to the significant challenges Europe faces in areas like health, food and agriculture, climate change, technological innovation and security, among others.

We are currently promoting a Webinar Series “Shaping Conversations on Interdisciplinary Research.” The first Webinar, Interdisciplinarity in Times of Crisis: Why the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Matter, was joined by participants from across Europe and beyond, who contributed to a lively and engaged discussion on the **importance of ensuring perspectives from the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences are part of the response to the COVID-19 crisis.**

<https://www.shapeid.eu>



CRISES OF DEMOCRACY

We have launched the Crises of Democracy Curriculum, resulting from the 18-month CHCI-Mellon Crises of Democracy Global Humanities Institute (GHI). The curriculum is a free open access and multimodal tool for understanding many of the difficulties we have witnessed worldwide in the rise of nationalism, ethnic conflicts, xenophobia and much more. It provides an opportunity for NGOs, policy makers and students all over the world to benefit from the learnings and rich research coming from this project. The curriculum was trialed in the University of São Paulo. As one student reported: **“Through the lectures and podcasts online, the students are able to have access to the works of scholars from different parts of the globe, which enriches the face-to-face component of the classes”.**

“The GHI was led by the Hub in partnership with the University of São Paulo, Jawaharlal Nehru University, University of Zagreb, and Columbia University. As noted by the University Times, the launch in March 2020 was a timely initiative, as **“amid a global pandemic, the work of these institutions appears even more relevant now than it was 18 months ago”.**

<https://crisesofdemocracy.home.blog>

HUMAN+

We launched Human+, a prestigious European Commission (EC) Horizon 2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie COFUND Action, in partnership with ADAPT, the Science Foundation Ireland Centre for Digital Content Innovation at Trinity College Dublin. The programme was launched in a special Behind the Headlines, Human+Technology Beyond Covid-19, in mid-June, which explored the implications of the pandemic on how we approach technology now and into the future. It builds upon the cross-disciplinary lecture series “What does it Mean to be Human in the 21st Century?” in partnership with The Dock, Accenture’s global research & incubation hub.

From 2020 to 2025, the international and interdisciplinary programme will appoint 18 postdoctoral fellows dedicated to conducting **ground-breaking research that addresses human centric approaches to technology development.** Non-academic partners involved in the fellowship include Nokia Bell Labs, Accenture Human Insight Lab, EPIC- the Irish Emigration Museum, Fidelity and Ancestry.com. The application was ranked second in Europe.

<https://humanplus.ie>

AT A GLANCE

PUBLIC HUMANITIES IN 2019-20



The Trinity Long Room Hub kicked off the year with final installment of its year-long lecture series **“What does it Mean to be Human in the 21st Century?”** in partnership with The Dock, Accenture’s global research and innovation hub in Dublin. Mark Pollock and Simone George gave an inspirational talk on their ‘love letter to realism in a time of grief’ and an interview with Professor Ian Robertson, neuroscientist and psychologist at TCD. [Listen here](#)

The first Behind the Headlines of the year, in September 2019, tackled the ambitious and sensitive topic of the **Future of Ireland and its Borders.** With 400 members of the public, students and colleagues in attendance, the discussion was a powerful reminder of the importance of bringing distinct audiences together to speak to each other, particularly considering the diverse communities across this island. [Watch here](#) | [Listen here](#)

This discussion led fittingly into our **Annual Edmund Burke Lecture** with newly appointed chancellor of Trinity College Dublin, and former president, Professor Mary McAleese on **‘The Future of Ireland: Human Rights and Children’s Rights.’**

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH BACK OR LISTEN TO PROFESSOR MCALEESE’S LECTURE HERE.](#)

This year we partnered with Near FM community radio on a new radio series bringing to light women’s stories from the 17th century to the present day. The series, **Women’s Stories,** featured professors and researchers from Trinity’s Arts and Humanities talking about women throughout the centuries, and challenging dominant narratives about women today. From history to film and music, the series featured free talks and discussions recorded in front of a live audience which were then broadcast to Near FM listeners on 90.3 FM. *Women’s Stories* was supported by the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland.

Our popular **Trinity and the Changing City** multidisciplinary discussion series continued to interrogate the lived experience of Dublin’s citizens through the prism of Trinity’s Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences research. This academic year saw panel discussions held on ‘Racism in the City,’ and ‘The City on the Move,’ as well as on Dublin’s ‘Natural and Cultural Heritage,’ and the relationship between Christianity and the city. The series is organised with Trinity’s Identities in Transformation research theme, and by drawing on historical, cultural, linguistic, sociological and economic perspectives, it considers how we can understand a changing Dublin and influence plans for the city’s future.

[LISTEN BACK HERE TO TRINITY AND THE CHANGING CITY](#)

Our public lecture series depend on the generous support of our friends and donors. We’d like to take the opportunity to thank them for their vital help in making our programming a reality.

AT A GLANCE

Professor Anthea Butler delivered the **Annual Humanities Horizons Lecture** on the topic of **‘Irish Slaves in America: Myths, History, and the Problems of Social Media.’** Professor Butler’s lecture addressed how stories and memes drawing equivalence between Irish indentured servitude and Black chattel slavery in America, promoted by conspiracy theorists on platforms such as Twitter and Facebook, not only obscure the real history of both, but serve far more nefarious purposes.



WATCH PROFESSOR BUTLER’S LECTURE IN ITS ENTIRETY [HERE](#) OR [LISTEN BACK TO THE EVENT HERE](#).

The **Out of the Ashes** lecture series 2018-21, exploring collective memory, cultural loss, and recovery from cultural trauma, delivered a powerful program for its second year. The 2019-20 lectures focused on the deliberate targeting of cultural heritage as a means to control social memory and to erase identities. It featured the lectures **‘Beyond the Archive: Recovering Voices of Freedom and Partition in India’** by Prof Sucheta Mahajan (JNU); **‘Bosnia and the Targeting of History and Memory: Destruction and Recovery’** by Dr Helen Walasek (Exeter); a panel discussion on **‘All that remained’—The Four Courts Blaze of 1922’**; and **‘Broken Bones, Broken Stones: Iconoclasm in World History’** by Prof Philip Dwyer (Newcastle).

[LISTEN BACK HERE](#) FOR OUT OF THE ASHES LECTURE SERIES

"I found the extent of cultural destruction almost too much to take. What that does to memory. What this says about [the] resilience of memory, and of people who are caretakers and keepers of memory. I will think about this for some time. Thank you for this — it was powerful."

Audience feedback for the Out of the Ashes lecture ‘Bosnia and the Targeting of History and Memory,’ November 2019

A YEAR IN QUOTES

"A university stands for humanism, for tolerance, for reason, for progress, for the adventure of ideas and for the search for truth. It stands for the onward march of the human race towards even higher objectives. If the universities discharge their duty adequately, then it is well with the nation and the people."

Jawaharlal Nehru, December 1947. Currently displayed in the TLRH Building Window. Read our statement of solidarity against racism [here](#).

"The Human+ programme places Trinity at the forefront of innovation through collaboration between Arts & Humanities, Technology and Industry partners to address real-world problems from the human perspective. These programmes are incredibly competitive and I was particularly delighted to see that this COFUND was ranked second in Europe."

Dr Patrick Prendergast, Provost of Trinity College on the launch of Human+

"Beyond 2022 will enable the scholars of tomorrow to rewrite the story of the peoples of our islands. [...] We will set an international benchmark in digital recovery from cultural loss."

An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar, at the Launch of Beyond 2022: Ireland’s Virtual Record Treasury research project, led by Trinity’s Schools of Histories and Humanities and Computer Science.

"Racism is not just an individual bad person, it’s about a system."

Dr Ebum Joseph, Department of Sociology, TCD, speaking at the Trinity and the Changing City lecture series, organised by Trinity’s Identities in Transformation research theme.

"Stories of Irish slavery on Facebook, Twitter and other platforms abound as both history and conspiracy theories that obscure the actual history of Irish indentured servitude and Black chattel slavery in America"

Professor Anthea Butler, Associate Professor of Religious Studies and Africana Studies, University of Pennsylvania, addressing the 2019 Annual Humanities Horizons Lecture.

"The unimaginable has become real [...] we might start asking ourselves, what are the unimaginable things that would make for a better world, that we might be able to make real at the end of this moment."

Shamus Khan, Professor of Sociology at Columbia University during Behind the Headlines: Democracy in an Age of Pandemic.

"Any debate about Ireland’s future is about the future of children, children whose voices we should hear."

Professor Mary McAleese, former President of Ireland, and Chancellor of TCD, delivering the Annual Edmund Burke Lecture 2019.

"One of the extraordinary resources humans have, are the stories they tell, languages they use and songs they sing, something which has been brought home more poignantly since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic."

Michael Cronin, Professor of French (1776) at Trinity College Dublin speaking at Behind the Headlines: Climate Change and Pandemics.

VISITING RESEARCH FELLOWS

OUR VISITING RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME PROVIDES SHORT AND MEDIUM-TERM HIGH-IMPACT RESIDENCIES WHERE FELLOWS ENGAGE WITH TRINITY AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY THROUGH LECTURES, WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS.

VISITING FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

This year's Visiting Research Fellows included Professor John Morrill, Cambridge University; Professor Julian Bourg, Boston College; Dr Harumi Goto, Toyo University, Japan; Dr Clare Hutton, Loughborough University; Dr Kristina Varade, City University of New York; Professor Azirah Hashim, University of Malaya, Malaysia; and Professor Thomas Carew, New York University.

PUBLIC POLICY FELLOWS

This year, we were delighted to host our first two **public policy fellows**, Mary Doyle and Rory Montgomery. As respected public officials, they have been stimulating our community and working to deepen our understanding of the academic/policy interface. We invite you to read Mary's thought provoking piece on how "Why Researchers and Policy Makers Need New Ways of Talking to Each Other" and watch back "Conflict and Change: A Conversation with Rory Montgomery and Jonathan Powell", a joint initiative between Queen's University Belfast (QUB).

ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

We were also thrilled to host **creative arts practitioners** Rough Magic and Rita Duffy. They have inspired us during the pandemic with virtual work-in-progress presentations and exhibitions. Ireland's leading independent theatre company, Rough Magic joined us in association with Trinity's Creative Arts Practice research theme, Neurohumanities and the Global Brain Health Initiative, and the Trinity Library. They participated in our 10th anniversary celebrations with an amazing presentation with the Mornington Choir conducted by Dr Orla Flanagan, School of Creative Arts and Professor Brian Lawlor Co-Director of the Global Brain Health Institute, Trinity College Institute of Neuroscience. Rita Duffy's residency kicked-off with *The Raft Project* installed on the Hub building on the eve of Brexit to launch the 10th anniversary programme on 'The Futures of Ireland' and attracted widespread media coverage across BBC, The Irish Times, Newstalk, The Irish Independent and The Times,

including video features at the Hub. Rita has also now launched a virtual exhibition, 'The Emperor's New Clothes', a series of ten drawings, created mid-pandemic during her residency.

MARIE SKLODOWSKA-CURIE COFUND FELLOWS

The 2017-20 programme appointed 9 cofund fellows for one year periods and was the first Arts and Humanities cofund programme in Ireland. It was framed around Trinity's five Arts and Humanities led themes (Creative Arts Practice; Digital Humanities; Identities in Transformation; Making Ireland; and Manuscript, Book and Print Cultures). 2019-20 was the final year of the programme and we welcomed Drs Lilith Acadia, Lindy Brady and Torsten Wollina. **Dr Lilith Acadia 'A Northampton Marriage: Discursive Construction and Concealment of a Queer Relationship'**: Lilith gave several talks, published an article in *The Irish Times* on pretext and citizen's rights, and set up feminist philosophy and feminist science fiction reading groups, as well as participating as a panellist in a Behind the Headlines public discussion on 'Democracy in an Age of Pandemics,' which you can watch here. **Dr Lindy Brady 'Framing History in the British Isles: The Origin Legends of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales'**: Lindy gave a lecture entitled 'Framing History: Origin Legends in the Early Medieval Irish Sea Zone' as part of The James Lydon Research Seminar Series in Medieval History, and a Fellow in Focus webinar with Dr Immo Warntjes, her academic mentor from the School of Histories and Humanities, about her research which you can listen to here. **Dr Torsten Wollina 'Stamping Provenance: Towards a History of the Taymūriyya Library'**: Torsten was a frequent contributor to Trinity College Library's Manuscripts Blog where he published posts on his research into their Arabic collections. He also completed an online exhibition in collaboration with Trinity College Library: Why where Arabic manuscripts collected in 17th-century Dublin? Read about his research here and listen back to his Fellow in Focus discussion with Professor Anna Chahoud (Department of Classics).

EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

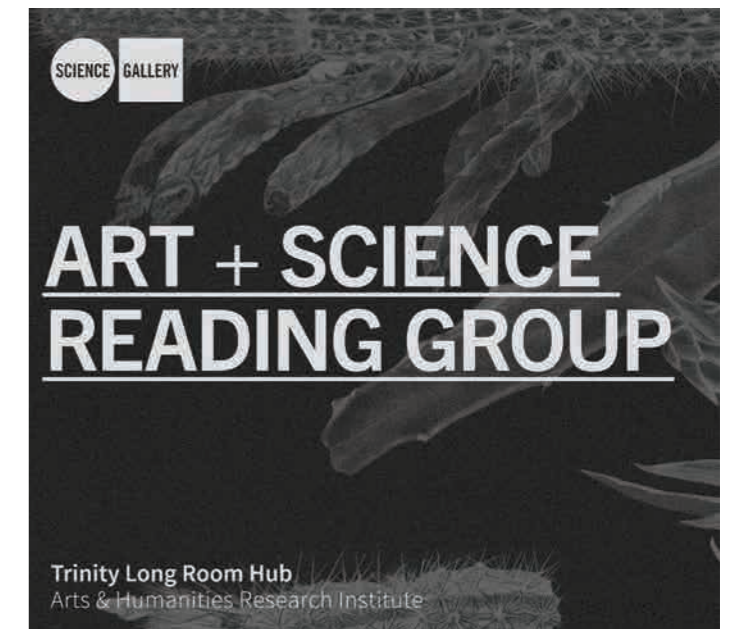
Between 40 and 50 of the top PhD and postdoctoral researchers from Trinity's Arts and Humanities schools are given residencies at Trinity Long Room Hub each year. Demonstrating the ways in which their work impacts and reflects on contemporary societal challenges is something we believe in wholeheartedly. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) offer a shared framework to collectively improve conditions both for humanity and our planet. Both our Shape-ID Interdisciplanarity Workshop in December 2019 and our 10 Year Anniversary celebrations in February 2020 featured a research showcase by our early career researchers which focused on how their research is contributing to UN Sustainable Development Goals such as 'Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions,' 'Gender Equality,' 'Quality Education,' 'Reduced Inequalities,' and more. In 2020, Trinity College Dublin was placed 14th in the world in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings 2020.

WEEKLY COFFEE MORNINGS

Our weekly coffee mornings offer the Hub community the opportunity to get together to share our research, our projects and to introduce new Visiting Research Fellows or Early Career Researchers. Students and staff from our member schools and the Library of Trinity College Dublin are always welcome to attend, and 2019-20 saw lively research presentations and discussions take place in the Ideas Space of the Hub Building. When the university campuses closed due to Covid-19 we moved these important weekly events online, keeping the hub community connected in a time of social distancing and allowing our early career researchers an opportunity to hear directly from key university staff such as Helen Shenton, (the College Librarian) and the Dean of Graduate Studies, at a time when uncertainty abounded.

ART + SCIENCE READING GROUP

The Art + Science Reading Group is now a virtual gathering of thinkers, researchers and the incurably curious. Organised by PhD candidates Amelia McConville (School of English and Institute of Neuroscience) and Autumn Brown (School of Education and Science Gallery Dublin) and supported by Science Gallery Dublin and the Trinity Long Room Hub, the series explores the evolutionary and revolutionary kinship between two approaches to understanding the universe and our place within it. Listen back to '**Botany and Barriers**' with speaker Mary Dillon, an Irish botanical artist whose work has been exhibited internationally, and to '**Spinning Yarns**' with artist, writer and researcher Anna Dumitriu, whose work explores society's relationships with infectious diseases, treatments, and the myths that surround them.



NEWS



PROFESSOR EVE PATTEN ANNOUNCED AS NEW DIRECTOR OF THE TRINITY LONG ROOM HUB

The Trinity Long Room Hub has announced its new Director as Professor Eve Patten, School of English, Trinity College Dublin. Professor Patten will succeed current director Professor Jane Ohlmeyer, whose term will end in June 2020

Professor Patten has been the Deputy Director of the Hub during the academic year 2019-20 and the Global Director for the School of English.

A Professor in modern literature and culture, Professor Patten is also a Fellow of Trinity College Dublin. She has served as Head of School, Director of the Oscar Wilde Centre and Co-ordinator of the MPhil in Irish Writing. She lectures in nineteenth and twentieth-century British and Irish literature and is the author and editor of several books and articles in this field, including volume 5 of the *Cambridge History of Irish Literature in Transition* series (2020). She is Irish Literature area consultant for the Oxford Online Bibliographies for British and Irish Studies and a frequent review contributor to the Irish Times, RTE and the BBC. She has served on various boards for the Irish Arts Council, the Irish Research Council and the Royal Irish Academy, and was also a representative on the inaugural committee of the Trinity Long Room Hub.

Responding to the appointment, Professor Patten said: "I am absolutely delighted to have been given the opportunity to take the Hub forward over the next few years. It goes without saying that the previous Director is a hard act to follow – Jane has taken us into an international 'premier league' of arts and humanities institutes and I want to make sure we stay there."

A PROFESSOR IN MODERN LITERATURE AND CULTURE, PROFESSOR PATTEN IS ALSO A FELLOW OF TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN. SHE HAS SERVED AS HEAD OF SCHOOL, DIRECTOR OF THE OSCAR WILDE CENTRE AND CO-ORDINATOR OF THE MPhil IN IRISH WRITING.



RITA DUFFY, TRINITY LONG ROOM HUB ARTIST IN RESIDENCE UNVEILS BREXIT DAY MURAL

On the eve of Brexit, 30 January 2020, the Trinity Long Room Hub was delighted to host the inaugural installation of Rita Duffy's 'The Raft Project, 2019', as a building veil on the Front Square-facing side of the Trinity Long Room Hub. This photomontage is a response by the artist to Brexit and the border poll discussions. It re-invents French painter Théodore Géricault's oil on canvas, 'The Raft of the Medusa' (1818-19), which depicts the shipwreck of French frigate Méduse in 1816.

"Raft is a response to Brexit chaos, layers of symbolism reflect the reality of Border dwellers. The project was generated in a former Courthouse on the Irish Border, with participation of young men from either side of the north south line. The confusion of weary flags against a gunmetal Ulster sky, heralds the ominous plight of Raft. Titanic on the horizon is still faced with the inevitable iceberg. The ingredients for 'Irish Stew' lie scattered amongst vulnerable bodies, remnants of sectarian flags taken from Belfast lamp posts, wrap worn out muscle and bone. A man points to the horizon, wearing an image of the president of Bulgaria on his T-shirt and bearing a small pot of shamrock, he points us towards the future – a future beyond prejudice and nationalist obsession. There are parallels with the migrants / refugee detention centres of our time and the destitute poor of a previous century that led to so much Irish migration – poverty, war and human dereliction." – Rita Duffy, Artist in Residence at the Trinity Long Room Hub. Find out more here.

TRINITY'S ARTS AND HUMANITIES SHINE IN RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2020

Trinity Long Room Hub Director Jane Ohlmeyer was the recipient of a Trinity Research Excellence Award 2020 along with five other recipients from Trinity's Arts and Humanities Schools.

In Trinity's first dedicated award for research, following the publication of the Living Research Excellence Strategy and Research Charter in 2019, the Office of the Dean of Research announced the recipients of the Research Excellence Awards.

Professor Jane Ohlmeyer, Director of the Trinity Long Room Hub, was awarded in the category 'Stand up for Research, acknowledging her work in advocating and fighting for Arts and Humanities research at both national, European and international level. Congratulations to Roja Fazaeli, School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies; Christine Casey, School of Histories and Humanities; Ruth Brennan, School of Histories and Humanities; Joseph Roche, School of Education; and David O'Shaughnessy, School of English who were also awarded in this great initiative.

IN THE MEDIA

TRINITY'S ARTS AND HUMANITIES IN THE MEDIA

ARE GOVERNMENTS USING THE CRISIS TO IMPLEMENT LAWS AND MEASURES TO LIMIT CITIZEN'S RIGHTS? - 14 April 2020
Dr Lilith Acadia, MSCA Cofund Fellow at the Trinity Long Room Hub talked to Newstalk's Pat Kenny show on pretext and Covid-19 pandemic. [Read Now](#)

OPINION: WHAT THE DOMINIC CUMMINGS SCANDAL MEANS FOR OUR DEMOCRACY - 26 May 2020
Dr Elsbeth Payne, Beate Schuler Research Fellow at the Trinity Long Room Hub drawing on insights from the Rethinking Democracy series in an article on Her.ie. [Read Now](#)

WHO WAS RED HUGH O'DONNELL? THE 'FIERY' SYMBOL OF GAELIC RESISTANCE - 1 June 2020
Professor Jane Ohlmeyer writes in the Irish Times about Red Hugh O'Donnell and the recent discovery of his remains. [Read Now](#)
See also [The Guardian](#) where she was quoted.

TRINITY LAUNCHES EU-BACKED FELLOWSHIP HUMAN+ FOR TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION - 10 June 2020
Article published in Science Business in advance on the launch of the Human+ fellowship programme cofunded by the European Commission's Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions. [Read Now](#)

WHAT TO DO ABOUT GEORGE BERKELEY, TRINITY FIGUREHEAD AND SLAVE OWNER? - 18 June 2020
Dr Clare Moriarty, Department of Philosophy, and Trinity Long Room Hub Early Career Researcher was quoted in 'The Irish Times' Unthinkable on the moral failings of Ireland's most celebrated philosopher. [Read Now](#)



Trinity College Dublin

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The University of Dublin

Trinity Long Room Hub
Arts & Humanities Research Institute

Celebrating
10 Years

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