

A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS

TRINITY TODAY

AUTUMN 2016

WILLIAM CAMPBELL

Trinity's most recent
Nobel prize winner on his
award winning work

14

GRÁINNE O'HARA

Speaks from the frontline
about her work with the
UN Refugee Agency

16

HIDDEN TRINITY

Look beyond the Front Gate
to see the hidden places
of Trinity

26

LENNY ABRAHAMSON

Third generation Trinity Scholar



Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin
www.tcd.ie/alumni



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

Did you know?

Alumni can visit the Book of Kells for free with up to three friends, and may avail of a 10 per cent discount in the Library shop.

For more details visit www.tcd.ie/alumni

Provost's Welcome



EDITOR

Nicole Matthews

EDITORIAL TEAM

John Dillon
Rachel Farrell
Tommy Gavin
Tom Molloy
Zhanna O'Clery
Sandra Rafter
Nick Sparrow

Contact

Trinity Development
& Alumni
East Chapel
Trinity College
Dublin 2
Ireland

t. +353 (0)1 896 2088
e. alumni@tcd.ie
w. www.tcd.ie/alumni

Publisher

Ashville Media Group
www.ashville.com

All information contained in this magazine is for informational purposes only and is to the best of our knowledge correct at the time of print. The opinions expressed in these pages are not necessarily shared by the Trinity Development & Alumni Office or Trinity College Dublin.

Fellow Alumni,

Welcome to the latest edition of *Trinity Today*. Trinity College Dublin provides a distinctive education based on academic excellence and a transformative student experience. By our actions as an institution, we aim to advance the cause of a pluralistic, just, and sustainable society. This is what we published in our most recent strategic plan, and I think many of the alumni featured in the coming pages demonstrate this mission and it gives us all great pride to see the impact that Trinity graduates are making around the world.

2015 has seen Trinity achieve many great things — The Atlantic Philanthropies gave the largest philanthropic donation in Irish history of €138.4 million to Trinity and the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), to establish a Global Brain Health Institute (GBHI), and tackle the looming dementia epidemic. Lady Margaret Hall, University of Oxford, announced the launch of a four-year pilot scheme based on Trinity's Access Programmes (TAP) in association with Trinity, which has operated TAP for 22 years. Trinity was also ranked 1st in Europe for producing entrepreneurs according to *PitchBook*. On the sports field, Trinity achieved many successes across gaelic games, hockey, rowing and won its first Colours encounter since 2012 in rugby.

We are particularly proud this year to feature an interview with Professor William Campbell who was awarded a Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in October 2015 and to hear about his journey from Trinity undergraduate to discovering the cure for river blindness. Professor Campbell is the third Trinity graduate to have been awarded a Nobel Prize, joining physicist Ernest Walton who won the Nobel Prize for splitting the atom, and Samuel Beckett for his contribution to literature. We hope to have many more.

The last year has seen Trinity alumni at the heart of some of the most pressing issues of our time from politics and business to the ongoing migrant crisis. Leading businessman and current President of the Confederation of British Industry, Paul Drechsler, talks about his experience in campaigning for a Remain vote in the UK and the impact of Brexit. We discuss migration and the humanitarian crisis from the frontline with Law graduate Gráinne O'Hara.

Within the arts we talk to Lenny Abrahamson about his 2016 Oscar nominations for his film *Room*. Author Belinda Mc Keon talks about her memories of Trinity and shares an excerpt from her latest novel *Tender* which is set in Trinity. We also bring you news about exciting developments on campus, including what is being planned by the Science Gallery's new Director, Lynn Scarff, and feature an interview with our recently appointed Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer & Seamus Heaney Professor of Irish Writing, Chris Morash.

This year Trinity marked the centenary of the 1916 Rising by participating in *RTÉ Reflecting the Rising* in partnership with Ireland 2016. Our gates opened to the public for a wide-ranging collection of talks and debates featuring our leading academics, exhibitions, dramatic and musical events to commemorate the Rising. We also had a production company, Loosehorse, filming on campus for a year and they have shared their highlights of shooting the four-part documentary on RTÉ One.

Trinity has over 100,000 alumni living in over 130 countries worldwide. We value our connection with all of you. We have many benefits and services available to our alumni and you will find all the details of these enclosed within these pages.

I personally try and travel throughout the year to meet as many of you as possible at alumni events and it is something I enjoy very much. Over the past 12 months I've been fortunate enough to visit graduates in New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco in the US, São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, London, China (Shanghai and Hong Kong), South Korea and Japan. I look forward to meeting many more of you throughout the year ahead.

Patrick Prendergast B.A.I, Ph.D., Sc.D. (1987)
Provost

Contents

Regulars

04 CAMPUS NEWS
Catch up on all the news from another busy year on campus

52 GAME ON
Celebrating Trinity's many sporting achievements



56 THE BOOK SHELF
A selection of recent books published by Trinity academics

58 HONORARY DEGREES
Meet the recipients of Honorary Degrees recently awarded by Trinity

60 REUNION WEEKEND
Photos from our annual Alumni Weekend

64 BRANCH CONTACTS
Find your local branch of Trinity Alumni



66 LONDON BALL
Photos from the inaugural London Alumni Ball

68 NEW YORK BALL
Photos from the New York Alumni Ball

71 CHRISTMAS COMMONS
Photos from the the Alumni Christmas Commons

74 CLASS NOTES
News from graduates around the world

80 ONE ON ONE INTERVIEW
Noel McCann, soon to retire as Head of Campus Services, tells us a little about himself

14

The Nobel One

William Campbell talks to *Trinity Today* about his surprise at winning the Nobel Prize in 2015

16

Mass Exodus

Gráinne O'Hara, two-decade veteran of the UN Refugee Agency talks about working on the frontline of the migration crisis

20

What Lenny Did

Oscar nominated director, Lenny Abrahamson, on Trinity, theoretical physics, and the Irish film industry

23

Tender Times

Author Belinda McKeon on how Trinity has inspired her work, and an extract from her latest novel *Tender*

26

Hidden Trinity

Seeking out some of the lesser-known hidden gems on Trinity's campus

28

With or Without EU

Trinity educated captain of industry Paul Drechsler reflects on business, Brexit and his days at Trinity



23
Tender Times

30

Full Steam Ahead

Newly appointed Science Gallery Director, Lynn Scarff, on how the innovative space came about and what is next in store

33

Life Through the Lens

The makers of a documentary series about life in Trinity explain why they were surprised nobody thought of doing it before



30

Full Steam Ahead

HOME/SICK at Science Gallery at Trinity College Dublin



The Nobel One

William C. Campbell receiving his Nobel Prize from H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden at the Stockholm Concert Hall, 10 December 2015

34

Trailblazers

A showcase of Trinity graduates blazing trails in their disciplines

38

Good Fellow

Professor Luke O'Neill is no stranger to the spotlight, given his jovial public explanations of science. He discusses being elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, his work and The Beatles

41

Tackling the Dementia Epidemic

A look at the newly-formed Global Brain Health Institute and its plans to tackle a looming world health crisis

42

Trinity and the Decade of Commemorations

Professor of Contemporary Irish History, Eunan O'Hallpin contextualises Trinity's role in an eventful decade

44

No Imitation Game

Obituary: The life of Trinity graduate Leslie Greer and her time as a code-breaker at Bletchley Park



Sport One on One

46

Forward Thinking

Vice-Provost, Professor Chris Morash, on his plans as newly appointed VP/Chief Academic Officer and the implications of Brexit on higher education in Ireland

48

Headlines and Deadlines

The incoming Deputy Editor of student newspaper *The University Times* writes about finding and covering news on campus

50

Sport One on One

Trinity Sports Scholar, Prakash Vijayanath, debunks some myths about the fastest racquet sport in the world — Badminton

55

Waxing Lyrical

Jane Clarke, winner of the 2016 Hennessy Emerging Poetry Prize, elucidates on her creative process and shares her poem *For Isobel*

72

Eachtraí Oifig na Gaeilge

Réimse leathan imeachtaí Gaeilge eagraithe i gColáiste na Tríonóide le comóradh a dhéanamh ar Éirí Amach 1916

Trinity joins leading US universities in CASA

Trinity hosted the Consortium for Advanced Studies Abroad (CASA) 2016 board meeting, having become the first non-US member to join the consortium. CASA is a non-profit organisation, comprising nine leading US research universities. It was formed in 2014 to provide a framework to facilitate student mobility internationally through the establishment of study-centres around the world. Trinity is the tenth member and the first CASA partner institution based outside of the United States. The first Trinity students are expected to be part of the CASA cohort based in Havana in January 2017.



Trinity was the official welcome village for the Aer Lingus College Football Classic in the Aviva Stadium between Boston College and Georgia Tech which took place in September 2016.

CAMPUS NEWS

News, views and updates from a year on campus.



Trinity Access Programmes' (TAP) model adopted by Oxford University

Lady Margaret Hall (LMH), an Oxford University College, is to launch a four-year pilot scheme offering a foundation year to students from under-represented backgrounds, starting in 2016. The scheme will be offered in association with Trinity, which has operated the Trinity Access Programmes (TAP) for 22 years. Former editor of *The Guardian*, and Principal of Lady Margaret Hall, Alan Rusbridger said, "This pilot scheme will, we hope, find young people from under-represented groups and help them find a path into an Oxford education and thereby transform lives."

Bridge21 launches new learning project

Trinity's education programme, Bridge21, has launched a project run in conjunction with Erasmus+ to extend its impact throughout Europe. Bridge21 supports the development of 21st Century learning environments within secondary schools by integrating learning activities that are team-based, technology-mediated, project-based and cross-curricular.



The Bridge21 Transition Year graduation ceremony in Trinity's Dining Hall



L-R: Sara Baume, Provost, Dr Patrick Prendergast; Doireann Ní Ghríofa, Anne Enright and Kevin Barry

Rooney Prize celebrates 40 years

Some of Ireland's greatest writers gathered to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Rooney Prize of Irish Literature, Ireland's oldest literary award. The young bilingual Cork poet, Doireann Ní Ghríofa, was announced as the 2016 winner and was joined (above) by award-winning writers Sara Baume, Anne Enright and Kevin Barry, who are all previous Rooney Prize winners, alongside Provost, Dr Patrick Prendergast. The celebratory event paid tribute to benefactors, President Emeritus of the Pittsburgh Steelers, Dan Rooney and his wife, Patricia Rooney, who have supported the award since 1976 when there were very few of its kind.

Increasing the visibility of Ph.D. theses

The Library has commenced the digitisation of Ph.D. theses awarded between the years 2000 and 2015. This will raise the profile of research by Trinity postgraduates, which largely remains hidden, by exposing it to a global audience. Theses will be available on an open-access basis, so that they will be easily accessed by using a search engine such as Google, with full texts accessible via the Trinity Access to Research Archive (TARA). For more information on this project, visit <http://www.tcd.ie/Library/support/theses.php>

Next generation of Dublin writers exhibit work in Trinity



An exhibition of 65 handmade books designed and illustrated by Dublin children opened in March 2016 in the Long Room of the Old Library. Launched by award-winning children's author Erika McGann, the exhibition marked the culmination of a two-month writing, illustration and bookbinding programme called Bookmarks. The project is organised by the Trinity Access Programmes (TAP), and it aims to inspire children to become the next generation of writers, illustrators and publishers. This year's Bookmarks involved 5th class children from Drimmagh Castle, Scoil Cholmcille Ballybrack and Scoil Eoin Kilbarrack.

GENES FOUND WITH IMPORTANT ROLE IN MND

Researchers in Trinity have helped to isolate three new genes that shed light on the underlying causes of motor neurone disease (MND). A team led by researchers in the Netherlands and London conducted the largest-ever MND genetic analysis, which brought together the efforts of over 180 scientists from 17 different countries. Using DNA samples donated by over 12,000 patients with MND, and over 23,000 by healthy individuals, the team profiled millions of common genetic variations across subjects. The apparent rarity of genes that cause MND means that scientists are now tasked with conducting even larger studies to uncover the root causes of the disease. Research is already underway in Trinity and at institutions in several other countries that will expand the search beyond common genetic variations to include genes only seen in a small number of people.



ABOVE: Reconstruction of Ballynahatty Neolithic skull by Elizabeth Black. Her genes tell us she had black hair and brown eyes. Photo credit: Barrie Hartwell.

Ancient Irish genomes sequenced

A team of Trinity geneticists and Queen's University archaeologists have sequenced the first genomes from ancient Irish humans. The information uncovered is answering pivotal questions about the origins of Irish people and their culture. The team sequenced the genomes of an early farmer woman who lived in Belfast some 5,200 years ago and those of three men from approximately 4,000 years ago in the Bronze Age, after the introduction of metalworking. The ancient genomes show unequivocal evidence of mass migration. The majority of the ancestry of the early farmer originates in the Middle East, where agriculture was invented. By contrast, the Bronze Age genomes derive a third of their ancestry from ancient sources in the Pontic-Caspian steppe, which stretches from the Black Sea to the Caspian Sea.



Digitising Medieval texts

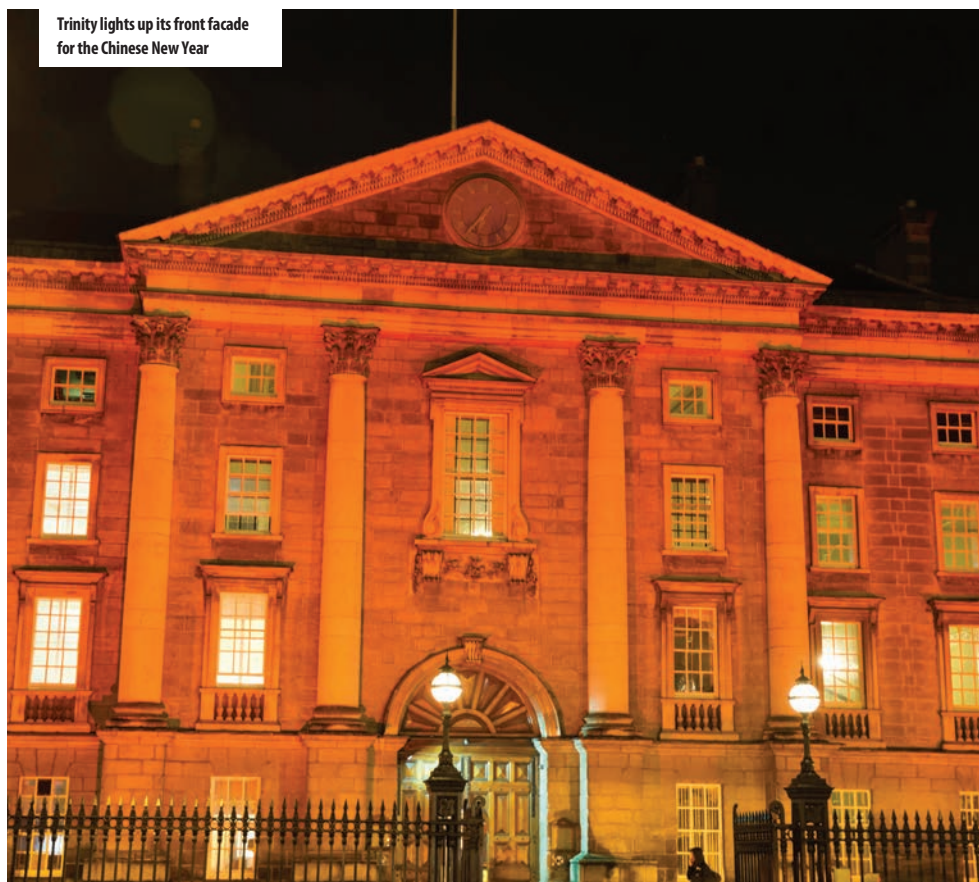
Trinity Library is launching an extensive campaign of conservation, research, and digitisation focused on four of its most important early Medieval insular Gospel Books. These are the *Codex Usserianus Primus* from the early 7th century, the *Book of Mulling* from the second half of the 8th century, the *Book of Dimma* from the late 8th century, and the *Garland of Howth* from the 8th to 10th centuries. While the textual content has been the subject of scholarly study in the past, they have been relatively overlooked from a codicological and art historical perspective. The manuscripts will be fully digitised and made freely accessible online.

LEFT: Peter Keegan, Bank of America; Helen Shenton, Librarian and College Archivist; Kevin O'Malley, US Ambassador to Ireland and Susie Bioletti, Head of Conservation

Cognitive computing research for children with cochlear implants

A project aimed at using cognitive computing to help predict speech perception in children with cochlear implants was launched in June 2016 by Trinity, the National Centre for Cochlear Implants at Beaumont Hospital and IBM. To obtain a high level of speech perception, the software within the cochlear implant must be customised and adjusted for each individual child. This is a complex and time consuming rehabilitation programme managed by audiological scientists over numerous sessions in order to obtain optimal access to speech and environmental sounds for the patient. The project aims to use predictive modelling to help detect the subtle signs of vital changes in a patient's sound and speech perception to enable earlier proactive intervention.

Trinity lights up its front facade for the Chinese New Year



MRSA breakthrough brings vaccine hope

Trinity immunologists have made a breakthrough in the development of a vaccine for MRSA. By identifying T-helper type 1 cells that serve a critical role in the immune system, the immunologists were able to develop a model vaccine that targeted these cells, and experimentally showed that its use led to improved infection outcomes. The World Health Organisation warns of an impending "post-antibiotic era" when antibiotics will no longer be effective. Anti-microbial resistance is a global crisis that demands the development of new anti-microbials, but also the development of alternatives like vaccines.

Breakthrough in TB research

A team of Trinity immunologists in association with St James's Hospital have made a breakthrough in understanding how the immune system responds to Tuberculosis (TB), which will lead to new and more effective vaccines and personalised therapies. Before the advent of antibiotics TB killed one in seven people around the world. The increasing prevalence of multi-drug resistant TB means doctors are running out of treatment options for the bacterium. The study focused on the protein Mal, and how it affects responses to TB. The finding will lead to treatments personalised to the specific immune system of the patient.

Powerful digital tool for historians

Digital humanities specialists across Europe have developed a powerful new tool for digital historical research. The four-year CENDARI (Collaborative European Digital Archive Infrastructure) Project, which launched in January 2016, has been led by historians, computer scientists and digital humanities experts at Trinity. It will transform how historians undertake research, by giving unparalleled access to over 550,000 historical records relating to Medieval and World War I history across the globe.

The project team celebrate the CENDARI launch in Berlin



BLACKSTONE LAUNCHPAD TAKES OFF IN TRINITY

The Blackstone LaunchPad campus entrepreneurship programme for Trinity students officially launched in February 2016, with the opening of a bespoke venue at the Berkeley Library. The launch followed an announcement last summer of the Blackstone Charitable Foundation's €2 million grant for the entrepreneurship programme in collaboration with Trinity, NUI Galway, and University College Cork. The Blackstone LaunchPad at Trinity aims to foster student entrepreneurship, connecting them with businesses and providing them with the skills and networking opportunities necessary to succeed as entrepreneurs. The Blackstone Charitable Foundation is managed by the Blackstone Group.

BELOW: Pictured at the launch are L-R: John Whelan, Blackstone LaunchPad Executive Director at Trinity and mentor for student entrepreneurs; Brian Caulfield, businessman (Partner at Draper Espirit); Finn Murphy, Trinity student entrepreneur and Helen Shenton, Librarian and College Archivist



LaunchBox 2016 welcomes student entrepreneurs

During the summer of 2016 a total of 14 teams benefited from office space, funding, and mentorship provided by Trinity's successful LaunchBox business accelerator programme. Business ventures in this year's LaunchBox programme included Fallsafe, which provides elderly people with a means to swiftly and reliably call for help after suffering falls; Haysaver, a smart-agriculture early-warning system to prevent spontaneous hay bale combustion; and Surfbuoy, an innovative water safety device that is only buoyant when activated. Past LaunchBox successes include social enterprise FoodCloud, which helps businesses redistribute surplus food to those in need, Touchtech, a payment processing venture, and Artomatix, which develops tools for automating digital media creation.



The Surfbuoy team poised to catch a wave

Trinity is ranked leading university for producing entrepreneurs in Europe

Trinity graduates founded more companies over the past five years than those from any other university in Europe, according to independent research from *PitchBook*. Between the years 2010 and 2015, Trinity produced 114 entrepreneurs who secured a first round of venture capitalist backing, raising capital of approximately US \$655 million.

OECD and Trinity sign first ever partnership

Trinity has signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to establish an internship programme for Trinity students to work in the OECD, thereby increasing their employability and global experience. It is the first MOA that OECD has signed with Ireland and the internships will target research students studying in the Department of Economics.



Frank Murray, former Manager of The Poggles; Stephen McIntyre, former Vice President Twitter EMEA; Andrew Burke, Dean of Trinity Business School and Tom McAleese, CEO Alvarez & Marsal on the occasion of the Trinity Global Business Forum.

Trinity Business School hosts inaugural Global Business Forum

The inaugural Global Business Forum *Future of Business* conference saw leading experts from the world of business and academia speak on a diverse range of topics from the prevention of another financial crisis to ethical leadership to the accommodation crisis and its effects on Irish business. The aim of the first Global Business Forum, according to Professor Andrew Burke, the Dean of the Trinity Business School was, “to develop a vision and strategy for business and society that focuses on developing economic prosperity, social well-being and an ethical society.”

International employers place Trinity graduates among world's elite

Graduates from Trinity College Dublin are among the most employable in the world, according to the 2015 Global Employability University Rankings. Trinity is the only Irish university to appear in the rankings, where it sits at number 119. Irish employers were not included in the survey which highlights just how highly Trinity's graduates are valued by international employers.



Professor of Economics and President of the Student Economic Review since its inception, John O'Hagan speaking at the SER launch

STUDENT ECONOMIC REVIEW CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

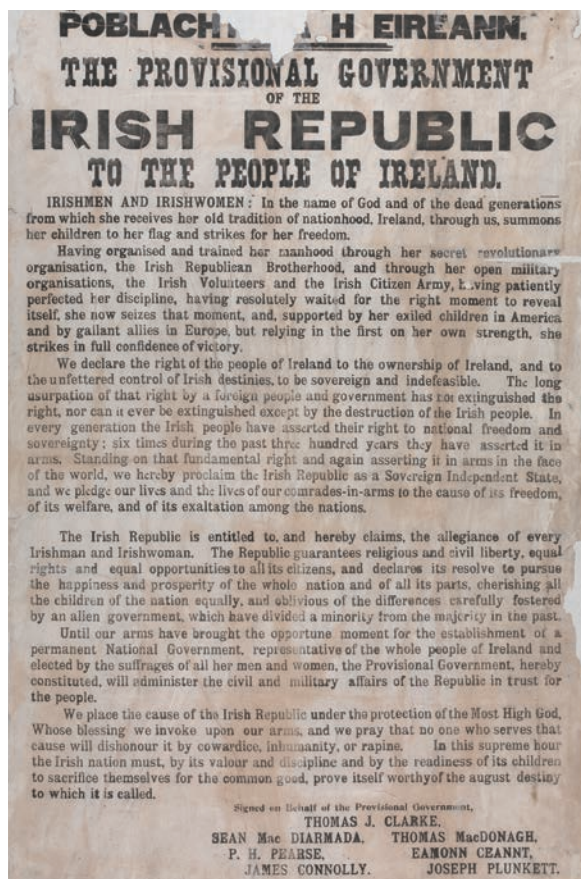
The 30th volume of the Student Economic Review (SER) was celebrated at a landmark event with committee members from each of the past 29 years invited to attend its launch in the Dining Hall in March 2016. Founded in 1987, the Student Economic Review is one of the oldest undergraduate journals in the world. Each year the SER Committee is chosen from third-year economics undergraduates by academics in the Department of Economics. These students are responsible for coordinating all matters relating to the Review from sponsorship and managing financial matters through to reviewing, selecting and editing the essays and producing and launching the publication.

Trinity and Google collaborate on 1916 exhibition

A collaboration between the Trinity Library and the Google Cultural Institute has produced an online exhibition about the 1916 Rising where users can take an interactive tour of Dublin narrated by actor Colin Farrell. The exhibition, *Dublin Rising 1916-2016*, showcases 44 photographs taken by Thomas Johnson Westropp in the aftermath of the Rising. He developed, printed, and mounted the photographs into four albums, and gifted copies to prominent archival institutions. Trinity's album is the most extensive of the four. The exhibition was developed in association with the National Library of Ireland, the Royal Irish Academy, the Abbey Theatre, and Glasnevin Cemetery.



ABOVE: Photograph of Henry Street from Nelson's Pillar, from album entitled 'A series of views of the ruins of Dublin' May 1916, by Thomas Johnson Westropp in the Library of Trinity College Dublin. Image courtesy of the Library of Trinity College Dublin and the Board of Trinity College Dublin.



The Trinity Library's original copy of the 1916 Proclamation of the Irish Republic. Image courtesy of the Library of Trinity College Dublin and the Board of Trinity College Dublin.

1916 Proclamation on display

The Trinity Library's copy of the 1916 Proclamation of the Irish Republic was on display during the exhibition *Changed Utterly: Recording and Reflecting on the Rising 1916-2016* held during March and April 2016. Originally posted on the walls of the General Post Office (GPO) at the beginning of the Rising, the print was taken down by a member of the Montgomeryshire Yeomanry who were training in Dublin at the time, and were mobilised during the Rising. The commander of the Yeomanry, Major Louis Tamworth, came into possession of the Proclamation, which he had framed and mounted on his return to Devonshire. The Library purchased the copy from the Tamworth family in 1970, and the Library's Preservation and Conservation Department made the exciting discovery in the 1970s that underneath the Proclamation were a series of eleven World War I recruiting posters in various states of disrepair, which had fused together during a fire in the GPO.

HALL OF HONOUR MEMORIAL STONE

A memorial stone was unveiled in honour of Trinity staff and alumni who lost their lives in World War I at a special ceremony held in September 2015.

Image courtesy of the Library of Trinity College Dublin and the Board of Trinity College Dublin.





Professor Valeria Nicolosi

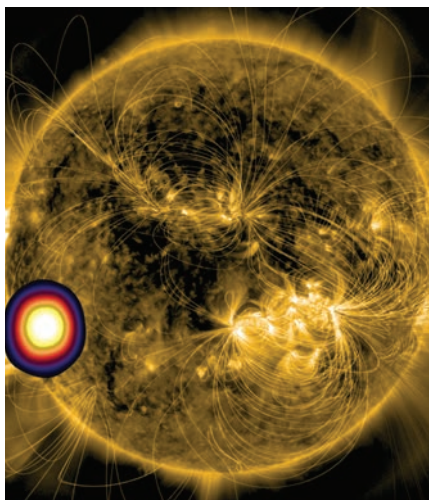
Creating batteries of the future

Pioneering research focusing on creating a new type of extremely long lasting battery – one that can come in any shape or size and can be camouflaged within any type of material – is being led by Professor Valeria Nicolosi in AMBER, the Science Foundation Ireland funded materials science centre, hosted in Trinity, and Trinity's School of Chemistry. Professor Nicolosi's research will develop fully customisable batteries – that can be used for general fitness, as well as being manufactured and fully integrated within a 3D printed implanted cardiac device. These batteries will also be fully non-harmful and non-flammable, unlike current lithium-battery technology.

Trinity astrophysicists probe deep space

A €200 million international network of radio telescopes – the Low Frequency Array (LOFAR) – are allowing scientists to study deep space in incredible detail, and its sensitivity will increase by up to 30 per cent once the Irish node at Birr Castle becomes active at the end of the year. The Irish node was the result of a campaign led by the Irish LOFAR Consortium, a group of Irish universities headed by Professor Peter Gallagher at Trinity's School of Physics and Associate Dean of Research. They successfully raised €2 million to build the radio telescope in Ireland, which will improve the baseline of the network and dramatically improve its ability to detect radio waves, which can be analysed to read energy, temperature, and the physical characteristics of extra-terrestrial phenomenon.

RIGHT: A solar radio burst observed by LOFAR overlaid on an extreme-ultraviolet image from NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory. This image was created by Trinity Scholar Diana Morosan as part of her Ph.D. with Professor Gallagher.



Trinity engineers develop electricity-generating stove

Trinity engineers have developed an inexpensive wood-fuelled stove for use in the developing world that cooks food, but also produces enough electricity to power a lantern and charge a mobile phone. The Power Stove Generator, developed by Professor Tony Robinson and his team in Mechanical Engineering, utilises a thermoelectric generator (TEG), a solid-state device which converts heat directly into electricity by means of the thermoelectric effect.

MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH ON EMPTY SPACE

Theoretical physicists have long believed that empty space is not a formless void. It is seething with zero-point energy, the quantum residue of all electromagnetic waves. The direct evidence for this feature of quantum mechanics relies on a few very delicate landmark experiments but a team of scientists working in Trinity's Centre for Research on Advanced Nanostructures and Nanodevices (CRANN) has discovered a new and unexpected manifestation of this elusive energy. Professor Michael Coey, his former PhD student Karl Ackland and Dr Munuswamy Venkatesan predicted that nanoparticles of cerium dioxide (CeO₂) would form a magnetic field when clumped together, which would disappear when the particles were spread out. These predictions were borne out in experimentation, and the team concluded that the magnetism formed in the clumps because of the surrounding zero-point energy. In a paper published in *Nature Physics*, the team explained, "Electrons in the clumps of tiny particles were responding in unison to the vacuum electromagnetic field. Stranger still, the magnetism only appeared when the particles were clumped together. Separating them into smaller clumps by diluting with nonmagnetic nanoparticles destroyed the magnetism. We were astonished by our findings."





The seventh Ireland Chair of Poetry, Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin, is robed by her predecessor, poet, Paula Meehan

New Ireland Professor of Poetry announced

President of Ireland Michael D. Higgins announced that Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin had been awarded the prestigious position of the Ireland Professor of Poetry 2016 at a special reception in the Provost's House in May 2016. Professor Ní Chuilleanáin is the seventh Irish Professor of Poetry, taking up the position from Paula Meehan, who finished her term at the end of October 2016. The Ireland Chair of Poetry was set up in 1998 following the award of the Nobel Prize for Literature to Seamus Heaney, to honour his achievement and that of other Irish poets.

New Centre for Asian Studies opens

The Trinity Centre for Asian Studies was officially opened in October 2015 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Charlie Flanagan TD. The new teaching and research centre aims to advance Japanese, Korean, and Chinese Studies, and to develop other regionally based area studies and pan-Asian research.



ABOVE: Provost, Dr Patrick Prendergast; Ambassador, H.E. Mr. Xu Jianguo; Charlie Flanagan TD, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade; Lorna Carson, Trinity Centre for Asian Studies Director and Juliette Hussey, Vice President for Global Relations

Marathon reading of Dante's Divine Comedy

A six-hour marathon reading of the Paradiso from Dante's *Divine Comedy* was hosted in the Trinity Chapel in December 2015 with 36 readers in nine languages. The event marked Dante's 750th birthday, and was organised by Trinity's Italian Department with the Italian Cultural Institute, University College Cork, and University College Dublin. The first canto was delivered in Irish by President of Ireland Michael D. Higgins, and other readers included the Italian Ambassador to Ireland Giovanni Adorni Bracessi, and poet Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin.

Trinity Mail Room wins Platinum Award

The Trinity College Mail Room was presented with a Platinum Award Certificate by Postal and Logistics Consulting World Wide (PLCWW), for the delivery of effective and efficient Mail Room management. Trinity's Mail Room team plan on 'going for diamond' (the highest award) in 2016. If they achieve that standard, they will be the first Mail Room to achieve gold, platinum and diamond within three years.

RIGHT: The Mail Room team
L-R: William Richardson,
Peter Blanchfield, Fernando
Inniss and James Marrinan



Trinity's sportsmen and women joined Provost, Dr Patrick Prendergast and Trinity's Head of Sport Michelle Tanner at the launch of *'Raising Our Game'*



Trinity Sports strategy launched

A new strategy for Trinity Sport was launched in February, entitled *'Raising Our Game'*, with the aim of re-establishing Trinity as a leading force in all aspects of third-level sport. Dean of Students, Professor Kevin O'Kelly, said that the strategy, "sets out actions that are student focused, and nurtures the important relationships with alumni, staff, communities and partners."

Seanad elections

The election for the 24th assembly of Seanad Éireann saw longstanding Senators Ivana Bacik, Trinity Law Professor and David Norris return to the University of Dublin Panel. Students' Union president, Lynn Ruane replaced Trinity Fellow Sean Barrett, being elected on the fifteenth count with 3,343 votes. Norris was elected on the first count with 4,080 first preference votes, exceeding the quota of 4,017, and Bacik was elected on the thirteenth count.



TRINITY AWARDED SECOND GREEN FLAG BY AN TAI SCE

Trinity College Dublin has been awarded the prestigious Green Flag for the quality of its environment for a further three years, as part of An Taisce's Green-Campus programme. The Green Flag was awarded initially in 2013 when Trinity became "the first university in a capital city in the world to receive a Green Flag". In February, it spearheaded the introduction of a No Balloon Release policy during Green Week after taking into consideration littering, threats to marine life and use of a finite resource, helium gas. Trinity is the first university in Ireland to introduce such a policy.

The Nobel One

By Olive Heffernan

Trinity graduate and Donegal native William Cecil Campbell B.A., M.A., Sc.D. (1952) is Ireland's most recent Nobel Laureate for his part in discovering a drug that treats, and may one day eradicate, one of the developing world's most debilitating diseases.



William C. Campbell receiving his Nobel Prize from H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden at the Stockholm Concert Hall, 10 December 2015

COPYRIGHT © NOBEL MEDIA AB 2015/PHOTO: PI FRISK

Early last October, William Cecil Campbell – a graduate of Trinity College Dublin and a recipient of an Honorary Degree from Trinity in 2012 – received an unexpected phone call. The 85-year-old parasitologist learned he was to become the second Irish scientist ever to be awarded a Nobel Prize, after fellow Trinity alumnus Ernest Walton in 1951. Campbell was given a share of the 2015 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his part in discovering a drug called ivermectin that treats and may one day eradicate one of the developing world's most debilitating diseases – river blindness.

Campbell, who grew up in Ramelton, Co. Donegal, never expected to win the prestigious accolade. For a start, he didn't think it was possible because the discovery of ivermectin

was a team effort. And the Nobel Prize is awarded to outstanding individuals. Sharing it with just one collaborator, Japanese scientist Satoshi Omura, has been a great honour for Campbell, but also a source of sadness as he laments that many of his co-workers will never be recognised, or named, for their contribution.

Campbell's response may sound surprising, but it's perfectly in tune with his unassuming nature. Far from being someone who set out to make a name for himself, his achievement is the fruit of a life-long love of science, and especially, of worms.

His enthusiasm for these everyday animals – so often seen as pallid and lifeless – is nothing short of infectious. It's borne out in his poetry about worms – sometimes written from the worm's perspective – and in his wonderfully

vivid paintings of parasitic worms, which are sold at auction to raise funds for student research.

Speaking from his home in Massachusetts, Campbell eagerly explains his enduring fascination with these small, wiggly creatures. "Apart from the fact that they are colourless, worms are much like flowers in their diversity. They come in all shapes and sizes," says Campbell, who likes to capture this astounding variety in his paintings. "The other brilliant aspect of worms is their resourcefulness. There is no sort of creature on earth that isn't affected by parasites."

Though Campbell recalls his early education as being mostly devoid of science, a visit to an agricultural show during his school years piqued his interest in parasites. Campbell came across a pamphlet on the treatment of worms in cattle, and to this day, remembers the name of the parasite and the drug. "It didn't change the course of my life, but I've often reflected on the fact that this particular memory stood out," he says.

It wasn't until he came to Trinity, however, that Campbell's interest was stoked further by a special relationship. An influential professor of parasitology, named J Desmond Smyth, took a shine to Campbell and encouraged him. "I was the lowliest of undergraduates and yet he was interested in me. He would stop in the corridor and talk to me," recalls Campbell, who remembers watching Smyth remove a large tapeworm from a dead fish. For Campbell as a young student, this was a pivotal moment that crystallised his interest. "Looking back, he was a mentor, I suppose. That brought about a real change in direction for me."

It was Smyth who encouraged Campbell to

move to the US and pursue graduate research at the University of Wisconsin, with a contact of his, Arlie Todd. "I had no interest in going to the US but he told me that if he was young and single, he would go. I got the offer and so I went." From there, Campbell landed a job with Merck, a pharmaceutical company in New Jersey, where he stayed for the next 33 years.

For Campbell, one of the joys of working for Merck was the freedom to pursue his own intellectual interests, even those that weren't in line with the commercial interests of the company. One example was a "crazy desire" to freeze worms, not for any practical purpose, but just because he wanted to see if it was possible. He'd seen scientists trying – and failing – to freeze guinea pigs, and knew they'd succeeded in freezing spermatozoa.

It worked, and as luck would have it, freezing worms also turned out to have an incredibly useful application. Up until then, researchers studying parasitic infections in livestock would have to keep their host animals and constantly reinfect them, a practice that was costly and had ethical implications. But freezing had the effect of paralysing the parasitic roundworms that infect sheep and cattle, so researchers could study the parasites in isolation.

Simplicity in science

The technique was simple, but effective. Simplicity is a theme that runs through Campbell's science and was the topic of his Nobel speech, which he delivered in Stockholm in December 2015. On accepting the award, he described the work that led to the discovery of ivermectin as being "simple but also novel".

It all began in 1974 when Omura – who specialises in isolating and culturing soil microbes – sent a sample of bacterial cultures to a colleague of Campbell's at Merck. The Merck scientists had developed a new assay to allow them to detect anti-parasitic activity, and they were hopeful the sample might contain an effective agent for treating worms in livestock. "As a method it was simple," says Campbell. "The basic research and knowledge was already there but no one had thought of doing it before." As it turned out, the sample contained an extremely potent group of previously unknown molecules – called avermectins – that can kill infection-causing parasites in livestock and canines.

Campbell's work was to develop a modified version to treat heartworm in dogs, but he soon realised that it might also work against the roundworm that causes river blindness in humans. Together with his supervisor,

Dr Jerome Birnbaum, Campbell persuaded Merck to begin human studies. Humans contract river blindness from a worm known as *Onchocerca volvulus*, which enters the body through the bite of a blackfly. Once inside the human body, the adult female worm lays thousands of baby larvae, which migrate throughout the eyes and the skin, causing terrible itching, lesions and eventually, blindness. The host flies are extremely prevalent near fast flowing rivers and streams in some of the world's poorest regions such as sub-Saharan Africa and South America.

Before ivermectin, the only treatment was an insecticide sprayed over affected regions that was costly and environmentally contentious. In comparison, ivermectin is a small pill with few side effects that only needs to be taken once a year for 16-18 years, until all of the adult worms are dead. Though it can't cure blindness, it prevents the terrible itching and lesions that are hallmarks of the disease.

Once Merck realised that ivermectin could treat river blindness, it was faced with a tough decision. The people at risk of river blindness couldn't afford to pay for treatment. Nevertheless, in 1987, Merck committed to donating as much ivermectin as needed for as long as needed, thus launching the world's longest-running drug donation programme.

Campbell is careful to point out that because the vast majority of ivermectin is sold to treat parasites in commercial animals, Merck was in a good position to give the drug away free to humans. "I think they did it because it was the right thing to do, but the one underlying fact was that they could afford to do it," he says.

Since its advent, the programme has given away more than one billion tablets and it now treats 98 million people in 31 African countries annually. What's more, the disease has been eliminated entirely from Colombia and Ecuador. In his younger days Campbell was reluctant to talk of eradication, he says, but now he's "very optimistic". "I think it can be done and it will be done."

Starting over

If Campbell was starting out now as a young researcher in the field of parasitology, he'd choose an equally ambitious project, it seems. He points to diseases such as malaria and trypanosomiasis, otherwise known as sleeping sickness, as major challenges in disease eradication that would provide good material for inquisitive young minds.

But the most important advice he has for prospective researchers is to find something that you're interested in and not to worry

whether it's something you'll always love. Another piece of advice that Campbell offers to young researchers is not to abandon your outside interests. "It's very hard to pursue your interests all at the same time, but it's worth holding on to them," he says.

Now, perhaps more than ever, that's something he can appreciate. Since receiving that phone call last October, Campbell hasn't had time to paint a single parasite. "I knew that winning the Nobel Prize would bring about a major change in my life," he says "but I couldn't have imagined the extent of it...the never catching up on important emails, the constant need to make appearances and the requests from all around the world. It's a great honour, but it can be as stressful to say no to requests as to say yes."

Recently, Campbell spoke at a local high school, but many of the invitations are much further afield with a visit to Trinity on the horizon. It isn't quite the work-life balance that he had perhaps envisaged for his retirement. Still, Campbell has managed to hold on to some interests, like kayaking on the lake near his house in the mornings and playing ping-pong. "I insist on making time for ping-pong," Campbell laughs, no doubt hoping he'll get a game in soon.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Olive Heffernan B.A. (1999) is a science writer in residence at Trinity College Dublin in the School of Natural Sciences.



Hookworm with Tapeworms (1998) by William Campbell



Syrian school children sit in class at a makeshift, crowded school at a camp for internally displaced Syrians in Atmeh, Syria.

isodaphne

Exodus

By Caelainn Hogan

Trinity Law School graduate Gráinne O'Hara L.L.B., M.A., Barrister-at-Law (1989) shares her story of working with the UN Refugee Agency on the frontline of conflict helping internally displaced people.

As bodies continue to wash up on the shores of Europe, the challenge of mass displacement as one of the most urgent of our times has become impossible to ignore. For the last two decades, Gráinne O'Hara, a graduate of Trinity Law School working with the UN Refugee Agency, has watched emergencies and conflicts grow larger in scale and more complex, challenging our international institutions and laws.

Since March, O'Hara has held the position of Head of Protection Services at the Office of the Director for North Africa and the Middle East. Based in Amman, Jordan, a country that is currently hosting more than four million Syrian refugees, she works in a region that has become an epicentre of displacement.

Migration flows from Afghanistan to Eritrea, as well as Syria and Iraq, are culminating along well-worn routes in countries like Libya, Turkey, and Morocco, whose coasts are now the launch sites for those desperate to reach safety in Europe. Before Amman, she was Deputy Director for United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Iraq, where there is the dual crisis of refugees crossing the border from Syria and the internal displacement of Iraqi citizens within their own country.

In her current position, O'Hara is responsible for overseeing protection activities in all countries in this region, travelling constantly from one state to the other and providing support to governments and the network of UNHCR programmes. "My apartment is just a place where I stop to wash and repack," she admits.

Through her work, O'Hara has witnessed the impact of displacement first-hand in countries across the world, including Mexico, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo, Burundi, Darfur, Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq. In recent years, she says, the scale and complexity of these crises has increased.

When she was a student at Trinity, there was no real tradition of receiving refugees, and studying human rights law was the closest she came to discussing issues of displacement and asylum. Irish people themselves were the ones at that time leaving their country in the hopes of a better future abroad.

"Ireland back then was a very different place," she remembers. "We were a total monoculture."

As a student she was "immersed in Trinity, morning, noon and night," working in the Dining Hall to fund her way through college. Her involvement

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Caelainn Hogan B.A. (2011) is a writer and multimedia journalist from Ireland who has reported across Europe, the Middle East and Africa.



"The obvious major shift is that, the complexity of conflicts and the scale of displacement has increased at an alarming pace," she says. "You look now at the Syrian crisis where we're approaching five million refugees and going into the sixth year."

political and security operations, O'Hara regularly came across friends and mentors from her college days including Mary Robinson, whom O'Hara had known since she was a student volunteering at Robinson's Centre for European Law at Trinity.

The first emergency that O'Hara worked on, the Kosovo crisis in 1999, was acute but quickly resolved. "It lasted literally six weeks," she says. "The turnaround time it took to negotiate the peace agreement and the speed with which people went back home was six weeks from start to finish."

But modern crises like the Syrian conflict today are increasingly challenging the limits of international law and institutions to intervene.

"The obvious major shift is that the complexity of conflicts and the scale of displacement has grown at an alarming pace," she says. "You look now at the Syrian crisis where we're approaching five million refugees and going into the sixth year. The scale is immense."

While attention often focuses on refugees trying to make it to Europe or those who have crossed the borders to neighbouring countries, millions of people are displaced within their own countries, forced from their homes by airstrikes or attacks and often displaced over and over again as frontlines shift. Three million Iraqis are internally displaced, essentially made refugees within their own country. At the same time, the country is hosting Syrian refugees also.

"Countries in this region have multiple profiles, as countries in conflict, that are generating displacement, that are hosting refugees from neighbouring countries," she says. "It's an incredible mosaic of complexity of displacement."

For an internally displaced person or IDP, their needs might be the same as a refugee forced from their home, but they do not have the same rights or protections under international law and it is more difficult for humanitarian organisations to provide support.

"Their needs as human beings are similar whether they've crossed a border or not," she says. But one of the biggest issues with internal displacement in countries like Libya, Syria, Yemen and Iraq, is accessing them amidst ongoing insecurity. "In responding to the needs of the IDPs, the simple first step is access to people. There are huge numbers of IDPs we cannot reach because they've been displaced but they're still within conflict zones."

Those internally displaced are often subject to secondary and multiple displacement as well, since the conflict is ongoing and people are forced to move repeatedly to find safety.

"IDP situations are often a lot more fluid and volatile because people are being displaced over and over again," she says. "Then ultimately many of them cross a border because they have exhausted the possibilities of finding protection in their own country."

The region O'Hara is responsible for stretches from Mauritania to the Gulf countries and the needs are diverse. Beyond Syria's war and Iraq's conflict, Yemen is in crisis and Libya is a fractured state. But O'Hara's work also includes support to governments in stable countries like Morocco and Algeria, focused on strengthening national legislation and improving asylum procedure. The neighbouring countries to Syria's conflict are also making an epic effort to support millions of refugees that she believes do not get enough recognition.

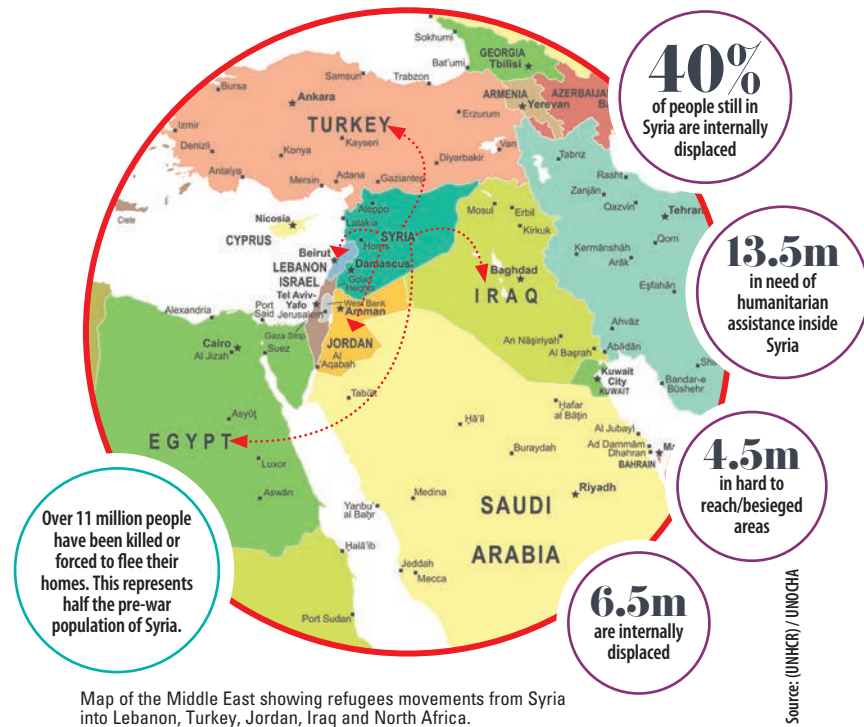
"These are functional countries that are responding to a massive refugee crisis with huge contributions being made by the host countries themselves," she says. "The contributions that the host countries themselves made are not brought to the fore to the degree that they deserve to be."

The influx of people into the EU, which has provoked hastily erected border fences and emergency controls, is still a fraction of the number that neighbouring countries to the Syrian conflict are supporting. The Dublin Regulation, a part of EU asylum law which determines that an asylum seeker must apply for refugee status in the country where they first arrive in the EU, has been seriously tested, temporarily suspended and widely criticised over the last year.

"It makes me cringe," says O'Hara, referring to the regulation and its connection to her home city, a feeling she says is shared among many Irish lawyers working in the migration and humanitarian fields. "That very tricky piece of legislation always reminds us of home."

Out of all the neighbouring countries, Turkey, which was recently host to the World Humanitarian Summit, has often been portrayed as a huge waiting room for refugees leaving for Europe, but O'Hara says that completely overlooks the fact that the country is supporting millions of displaced people.

"That belies the fact that Turkey is hosting 2.8 million



4,598,594 REFUGEES FROM SYRIA ARE REGISTERED OR AWAITING RECEPTION

LEBANON	TURKEY	JORDAN	IRAQ	EGYPT & NORTH AFRICA
1,048,275	OVER 3 MILLION	OVER 636,482	245,022 (3.3 MILLION INTERNALLY DISPLACED IRAQIS)	117,658

Syrian refugees. The notion that Turkey is just some kind of temporary springboard and everyone's going to Europe, that it's European states that have to deal with the crisis, that does not reflect the reality."

The Syrian conflict is just one of an unprecedented number of conflicts ongoing simultaneously, pushing the UN to its limit. She highlights the crises in countries like South Sudan and Central African Republic that continue, largely forgotten in comparison. While panic rises over the number of people trying to reach Europe, she says people forget about the millions of people who remain displaced and without access to basic services, food or even water in countries like Iraq.

Many have questioned whether, as an institution, the UN still has the capacity to respond to today's complex, multi-front and increasingly transnational conflicts and threats. O'Hara has what she describes as a "duality of criticism and passion" that is common among her colleagues when it comes to the institution and its strengths and weaknesses.

"We see day in, day out how our efforts are falling short of what people need," she says. "But we also can't take it upon ourselves as individual humans the guilt of everything wrong at an international level."

When it comes to criticism though, she says it is important to ask whom we are talking about when we talk about the UN. Is it the member states, the Security Council or agencies like UNHCR?

"Member states are the only ones that can stop conflicts," she says.

Above all, when it comes to the crisis of displacement, she warns against portraying refugees as only "passive recipients" or a "drain on resources," when in fact they contribute to and actively participate in local economies.

"They are people who need our help, but they are not helpless," she says.

While the UNHCR tries to fight for the needs of displaced people and provide a platform for their voices and concerns, she knows that the best people to speak about what displaced people need and deserve are refugees themselves.

"They have views about their own lives and their own future and they should be listened to."



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

Did you know?

In 2016, restoration work commenced on the historic 1684 organ in Trinity's Exam Hall, one of only two like it in the world. This project has been made possible in part by a generous legacy gift from John and Ann Boland.

For more information on legacy giving, please contact
Carmen Leon • E: carmen.leon@tcd.ie • T: +353 1 896 1379

WHAT LENNY DID

The Oscar nominated Trinity graduate speaks about life at Trinity, making movies and what we can expect next. Lenny Abrahamson B.A. (1990) on...

TRINITY...

Trinity was always talked about with great affection and respect by my father and his siblings – they all went to Trinity. I didn't know my grandfather – he died before I was born – but he loomed large in the family mythology and many of the canonical stories about him centred on his time in college. He was a famous debater, a scholar of Irish (which for someone born into a poor Russian/Polish-speaking family was quite a thing) and a very brilliant medical student.

Growing up, I don't think I ever imagined going anywhere else. My grandfather's brother-in-law, Max Neurock, also had a strong connection to Trinity. He reputedly had the highest recorded marks in Classics and I saw an extraordinarily glowing reference written for him by Provost Mahaffy. Again, all part of family lore. I was an ambitious kid, and academic success, particularly at TCD, was a highly valued thing in the family.

MAKING THE MOVE FROM THEORETICAL PHYSICS TO PHILOSOPHY...

I realised two things pretty quickly when I started Theoretical Physics. The first, was that while I was good enough to get through, I didn't have the deep aptitude to be really good at it. The second thing I realised was that, what I was really drawn to in physics were the philosophical questions that I had naively imagined would somehow be at the heart of my studies. I had read philosophy from my mid-


teens and was very drawn to it and decided that was where my heart lay. It was a good decision.

I loved my time studying philosophy both in Trinity and then later, briefly, at Stanford in the US. The kind of analysis practiced in Anglo-American philosophy came very naturally to me. I had the right mental muscles and it was exhilarating to use them fully, to stretch myself. I got real joy from it, and excitement and a feeling of being opened up intellectually.

COLLEGE LIFE...

It's easy to look back and think there must have been something in the air, but I think we were just lucky that a group of creative people happened to fall into each other's orbits at that time. That I have stayed close to Ed Guiney and Stephen Rennicks and all the others is a great thing and that is pretty rare. I'm also still very close with Michael Joyce who started physics at the same time. Unlike me he was genuinely gifted and continued on that path, but he is also deeply interested in ideas generally and in film. He's had a big influence on me creatively.

I always think about Trinity in autumn for some reason. I have a strong memory of the smell and feel of the place when the nights fell early. I felt very alive at that time in my early twenties. Ireland was quite a depressed and sometimes depressing place in the 1980s but the campus was its own work and it felt good to be there.

A black and white portrait of Lenny Abrahamson. He is a middle-aged man with a receding hairline, wearing thick-rimmed glasses and a dark, button-down shirt with his sleeves rolled up. He has his arms crossed and is looking directly at the camera with a slight, thoughtful expression. The background is dark and out of focus.

"I always think about Trinity in autumn for some reason. I have a strong memory of the smell and feel of the place when the nights fell early."

CHOOSING PROJECTS...

It's not much of a process, really. I potter about, mull things over, taking up and dropping ideas, reading newspapers, articles, books and scripts until something catches that I have a strong instinct about, and if that something stays with me for a while I pursue it. Nowadays I get sent a lot of material by agents, producers and studios, but much of what I'm actively developing comes from within the tight group of people I work with at Element Pictures.

I don't consciously seek out these stories but I'm clearly drawn to them. I can see the patterns in my work and the more I make the more evident they are.



“The strengths in the Irish film industry are the people working in it from the film makers to the technicians. The weakness is a lack of long-term vision on the part of successive governments.”

ROOM...

That achievement of bringing optimism and hope to dark material is really Emma Donoghue's. She managed an incredible feat of storytelling acrobatics in her novel and my task was to find some way of mirroring her literary gymnastics in a different medium. A good decision I made was to reject any approach that would stylise the world of Ma and Jack, that would try to translate directly the first person voice of Jack in the novel into some heightened, point-of-view, cinematic style. The impulse to stylise is understandable. After all, in the novel the encounter with the reality of Ma and Jack's circumstances is mediated by Jack's wonderfully optimistic voice whereas in the film we are inclined to show things directly. So, how can the film not plunge us into despair? For me, the key was to spend time honestly documenting Jack's presence, his beautiful face, his enthusiasms and imaginings.

It was difficult for me as a father of young children to film *Room* at times but it would also not have been possible for me to make the film as I did without the experience of being a parent. An understanding of both the intensity of parental love and also the terrible frustration and anger and claustrophobia that a parent can feel around his or her child was at the heart of my encounter with Emma's novel. And, frankly, wrangling small children for a few years was an experience

I could not have done without when it came to 50 days on set bringing a 7-8-year-old through complex scenes.

THE SUCCESS OF THE LAST YEAR...

The hype around the film from when it was first seen at Telluride and then when it won the Toronto Festival and then through to the awards season was not like anything I've experienced before. It was exhilarating, but also exhausting and disorientating. It's not healthy for a person to spend every day for nearly six months talking about the same thing, answering the same questions, talking about themselves. I was sick of myself by the end of it and craving the chance to go back to work.

But there were incredible times, also, finding myself with people who I've previously only admired from a distance. Practically, the biggest change is access to funding and having wonderful actors keen to work with me. It is much easier for me to get a film made than it was before.

THE CONTINUED SUCCESS OF THE IRISH FILM INDUSTRY...

There has been sustained investment for quite a number of years and what we are seeing now is the result of that. The important thing is that recent cuts be reversed (and not just to film but across the whole of the arts) or we will not see work of quality a few years from now. The strengths in the Irish film industry are the people working in it from the film makers to the technicians. The weakness is a lack of long-term vision on the part of successive governments.

WHAT WE CAN EXPECT NEXT...

I'm working on a few projects. I just finished shooting a pilot for US cable TV which was a very interesting experience. I'm developing a film about an extraordinary boxer called Emile Griffith, based on a book by the great sports writer, Donald McRae. It's set in New York in the early 1960s. I'm also working on a film set in the American Civil War, based on a wonderful novel called *Neverhome* by Laird Hunt. In terms of filming in Ireland in the future — yes, absolutely I have plans, though it's too early to talk about them.

WHAT HE WOULD GO BACK AND TELL HIS 18-YEAR-OLD SELF...

I wish I had understood just how young I was, and how much time I had. I was in too much of a panic to become some kind of finished thing.



Eamonn Doyle

Tender Times

By Sara Keating

Author Belinda McKeon B.A. (2000) reflects on her early days at Trinity and how they have helped inspire her work.

Writer Belinda McKeon had just turned 17 when she walked through Front Arch for the first time as a fresher. She was a regular visitor to Dublin, coming up on the train from Longford on Saturdays to scour vintage shops for trendy grunge gear, but starting college meant leaving home, and she was “nervous and young and just so green.”

“It was a big change,” she remembers, “a totally different realm from the convent school and small town I knew. The social life, what I came to know as intellectual life... everything was new and overwhelming and you were meeting so many people. You were still flirting with different versions of yourself. You didn’t really know who you were.”

“I had a lot of anxiety about my course,” she continues. “Philosophy was something totally new to me and English! It was like a different language. I used to write down the names of all these theorists phonetically because I had never heard of them. You were expected to engage with things on a different level than anything that secondary school prepared you for.”

Belinda was a year ahead of me in college and by the time I started the same course in 1997, it was clear, even to strangers that she had certainly settled in. I would spot her in the library, on the ramp, and thought she was one of the coolest, most confident and self-contained people I had ever seen. That year, we both took a writing workshop with the playwright Marina

Carr, and I remember the story Belinda was working on and how serious she was, sitting on the floor with her shoes off, just like our mentor, who lounged in a barefoot haze of cigarette smoke in the window of her rooms, which overlooked the Campanile.

Once Belinda got a handle on her course work, she began honing her craft as a writer in these sort of extra-curricular workshops, which were offered by Trinity’s various writing fellows. She signed up for workshops with the novelist Deirdre Madden and the poet Medbh McGuckian, as well as Carr, and although the creative writing sessions were not formal, Belinda remembers how inspiring they were. “It was completely uncompromising,” she says. “No matter what age you were, you were expected to produce your pages. It was an eye-opening experience, and a completely different level of writing and reading for me.”

The importance of Belinda’s four years at Trinity is evident in her two published novels, which feature the university as both a location and a vital symbolic setting. Indeed in *Tender*, which was published in 2015, Belinda drew from her own experiences as a naive young woman travelling from the country to the capital to develop her protagonist Catherine, who, like Belinda did, “uses Trinity to try and create a sense of home within the city, where she feels out of her depth emotionally. Catherine’s attachment to the campus and her community of friends becomes her attempt at that,” Belinda explains. “The close emotional and physical proximity of the characters in a campus situation meant that the intensity of these close relationships became part of the atmosphere of the book very naturally.”

Belinda is keen to point out that none of this was actually deliberate: “If you can believe it, I didn’t even notice that I was putting Trinity into *Tender*. I just wanted to write about people who were that young going through life in that particular way, and it was a natural backdrop for that.” Indeed, there are several other Irish novels by Trinity alumni who McKeon encountered during her years on campus that also use the university as a backdrop to personal coming-of-age stories: Claire Kilroy’s 2009 novel *All Names Have Been Changed* and Barry McCrea’s 2005 book *The First Verse* immediately come to mind.

Belinda thinks the college is an inevitable source of inspiration for anyone who has ever studied there. “When you go to college in the middle of a city, the city itself sort of becomes your campus, and it gives you a really intimate relationship with the place. Trinity offers a perfect microcosm for a writer. It is a shrunk version of the real world into which all students eventually have to emerge.”

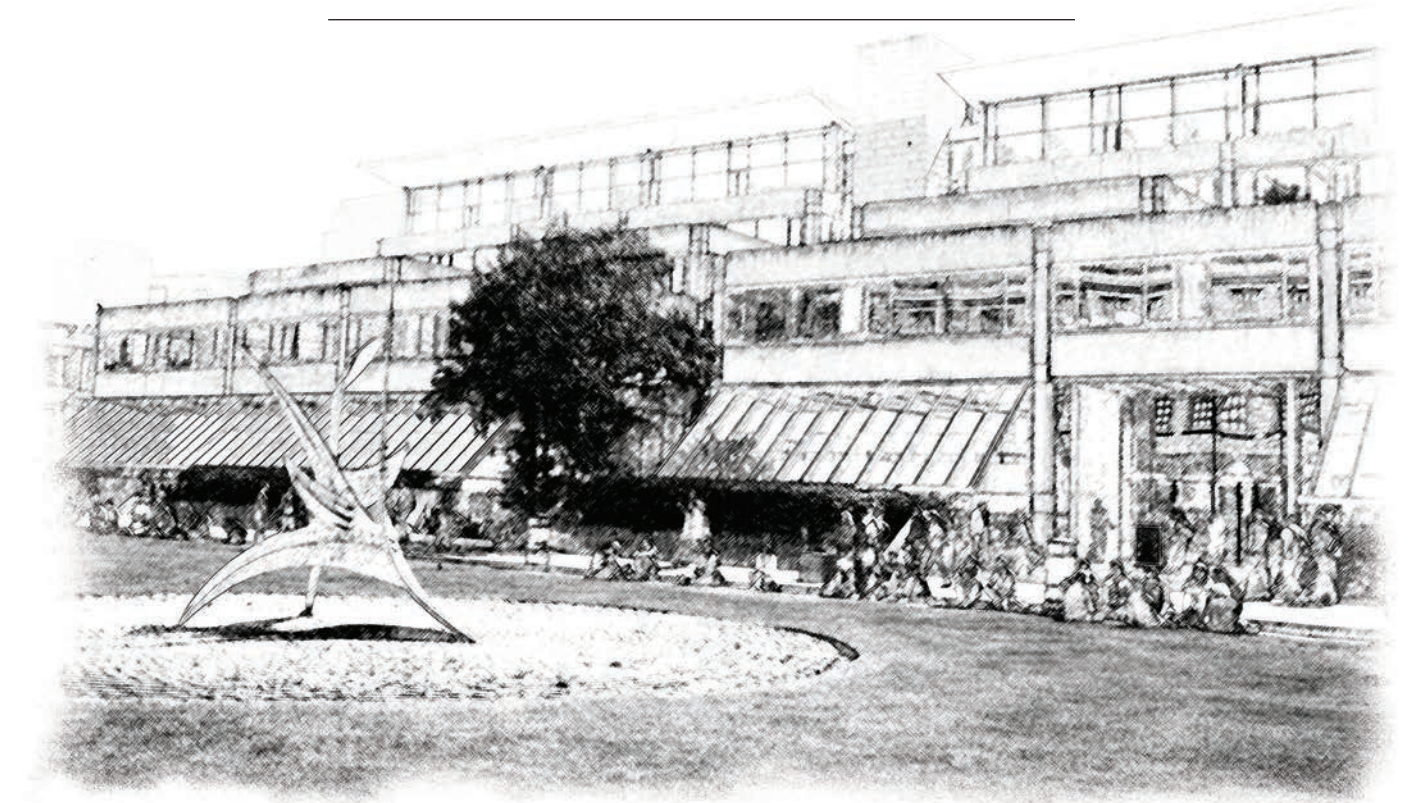
Belinda is still a regular visitor to the campus when she is back in Dublin from New York, where she has lived since 2005. You might spot her in the Lecky Library working away on a new manuscript. “Trinity is a place where I work really well,” she concludes wistfully, “because it’s where I learned how to think, how to read, and how to write.”

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sara Keating is a cultural journalist for *The Irish Times* and *The Sunday Business Post*.

Tender

BY BELINDA MCKEON



Extract from Tender by Belinda McKeon.

Sunday was a write-off, but on Monday morning Catherine's head felt clear again, and although it took much persuasion to budge James from his bed on the couch, by eleven o'clock they were both on campus, sitting on a bench by the lawn outside the Arts Block, drinking coffee and surveying the talent.

'There's Shane,' Catherine said, grabbing James's arm. 'Remember I wrote to you about him?'

'Shane Russian Shane?' James said, looking around in every direction. 'Where?'

'Over there,' Catherine said, 'but for fuck's sake don't be so obvious!'

But it was too late: James was staring at him. Shane was not someone she knew personally, but he was someone she had described at great length in her letters to James; he was a fourth year, and studying Russian, and both she and Zoe agreed that he was one of the best-looking guys in college. You should see him, James, she had written, back in October or November, you'd love him. He's unbelievably sexy.

'Him?' James was saying doubtfully now. 'With the grey hair?'

'I told you about the grey hair! The grey hair is what makes him so sexy!'

'What is he, forty?'

'No!'

'He looks forty. Are you sure that's not Aidan?'

'James!' she said, thumping him on the arm.

'When am I going to meet the famous Aidan, by the way?'

'Never you mind meeting Aidan. Concentrate on Shane.'

'I don't see it, Catherine,' James said, shaking his head more firmly.

'I don't see it at all.'

'But he's gorgeous.'

'He's all right. I wouldn't say much more than that.'

'Wait until he stands up. He's tall. You might change your mind.'

'Ah, Catherine. Now you're just forcing things.'

'I'm not,' she said mock-petulantly, pretending to be offended, but the truth was that she was slightly offended, actually. Shane was a ride. For James to so bluntly deny this now, to so bluntly refuse Catherine's invitation to admire him, to light-heartedly stalk him and trade pithy, funny comments about him, she felt almost robbed. She looked around the lawn, hoping to see another of the guys she had so looked forward to showing him, but there was only the usual late-morning spread of unremarkables, smoking their cigarettes and drinking their coffees and reading their yellowed paperbacks in preparation for their afternoon classes. Which, come to think of it, was something Catherine should be doing herself right at this minute; she had a Romance tutorial at three, and a TN article – an interview with Pat McCabe – due that evening. But it seemed wrong, somehow,

not to spend this time with James. He was just home. He was finally home. He was here – here, and now. She could not waste that. She could not behave in a normal manner, as though it was just a normal Monday, with James far away in Berlin, and everything needing to be saved up for a letter to him. This was what she had wanted for so many months: for James to be here with her, gossiping about boys, reducing her to helpless laughter with his jokes and his mutterings and his outrageous innuendoes, the way that only he could come up with them; the way that she remembered him from the summer. She felt so lucky, having him here beside her; she felt luckier than anyone else sitting around this lawn, anyone else walking around this campus, anyone living in this whole city: they only had the stupid city, and she had James.

‘Now he’s more like it,’ James said, sitting up suddenly, and it was Catherine’s turn to look about wildly.

‘Who?’

‘Him,’ James said, pointing straight across the lawn, his arm held high; Catherine gasped and batted at him to put it back down.

‘Jesus! A bit of discretion!’

‘Ah, sure who gives a fuck? Sure he’s not looking at me.’

Yeah, but plenty of other people are, Catherine thought, but she was too concerned with trying to work out who he was talking about to nag him further. There were no guys she even recognized around, except Emmet Doyle, opening a Coke can beside the bin, and the sight of him gave her a flashback of guilt about the way she had dragged James to his ridiculous party, so she cast about for someone else, but there was nobody else, and by leaning into James’s line of vision, she landed once again on Emmet.

‘You’re not talking about The Doyle?’ she said, incredulously.

‘Oh, yeah,’ James snorted. ‘I forgot about that ridiculous nickname. Yeah, I was impressed by him at the party the other night as well. He’s very nice. Very nice indeed.’

‘Oh, come on,’ Catherine spluttered. ‘He’s The Doyle.’

‘What does that mean?’

‘He’s a messer,’ Catherine said. ‘He’s a TN hack.’

‘So are you.’

‘Yeah, but he really is. He practically lives in the publications office. And the rest of the time he’s just swaggering around campus, doling wisecracks and insults out to everybody.’

‘Sounds like your friend Conor.’

‘No, he’s worse,’ Catherine said. ‘He saw some of my poems up in the publications office and he’s been slagging me about them ever since. Quoting them at me. He’s a fucker.’

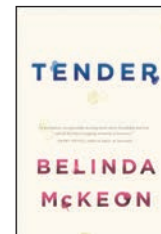
‘Well, I don’t care about his taste in poems. I just think he’s a right little bit of stuff.’

‘Ah, James.’

‘I do. Those lovely ruddy cheeks of his.’

‘James!’

This was what she had wanted for so many months: for James to be here with her, gossiping about boys, reducing her to helpless laughter with his jokes and his mutterings and his outrageous innuendoes, the way that only he could come up with them; the way that she remembered him from the summer.



PUBLISHED BY
PICADOR

Available in bookshops
nationwide, €16.99

‘You have a filthy mind, Reilly. What did you say his real name was again? Or are we only allowed to use his nom de plume?’

‘Emmet,’ she said sulkily.

‘Ah, after Robert Emmet the patriot, presumably. Well, I’ll write your epitaph for you, Sonny. Come over here to me and I’ll write you a lovely one.’

‘I don’t think he’s a patriot, exactly. He went to Gonzaga.’

‘Come up, you fearful Jesuit!’ James said then, in a roar, which horrified Catherine – she covered her face with her hands, the sight of which only served, of course, to encourage

James, and by the time he had finished with his commentary, Catherine was almost falling off the bench with a mixture of laughter and mortification, and James was holding on to her, helplessly laughing himself, and in the next moment he was hugging her, his arms tightly around her, his breath hot on her neck. His body was still quaking with the laughter, and against her shoulder he was making a noise like crying, and for a horrified moment she thought that he actually might be crying, but as he gave a long, low sigh she knew that he was all right, that he was just recovering, just steeped in the enjoyment of how funny he himself had been.

‘Oh, Catherine,’ he said, without pulling away from her. ‘I’m so glad you’re home.’

She snorted. ‘Glad you’re home.’

He went very still. ‘Why? What did I say?’

‘You said you were glad I was home.’

‘Ara, you, me, who gives a fuck which one it is,’ he said, and he hugged her more tightly, and though she felt terrible about it, she wished that he would let go of her now: she knew that he liked to be physically affectionate, that it was just his way, but this was such a long hug, and in such an exposed, public place; she felt herself cringing at the grip of him around her now, and to try to bring it to an end, to try to wrap it up in some way, she patted him on the back with her right hand, gently but firmly: once, twice, three times. And in her arms, James burst out laughing, and with his own hand, he did exactly the same thing, except that he did not pat her back but really clapped it, almost belted it, as though they were two hurlers embracing on the pitch after one of their teams had beaten the other.

‘Very funny,’ she muttered into his shoulder. ‘Nothing gets past you, does it, Flynn?’

‘Not a thing, Reilly,’ he said happily, and he planted a round of quick, light kisses all down her neck.

Copyright © Belinda McKeon 2015

Hidden Trinity

A rare glimpse at some of the more unique and lesser-known places within Trinity.

There are many iconic images associated with the Trinity College Dublin campus including the Long Room and the Campanile. Trinity's architecture is the reason it was included on the BBC Culture 2015 list of the *World's Most Beautiful Schools* and why so many visitors come to campus annually. Hidden Trinity features a few of the lesser-known but beautiful places on campus.



THE CHIEF STEWARD'S GARDEN

The Chief Steward's Garden is situated next to the Chief Steward's House in the northwest corner of the Trinity College grounds. The building was designed originally as a residence for the College's Chief Steward circa mid-1880s. Today the garden is used for studies by Life Sciences students as an example of an ecosystem. A deep pond was officially opened during Green Week in February 2011 to encourage biodiversity within the ecosystem. The water for the pond was taken from the River Liffey for its rich microbacterial content and to fit with the local environment. David Hackett, Grounds and Gardens Supervisor, has worked in Trinity for over 24 years and says that it is possible to see many things here that you would not see in other places. "When there is less construction the sound of the birds is beautiful. We try to leave things to grow as naturally as possible with the minimum amount of maintenance."



ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPHER

Karolina Badziewska is a Ph.D. researcher with the Digital Arts and Humanities Structured Ph.D. Programme in the Department of History of Art and Architecture.

@ Do you have a favourite place in Trinity you'd like to highlight? Tag @tcdalumni or include #HiddenTrinity to share it with us.



TRINITY CHAPEL

The Trinity Chapel was designed by Sir William Chambers, in the fashionable neo-classical style, as a sister building to the Public Theatre. It was completed in 1800. Now it is a place of worship for Ireland's four principal Christian denominations. The interior plasterwork is the work of Michael Stapleton, widely regarded as the foremost stuccodore working in Dublin in the late 18th Century. The oak stalls follow the traditional collegiate arrangement, facing each other across the aisle. According to Joseph O'Gorman, Assistant Junior Dean, Resident of the Rubrics, and Director of Authenticity Tours, "The seats are rather narrow. I suppose that they might produce sufficient physical discomfort to ensure the occupant's full measure of mental disquiet at being assured of eternal damnation — but one may as well be damned in style."

PROVOST'S HOUSE

The Provost's House was built in the 1760s and is the oldest inhabited 18th century house in Dublin. The house is a solid Palladian design with a central Venetian window and doric pilasters. It is one of the most elaborately decorated houses of its period, not least the Saloon and Dining Room, with Rococco plasterwork. The Provost's House has the distinctive address of No 1 Grafton Street. Provost Patrick Prendergast's favourite room within the house is the kitchen. "This is the room where I spend most of my free time. On a typical Sunday morning I like to go out and buy the shopping and then cook for the family. We all have breakfast together — I read the print newspaper and they read the papers online. I enjoy cooking, particularly Italian, as I worked in Italy for a while. The Aga means the kitchen is lovely and warm so it's the heart of the house."



THE STABLES

Work began on the Provost's House stables in 1842 where it was constructed originally as the stables, carriage and coach house building. The building is located at the west-end of Nassau Street where it joins Grafton Street and is situated in the south grounds of Provost's House. The building comprises a two-storey stone construction and, following a generous philanthropic benefaction to accommodate Trinity College's Irish Art Research Centre (TRIARC), was fully refurbished in 2007 by award-winning architects O'Donnell+Tuomey maintaining many of its original features including the stalls which are now used as desk space for postgraduate research. The piece featured in the picture is from the Trinity College Dublin Art Collections entitled *Everyone's Pieta* by Brian Maguire (1987, acrylic on canvas). Dr Yvonne Scott is Associate Professor at the Department of History of Art and Architecture. "The stables are located beside one of the busiest corners of Dublin but it is absolutely peaceful here with beautiful soft light. It is an oasis of calm and there is a real sense of community among the postgraduate students studying here."



With or Without EU

By Tom Molloy

Paul Drechsler B.A.I. (1978), was one of the industry voices campaigning for a Remain vote in the British referendum on EU membership. Here he reflects on his college days in Trinity, a career which has spanned the world and weighs in on the Brexit result.

Trinity educated captains of industry were among the most vocal campaigners for the Remain side as the British debated whether to leave the European Union.

Michael O'Leary told voters that Ryanair would have to move operations elsewhere while Paul Drechsler used his position as President of the powerful 190,000-member Confederation of British Industry (CBI) to urge a yes vote.

When the campaign ended in a narrow defeat it was not for want of trying on Drechsler's part. Earlier this year, following a speech at the Trinity Business School's inaugural Global Business Forum, Drechsler caught up with *Trinity Today* to discuss life in Trinity, social engagement and the historic Brexit debate.

The engineering graduate is a cautious fan of the EU while agreeing that there are problems. "The EU has played a role in securing the longest period of peace in the history of this continent," he said before warning, "If we don't listen to people in society, the wheels will come off."

Drechsler, who received an Honorary CBE from the Queen a year ago for services to

industry, may sometimes look like a pillar of the establishment but he is alive to how difficult the world is for many others. "We are living at a time, I think, when a lot of people are pretty fed up with leadership, whether it is business leadership or political leadership. So we do need to listen carefully and be very sensitive to the concerns of people. I think housing, having a roof over your head, is a fundamental human right. If that is not being met in a way that allows people to enjoy what they think is a reasonable life then that is going to generate major social issues. And indeed so it should," he reflects.

It is this social engagement that led the father of three to become chairman of Teach First, a charity that addresses educational disadvantage in England and Wales. It was his more recent position as chief executive of Wates, one of Britain's biggest construction companies, that first brought him into contact with some of the country's worst council estates.

"I could not believe that in the fifth richest country in the world there was such poverty and disadvantage," he recalls. "I became convinced the way to fix it was through education."

Business and education are natural bedfellows but business must be very careful about not telling schools what to do.

Today, Business in the Community (BitC) has 520 long-term partnerships between businesses and schools — partnerships that provide everything from helping children to prepare for interviews to acting as governors. "I have never met a business leader anywhere in the world who says I do not care about education."

Drechsler's climb to some of the highest positions in British industry began in Trinity in the 1970s. It was here that he studied engineering under legends such as Victor Graham, the mathematician who taught maths in both Trinity and The High School in Rathgar.

Four decades later, Drechsler fondly remembers his rooms in Botany Bay, playing table tennis at dawn, debating against the Elizabethan Society and the Trinity Ball.

"To me it was a fantastic four years. If I could have repeated it several times, I would have done it in a heartbeat. You are living



Tom Stockhill



Paul Drechsler, President of the Confederation of British Industry

What's next for Brexit?

Paul Drechsler believes the forthcoming Brexit talks are vital for Ireland's economic well-being as well as the rest of Europe. There are plenty of dangers but he is optimistic the talks can be made to work. "In business you have to see any crisis as an opportunity. We are driven by optimism." He is also a fan of British Prime Minister Theresa May. "She was very clear and decisive in forming her new government. She is thoughtful and a good listener," he adds.

Here are the five things that Drechsler believes now have to happen:

- (1) The Irish and British governments must ensure trade continues to flow and tariffs are not applied.
- (2) The flow of skilled workers has to continue in both directions.
- (3) Common regulations must be maintained.
- (4) Collaboration between universities has to continue to ensure first class research.
- (5) The UK economy must be allowed to grow to ensure the Irish and European economies expand as well.

in the past, learning in the present and preparing for the future...what's not to like?"

Trinity was fun but it was also good to the young Drechsler – indirectly giving him both his first job in 1978 and his wife Wendy who he married 35 years ago.

The job came from one of his lecturers, Mike Peirce, who advised the young Drechsler to work in Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI) which was then the biggest manufacturing company in the UK. It was a move that was to provide employment for the next 25 years in the US, Brazil and the Netherlands before he returned to the UK as chief executive of one of ICI's biggest businesses.

An even more important Trinity landmark in Drechsler's life was meeting his wife just as he was about to leave. "Just as I was graduating, I was walking out past Front Square and I met Wendy Hackett who was a physiotherapist at the time and she turned out to be my wife," he remembers fondly. "Trinity gives you friends that last for life, or if you are lucky, a partner."

Just over ten years ago, after leaving ICI, he began to reconnect with his old university when he got a phone call from a fellow 1978 graduate Jonathan Mills.

This led to Drechsler sitting on the advisory board of the Trinity Business School where he helped to ensure that the dream of a new school would take shape. Building work on the school began earlier this year and it represents one of the biggest and most expensive building programmes in the university's history.

Drechsler worked with two Provosts to help breathe life into the project and praises former Provost John Hegarty's "fantastic sense of purpose" and current Provost Patrick Prendergast's "unquestionable passion, determination and ambition" along with his "long-term view for the university". Looking back, he reflects his recent involvement with Trinity is "a pleasure I probably missed out on for too many years."

Drechsler, who traces his roots to Czechoslovakia via Castlebar, has some form here. He is a son of Frank Drechsler who arrived in Ireland in 1939 and went on

to become one of the founding academics of Trinity's Business School. Another example of the strange ways in which Trinity builds on previous generations.

Now as UK companies begin the difficult business of preparing for life after Brexit, the CBI President faces another difficult task but whatever happens in the future, he remains happy with his past decisions.

Asked what advice he would give his 18-year-old self, Drechsler does not hesitate for a second, "Study hard, get good grades, apply to Trinity, study engineering, have the best four years of your life to prepare for the rest of your life which could be fantastic if you go to Trinity." Excellent advice perhaps from a man who has the happy gift of taking life both seriously and lightly and making it all sound so easy.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Tom Molloy, B.A. (1991) is Director of Public Affairs & Communications, Trinity College Dublin, and former Group Business Editor at Independent News Media (INM) Group.

FULL STEAM AHEAD

By Sarah Gilmartin

Science Gallery Dublin Director Lynn Scarff tells Sarah Gilmartin how they silenced their critics and earned an international reputation.



Why can people imagine 35 years into the future but not 50? Would you choose to erase a traumatic memory if you could? Why do computers struggle to see colours? What might a euthanasia rollercoaster look like if humans start living too long?

These are some of the questions Lynn Scarff has encountered in her eight years working in Science Gallery Dublin. Joining the initiative in late 2006, Scarff is well placed to chart the organisation's evolution. From the Gallery's inception with Founding Director Michael John Gorman, to the dramas of the start-up phase, to its current position as a global innovator in the space where art meets science, it has been an exciting journey.

Recently appointed Director, Scarff has been involved in each of the 39 exhibitions that the Gallery has hosted since opening to the public in 2008. From the outset, the

small team had a novel approach to exhibiting, aiming to turn over content every 12 weeks.

"People were equally blown away by the concept and absolutely petrified," says Scarff. "We had a lot of experts in the field say, 'Are you crazy? There's no way you can turn something around in that amount of time. It's going to fall flat on its face.'"

Those experts have long since eaten their words, with the Gallery hosting over two million visitors to date and bringing its shows to 12 locations internationally. The model has proven so successful that in 2012 Science Gallery International was founded with the support of a €1.5m Google gift. A separate entity from the Trinity-based operation, it helps to encourage a

ILLUSION at Science Gallery at Trinity College Dublin

similar ethos of STEAM initiatives — the adding of the Arts into the disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths — throughout the world, with plans to establish eight university-linked galleries globally by 2020.

The attractive, glass-fronted centre where I sit down with Scarff to discuss her vision for the future is far removed from the forlorn part of Trinity campus that was once a car park. “Science Gallery has done a really good job of opening up this end of campus,” she says. “We always talked about it being a porous membrane where ideas come in and out. With the glass, you can literally see what’s going on inside.”

At the core of Science Gallery thinking is the meeting of art and science. While the idea of STEAM is now commonly talked about in business and government circles, this was not the case in Ireland of 2008.

“That whole concept hadn’t really started. Science Gallery was and still is a global leader in the area,” says Scarff. “It was looking at bringing arts and sciences together for a target audience of 15-25-year-olds, producing exhibitions that brought people from lots of different disciplines into partnership. It brought what was happening within a university out into the public.”

The fact that no exhibition stays longer than three and a half months makes the Gallery nimble and lets it produce shows with prescient themes. Repeat visitors make up 45 per cent of their audience, which is unusual for a cultural space. A creative platform for the public is something they strive towards, according to Scarff. “A critic once called us a ‘glorified café’, not realising that was actually a compliment. The café is the heart of Science Gallery and the exhibitions are there to inspire conversations and collaborations that wouldn’t otherwise happen.”

Although based within Trinity, Science Gallery collaborates with academic experts from a range of universities. “We wouldn’t be here without Trinity and we couldn’t continue to exist without it, but we work with universities throughout the country and abroad.”

Science Gallery is 12 per cent funded by the college, in addition to the use of the building. It receives other funding direct from government, philanthropic support from the Wellcome Trust of €1.8m over five years, and corporate support through a mechanism known as the Science Circle. The companies involved include Deloitte, Icon, Pfizer, ESB and the NTR Foundation.

“They make a commitment of five years and it’s something that’s been hugely rewarding for us,” says Scarff. “I always say that we’re experts on absolutely nothing, except making a compelling experience. We rely on all of our partners. We rely

on our academic community and on our group of Leonardos, which is made up of about 50 thought leaders from various disciplines, to keep feeding us ideas.”

Scarff says the relationship is not just financial but “deeper and based on content.” How does the Gallery balance this with retaining ownership over its programmes?

“It can be tricky,” she says. “You don’t want a scenario where it turns into a curatorial input. There’s a big difference between content brainstorming and curatorial input. We’ve worked with our funders to outline that curatorial output is our domain and more specifically, the domain of the curators we put in place for each show. They are the people who make the decisions.”

Highlighting shows like *Strange Weather*, or *Hack The City*, where a drone camera flew up to the windows of Google, Scarff says none of their corporate partners have had issues with their programmes. “The reason they come to us is because we’re the provocative edgy ones. But I think the relationship works because we’ve been very clear since the beginning about the boundaries.”

One big change in recent years is the sense of awareness in the wider community about what Science Gallery is about. “Companies like Intel,



“We always talked about it being a porous membrane where ideas come in and out. With the glass, you can literally see what’s going on inside.”

Bank of Ireland, HSBC are all talking about STEAM, how creative arts and technologies fit into their businesses, the importance of having flexible thinkers that can move between disciplines. We’re not going to be able to answer the big global challenges without this. This is completely different to where we were at the beginning, with people questioning the cross-disciplinary approach.”

Eight years in, the Gallery has earned an international reputation

as a centre of innovation. It is also fully operationally stable, with the team now planning their programmes two years out. After hosting two million visitors, they recently took stock and looked at where to go next. “We could have decided to double the size of the building,” says Scarff. “Multiply the number of events and visitors. But instead we want to deepen the experience.”

A major part of this is the Science Gallery's education and learning programme, which has tripled its activities in the last two years. Scarff says she would like visitors to not only view a current exhibition but also be able to see the collaborative process in the learning labs between secondary school students, researchers and artists for future exhibitions.

"It's about giving an in-depth experience to second-level students that's embedded in arts-science. A big part of that is about contaminating formal learning systems and that's where I see us being able to play a really important role. I think there's a growing recognition that formal learning alone won't be able to answer global challenges in the future. You can't answer problems with one perspective. You need to have multiple views and the ability to move between different areas."

What can art and science learn from each other? "It's about encouraging people to tell stories in different ways in order to engage people," she says. "Art usually brings that storytelling component in a more compelling way. Science brings really tangible important content."

As befits her start-up mentality, Scarff says that while



HOME/SICK at Science Gallery at Trinity College Dublin

"You can't answer problems with one perspective. You need to have multiple views and the ability to move between different areas."

the Gallery has had some wonderful exhibitions – Lightwave, Illusion, Grow Your Own and Surface Tension are among her favourites – they have yet to score an A1.

"For me, we've nailed lots of different aspects of an exhibition but we've never made what I would call a truly immersive experience. I think theatre is something that is really good at that, making you forget momentarily that you actually exist. I believe you can do that with an exhibition as well. We've reached complete immersion in moments, but we haven't produced a show that does that the whole way. Maybe 40 minutes of complete immersion is too much," she says with a laugh, "but I'd certainly like to try."

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sarah Gilmartin B.A., (2004) is an *Irish Times* columnist and writer.



LIFELOGGING at Science Gallery at Trinity College Dublin

SCIENCE GALLERY INTERNATIONAL

Science Gallery London (SGL)

Before the physical gallery opens at King's College, SGL will be targeting 'hyper-locals' — people who pass within 100 metres of the location of the gallery on a regular basis. All of the planning begins over a year in advance, which means that participants from local communities get to shape the content before experts are brought in. The pop-up programming in shop fronts, railway arches and market stalls takes place in spaces that are owned and controlled by the locals.

The Global Science Gallery Network now has four locations in Dublin, London, Bengaluru and Melbourne with discussions at an advanced stage for a fifth location in Europe. It will be some time until these new galleries open their doors, but from 2017, each will be developing public programmes and engagement opportunities. Another key aspect of the work to date has been to grow a network of receiving venues for touring Science Gallery exhibitions. The most recent tours to Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona (CCCB) in Barcelona and the KunstKraftWerk in Leipzig have been highly collaborative, with local artists and scientists contributing to a process of co-curation and re-curation of the exhibitions.

Science Gallery Bengaluru (SGB)

Science museums typically cater to very young audiences, while Science Gallery by design caters to 15-25-year-olds. Half of the population of India is below the age of 25, so there is particular potential for SGB to impact current conversations in India about science, and its social and ethical implications such as around GMOs, antibiotics, water shortage, and the Indian space programme. SGB will draw on the intellectual capital of India's three leading research institutions; the Indian Institute of Science, National Centre for Biological Science and Srishti Institute of Art, Design and Technology.

Science Gallery Melbourne

Science Gallery Melbourne is intended to act as the 'front door' to the University of Melbourne's new innovation precinct, Carlton Connect. The initiative is planning to co-locate people from large businesses, all levels of government, research disciplines, small start-ups and social enterprises together in a central place. Melbourne is no stranger to the collision of art and science; it is the city where performance artist Stelarc had a cell-cultivated ear surgically attached to his arm.

Life through the Lens

By Tommy Gavin

A new four-part documentary series by Loosehorse Productions showcases a year in Trinity.



Cameraman Michael O'Donovan sets up an establishing shot

Over the past year, a three-person team from Loosehorse Productions has been meticulously documenting life in Trinity. Following students, researchers, and staff, the four-part series for RTÉ will lift the veil on the microcosm in the city.

The idea for the project came from Loosehorse founder and director Cormac Hargaden. Loosehorse spent over two years working with the Trinity Anatomy Department on a programme called *A Parting Gift*, which explored the stories of people who donate their bodies to medical science, the medical staff who tend to the process, and the students who learn from these “silent teachers”. According to Hargaden, having had a team working in Trinity for that long exposed them to the scope of human drama on campus and they asked themselves, “Why has nobody ever done a documentary about this extraordinary city within a city?”

“From a programme maker’s point of view,” says Hargaden, “we were like kids in a candy store because everywhere you look there’s an interesting story.” With the initial idea, he approached the college which agreed to the project in principle, then approached RTÉ who were attracted to the idea; and RTÉ and Loosehorse jointly and successfully applied for funding from the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland.

Overall, there were around 50 days of filming across the year with around 200 hours of footage, distilled into 160 minutes of television across four episodes. Deciding upon which form the narrative arc would take was of crucial importance, though the

logical approach to follow the course of an academic year divided by the seasons was a clear first step. “So it starts in August,” he explains, “during the preparation for a new batch of students, and goes all the way through to the next summer when tourist season starts. In-between you have high watermarks like the Freshers’ Ball, the Christmas Tree going up and Trinity Week.” The editing process took 18 weeks. “We built about 40 or 50 individual five-minute chunks in the edit, and the fun part was trying to see how we would combine them bit by bit. Some things are inextricably linked to the time they happened, and there are other elements that are moveable feasts.”

The challenge, according to the director of the project, Ronan O'Donoghue, was staying in control of the narrative. “When you have a whole year, it can be very difficult trying to keep an eye out for a story that might be happening right now, while making a judgement about whether it will be a strong enough story thread to follow through. We tried to find a way into the landmarks of Trinity, because it does have things that other universities don't have, and the last thing we needed to do was make a documentary that could be made anywhere.”

One of the unexpected narrative threads that weaves through the programme follows then Students' Union (SU) president Lynn Ruane, from moving into campus residence with her daughters as the incoming president, to the Seanad count in Trinity's Public Theatre where Lynn won a seat in the election for Seanad Éireann. “So there was a very compelling human story,” says Hargaden. “It gave us an opportunity to understand what student politics was all about. Rather than sitting down and having a talking head telling us how vibrant the SU is, we got a real feel for that by simply observing Lynn's year.” According to O'Donoghue, the director, “The Seanad count was a brilliant day. It was a big moment, and because we got to know Lynn very well and the family very well, it was quite an emotional moment.”

Hargaden says that any preconceptions they approached the project with have now been erased. “It might have been that this was a walled city within a city but we realised that it's a very permeable wall. There's a great sense that the gates are now open, so whether you walk in through Front Arch or whether you walk into the Science Gallery, there's a sense that all creatures great and small and all kinds of Irish life walk through those doors every day.”

“I hope people feel we did it justice because it's an important part of the city,” says O'Donoghue. “To be given the chance to document a year of that and what it means, comes with a big responsibility. It is an important place, and you need to make sure that that comes across.”

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Tommy Gavin B.A. (2015) is a journalist based in Dublin.



“It was a big moment in Trinity and we were the only ones who had it all on camera.”

TRAILBLAZERS

A round-up of Trinity alumni who are blazing a trail in different fields.

In 2015, graduates from Trinity College founded more companies than graduates from any other European university over the last five years, according to a *PitchBook Universities Report*. This entrepreneurial spirit crosses many disciplines and many of our alumni and current students are forging a path in their disciplines. This is a small selection of these trailblazers.



ERIN FORNOFF M.PHIL. (2014)

Erin Fornoff has been living and working as a poet in Dublin for the past seven years. Called a story-telling poet she has performed her work at festivals and events across Ireland. Three years ago she co-founded the Lingo festival which has since become Ireland's first and largest spoken word festival. In 2016, Fornoff will be programme manager for the festival, which features international and national poets, youth workshops and music. Her essays have been published in *The Irish Times* and her poetry in *The Stingy Fly*, *Cyphers* and many others. Fornoff's awards include first prize for poetry in The Cellar Door, third prize in Strokestown International Poetry Award and one of her poems was chosen for the inaugural Best New British and Irish Poets 2016.



ISEULT WARD B.A. (2013)

Iseult Ward, is co-founder and CEO of FoodCloud, a social enterprise that has a vision for a world where no good food goes to waste. While studying for a B.A. in Business and Economics in Trinity College, she realised that stores were throwing out perfectly good food while local charities were struggling to feed those in need. With her co-founder and fellow Trinity student Aoibheann O'Brien, she arranged for surplus food from businesses to be donated to local charities. To make the process scaleable and efficient, they developed a software platform which enables businesses to upload details of their surplus food notifying a local charity who then collects the donation. FoodCloud participated in TCD's accelerator programme Launchbox and NDRC LaunchPad. In May 2014, FoodCloud trialled in a number of cafes and in one Tesco store. Since then, FoodCloud has expanded to a network of more than 500 businesses, including Tesco and Aldi, and 1100 charities. FoodCloud has redistributed the equivalent of over 3.4 million meals in Ireland and the UK. FoodCloud aims to scale its solution internationally, helping communities to work together, solving the global problems of food waste and food poverty.



MARY MOLONEY

LL.B. (1991)

Mary Moloney is a Senior Managing Director at the Global CEO Advisory firm, Teneo Holdings, with responsibility for Teneo Consulting in Europe. A former Global CEO of CoderDojo, she remains on the board of its Foundation and within her tenure grew the movement from 200 coding clubs to 1,100+ free of charge technology clubs reaching 45,000 kids in 65 countries around the world, through a community of 7,500 volunteers. Prior to taking up her role at CoderDojo, Moloney was a Partner at Accenture working with clients across Ireland, UK, EMEA and globally. She is an award winning executive; named as one of Europe's Tech Top 30 Women, one of Europe's Inspiring 50, listed as a top 100 Woman in STEM worldwide, top 15 worldwide tech face changers, Tatler Woman of Influence, Computer Weekly Rising Star, Irish Tourism Ambassador and Honorary Fellow at the Irish Computer Society. She is a keynote speaker at International Conferences, including Davos, The Web Summit, SouthxSouthWest, EU Parliament, Dreamforce, Buckingham Palace and the Global Entrepreneurship Conference. She is also involved in a number of non-profit initiatives such as contributing to the Institute of International & European Affairs, and participating on the board of The Dublin Fringe Festival.



FINN MURPHY

Trinity student entrepreneur Finn Murphy, in partnership with Trinity IT Services, developed a Trinity student card for smartphones, the first of its kind in Ireland. He participated in Blackstone LaunchPad, a campus-based experiential entrepreneurship programme open to students, alumni, staff and faculty offering coaching, ideation and venture creation support. The product was supported and developed in Trinity through IT Services and a team of students led by a Trinity computer scientist. From idea to product, Trinity is now the first university in Ireland to launch its own digital student card and Murphy hopes to bring this unique service to other institutions in Ireland. He will graduate from Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering in 2016.

MATT SMYTH

B.A. (2011)

Matt Smyth formed the Irish theatre production company Collapsing Horse in 2012 together with fellow Trinity alumni Aaron Heffernan, Eoghan Quinn and Jack Gleeson. Collapsing Horse has



staged a number of productions across the world, it currently produces the award winning Dead Centre and ANU Productions and is staging a production of *The Aeneid* as part of the Tiger Dublin Fringe Festival. At Trinity, Smyth held lead positions in Trinity Players, the Business and Economics Society (DUBES) and the Central Societies Committee (CSC). He was also festival director of Trinity's Shakespeare Festival and founded the Oscar Wilde Festival. In 2017, he will run the *Cat Laughs* comedy festival in Kilkenny together with Dan Colley and the rest of Collapsing Horse.

ROB FARHAT B.A. (2012)

The goal of Ensemble, and of Founding Director Rob Farhat, is to provide a one-stop-support-shop for artists making quality music. This is of particular importance for artists that fall outside the mainstream, like the trad-influenced Ensemble Ériu, and the jazzy artsoul of Loah. Ensemble was set up with the assumption that if the music industry were to start from scratch tomorrow, it would look nothing like it currently does. There would be different entities looking after different aspects of music organisation, like managers, booking agents, promoters, labels, publishers, and production companies. Ensemble works with artists to stage concerts and promote their work and has just started releasing music as a label. They are also now working with other small labels to host multi-label showcase events and mini-festivals.





HAYTHAM ASSEM

PH.D. RESEARCHER

Haytham Assem is a Ph.D. researcher at the ADAPT Centre for Digital Content Technology, the Science Foundation Ireland Research Centre led out of Trinity's School of Computer Science and Statistics. At 26, Assem became the youngest person ever to be given a Master Inventor title by IBM. He is a Principal Investigator and Technical Lead within the Innovation Exchange Team at IBM's Software Development Lab in Dublin. He has collaborated with international IBM Engineers and academia leading to 25 successful USPTO patents in several fields such as voice and video analytics, and predictive modelling. Additionally, Assem was a named inventor on three of IBM's top patent awards, which were singled out of thousands of invention submissions worldwide.



AOIFE MC LYSAGHT B.A., PH.D. (1998)

Professor Aoife McLysaght is head of the Genetics Department at Trinity. She was a member of the international consortium that published the first draft of the Human Genome sequence in 2001. In 2009, Professor McLysaght made the first discovery of genes that are completely unique to humans, a find that may help to explain what exactly it is that makes us human. Her ongoing work is identifying links between gene duplication patterns and human disease. She has received several awards including the President of Ireland Young Researcher Award, a European Research Council Starting Researcher Award, and the 2016 Genetics Society (UK) Haldane Lecture. Professor McLysaght was recently announced as a portrait subject for the *Women on Walls* campaign run by Accenture and the Royal Irish Academy aiming to increase the visibility of female leaders on workplace walls through a series of commissioned portraits. Professor McLysaght will be joined in the portrait by other European Research Council Starter Grant recipients including Trinity colleagues Professor Sarah McCormack, Professor Catriona Lally and Professor Lydia Lynch.

NORA KHALDI PH.D. (2010)

Dr Nora Khaldi is the founder and CSO of Nuritas – a company revolutionising health and food systems through the accelerated discovery of disease-beating molecules from food. The Nuritas team have discovered a number of therapeutic peptides and filed many patents. These achievements have won international awards such as the Forbes Reinventing America Award which recognised the global impact Nuritas technology will have on the future of food and health. At present Nuritas is working on identifying peptides from food that would have an effect on particular receptors within the body, which in turn will have positive downstream effects on our health. As a mathematician with a Ph.D. in Molecular Evolution and Bioinformatics, her research has focused primarily on protein evolution and comparative genomics. Khaldi was the first scientist to show gene transfer between multi-cellular species.



JANE FARRAR B.A., PH.D. (1985)

Professor of Genetics at Trinity, Jane Farrar, has spent over 20 years researching a form of inherited blindness. She was instrumental in the creation and development of Genable Technologies, an Irish bio-pharma company developed in 2003 at Trinity. The company specialises in developing gene medicines to target genetic diseases. In 2016, Genable Technologies was sold to US gene therapy leader, Spark Therapeutics. Genable Technologies has collaborated with Spark since 2014 in the development of a therapeutic programme that targets one of the most prevalent forms of inherited retinal disease (IRD). With the acquisition, Spark acquired RhoNova™, a potential treatment targeting rhodopsin-linked autosomal dominant retinitis pigmentosa (RHO-adRP), an IRD that routinely leads to visual impairment and in the most severe cases to blindness. As there is currently no pharmacologic treatment for RHO-adRP, finding a cure could help as many as 12,000 patients.





GRACE WEIR M.SC. (1997)

Grace Weir is one of five artists selected to share the 2015 *Trinity Creative Challenge* award. Weir's film *A Reflection on Light* traverses different disciplines to present a wider context to the concerns of the painting *Let there be Light* by Mainie Jellett which hangs in the Trinity School of Physics where Weir was an artist-in-residence in 2012-13. Weir represented Ireland at the 49th International Venice Biennale in 2001 and has exhibited widely both nationally and internationally. In 2016, Weir completed a solo show at the Irish Museum of Modern Art, the largest exhibition of her work to date. Working primarily in the moving image and installation, Weir is concerned with aligning conceptual knowledge and theory with a lived experience of the world. Her unique approach to research is based on a series of open conversations and experiments with scientists, philosophers and practitioners from other disciplines.



SEAN JUDGE B.T.S. (2011) & ORLA MCCALLION B.A. (2012)

Sean and Orla provided private tuition to students throughout college and recognised that there was a gap in the market for this service. In response, they set up UniTuition - an online tutoring platform designed to help third-level students find a tutor. To date 750 tutors have joined and the site has 8,000 active users. In 2015, during the early stages of the business the pair took part in the NDRC's and Trinity's accelerator programs where they received mentoring and funding to launch their new startup venture. Following this the pair took part in Enterprise Ireland's Access Silicon Valley Programme where they travelled to Silicon Valley to conduct market research, talk to potential customers, meet investors, and participate in a pitch night which they won. The company has since expanded into the UK and has also launched a new service, TutorHQ.ie, which helps Junior and Leaving Certificate students find tutors in a similar manner.

RORY O'SULLIVAN B.A.I (2008)

Rory O'Sullivan, recently named as a standout in the Forbes Europe Top 30 Under 30 list, wants to change how people think about nuclear power. As founding director of Energy Process Developments (EPD), O'Sullivan is raising money for a simplified molten salt reactor that could produce electricity more cheaply than a new coal fired power station and more safely than existing pressurised water reactors. The reactor keeps the molten salt fuel contained in conventional tubes instead of piping it around valves and heat exchangers outside a reactor, avoiding the requirement for costly failsafe systems for cooling and containment. EPD has partnered with Moltex Energy, of which O'Sullivan is now Chief Operations Officer, following a year-long feasibility study undertaken by EPD and overseen by O'Sullivan.



RUTH NEGGA B.T.S. (2002)

Ruth Negga has recently been the subject of enthusiastic Oscar speculation for her performance with Joel Edgerton in the 2016 independent historical drama *Loving*. Negga has been gathering accolades over the past decade, with both small and central parts in film, television and theatre. Her breakout role came in the 2004 film *Breakfast on Pluto* as the girlfriend of an IRA gunman, where she so impressed director Neil Jordan that her part was written into the script specifically for her. The versatile Ethiopian-Irish drama graduate has since starred as the title character in the 2016 Hebridean drama *Iona*, the blockbuster *World of Warcraft*, the television shows *Misfits* and *Love/Hate* and in *Hamlet* at the National Theatre in London. Ruth currently plays Tulip O'Hare in the AMC comic adaptation series *Preacher*.

@ Share your Trinity trailblazers with the Trinity Development & Alumni office online using #tcdtrailblazers or @tcdalumni



GOOD FELLOW

By Anthony King

Trinity Professor Luke O'Neill joined an illustrious list of scientists recently when he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society.

Professor Luke O'Neill was this year elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, FRS. As he signed the admissions book in London, he joined an illustrious coterie of scientists that includes Darwin, Newton and Einstein. He is the first Irish-based biologist to be elected since biochemist Edward Joseph Conway in 1947.

O'Neill, a Trinity graduate, is one of Ireland's top researchers. He is also arguably the most familiar Irish scientist through his appearances on *Eureka: The Big Bang Query* on TV and contributions to talk radio. Always approachable, he loves to talk science. He also gladly talks about The Beatles and is an avid guitar player. His election to the Royal Society though is for solving the mysteries of our immune system. He has helped push Trinity's immunology research into the top rankings worldwide, comparable to Harvard.

You get an FRS for one big discovery. For Darwin, it was evolution. O'Neill's contribution was for toll-like receptors (TLRs), critical switches in the body. They detect invading microbes and muster white blood cells to take them out. Among O'Neill's discoveries was how the body hits the TLR off switch and dials down inflammation. Reining in inflammation is not academic. Rogue friendly fire from the body's immune system is involved in Alzheimer's, rheumatoid arthritis, sepsis and other diseases. "The normal job of inflammation is to fix tissue, if you sprain an ankle or get an injury, but for some reason it can go out of control," O'Neill explains. "What is amazing is that inflammation lies at the heart of all of these diseases."

O'Neill compares his lab's work to figuring out a car engine. "We didn't know what half of the parts did," he quips. "When you find key components, that gives you more targets to fire drugs at, but you never know the clinical angle." Eight years ago, O'Neill and his colleagues realised that TLR-2 went up during kidney transplants, causing transplant rejection. A company called Opona was set up to try and trip this switch. In hospitals in Europe and the US, 136 patients have received its blocking antibodies to assist transplants. "The biggest thrill is if you can help patients. Even though we love science and love noodling, as I call it, imagine if our discovery made a difference to patients," he says. "That's the dream."

O'Neill is a strong communicator. "I'll talk till the cows come home," he cheerily admits. He credits Trinity's Science Gallery with honing his own communication skills. "You should be able to explain what you are doing in a simple way, though not too simple," he says, over cooling coffee. "Science suffered from being pompous and looking down on non-scientists. Scientists saw themselves as a bit rarefied and it can still be elitist," he says, but attitudes are shifting. "There is a massive appetite. The public want to know," O'Neill enthuses. "Some because they love science and want to hear what you are doing. But people also want to know about treatments, because every family is hit with these diseases."

Like a good puzzle, he is drawn to the complexity of the immune system. Its pieces are pathways, proteins, and genes and the challenge is fitting them all together. "The analogy I use is dominoes," he says. "You are finding the earlier domino and an earlier one and finally you may get to what causes these things. We have no idea what causes many diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis."

O'Neill's interest in immunology began as a Trinity biochemistry undergraduate with a project on Crohn's disease. He moved to London to do a Ph.D. focusing on the hormone-like prostaglandins, and then on to Cambridge. His boss there gave him a five-year research contract but was astounded when O'Neill announced he was returning to Trinity: "You are mad to go back there. It's a backwater." Ireland had good researchers but almost no funding. That was 1991. When he arrived back, he was struck by the quality of the students, easily as good as in Cambridge. "I thought, 'Hang on, there is a great cohort of kids here, which I can recruit into my lab.' It made me more confident." Trinity immunology continued to grow and now has nine research groups encompassing hundreds of scientists. When his colleague Professor Kingston Mills came on board in 2001, it added momentum. O'Neill is still exercised and ambitious about Trinity's future. "Our goal is to beat Harvard. We are good with the success rate of publications, but not the scale. If we could scale up to 15 labs, we can do it."

Inflammation is a crucial part of Alzheimer's disease, Crohn's disease, hardened arteries and other conditions. O'Neill is certain that there is a common pathway. He points out that steroids work for many of them, though we don't know why. Figuring parts out can unearth new

anti-inflammatories or even anti-cancer drugs. "The immune system could be the way to cure cancer, and again TLRs are involved by boosting anti-tumour activity," he says. Last year his lab discovered a drug that could block another immune system switch (NLRP3). "It worked in a model of multiple sclerosis, in sepsis, and even in models for Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's. We are incredibly keen to take it further," O'Neill says. "It may suppress the damage in those inflammatory diseases."

The compound was developed, tested in people and later dropped by Pfizer. But O'Neill's insight that it might block this switch triggered some experiments. A new company was set up during the summer of 2016 to work to convert it into a therapy. "Remember the prize here is huge," he notes. "There is nothing for Alzheimer's or Parkinson's really and not much for osteoarthritis. If we find a new anti-inflammatory — that could be massive for these patients."

This year, O'Neill joined a GSK research lab in the UK on a sabbatical, along with three Trinity researchers. "Industry is looking for new models," says O'Neill. They need new ideas, stimulation and to be shook up a bit. "They know that some of the nutty professors may have the answers and so they talk to them." Industry can spend billions on diseases and get nowhere. He has collaborators in Europe, the US and Australia. When I meet him, he is about to pack for a conference in Trondheim, Norway, where he will meet fellow immunologists. "We are bound to have a few scoops," he says. "I will meet with two collaborators and we will spend hours, often in the bar, discussing experiments, what we'll do next and did you see that [research] paper. It's like you are in The Beatles fan club and you meet up at a Beatles' convention."

If you look into an immunologist's lab, they will mainly be pipetting colourless solutions. "My father used to ask what I do all day," says O'Neill. It is mainly cells in culture. O'Neill does less lab labour these days. "When you are a principal investigator, you are like a football manager really. I am not playing football myself, but people in the lab are and hopefully scoring goals. Your job is to manage, to advise them and to deploy them strategically." Science is all about the people.

Having embraced a love of music and played guitar and piano from an early age, O'Neill once was in a band but now prefers to jam with friends and colleagues. He also loves getting out into Dublin Bay in his boat. "It's not a yacht," he assures me. "It's a speedboat." He still lectures first-year science students, evangelising to convince the brightest to become immunologists. Young people are a resource that need to be tapped into,

"Someone said to me the Fellow of the Royal Society award is like a light sabre. I intend to use it. Like Luke Skywalker."

O'Neill says, and the Government is falling short. "It is like we have discovered oil but we're not putting in the oil well." He's critical of Government failure to fund outstanding Irish scientists and its focus on applied research. There are no guarantees with basic science, but it can be transformative. "A focus on better candles would have never generated the light bulb. And basic science is where young scientists get the very best training."

"I'm jaded from all the parties from this FRS business," O'Neill jokes. In the UK, the government listens to FRSs. And O'Neill plans to wield the acclaim for good, keeping the Government focused on science. "I feel my voice should be heard more now in lobbying, to tell the Government to cop onto itself. Someone said to me [the FRS] is like a light sabre. I intend to use it. Like Luke Skywalker."

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Anthony King B.A. (1995) writes on health, technology, science and business and has contributed to the *Irish Times*, *Nature*, *Science Magazine*, *New Scientist*, *Cell*, the *New York Times*, *Chemistry World*, *Chemistry & Industry*, *Technology Ireland*, *Cosmos Magazine*, *Discover Magazine*.



Trinity College Dublin

Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin



Did you know?

Trinity has a wide range of courses across different levels for your lifelong learning needs.

For more details visit www.tcd.ie/study

Tackling the Dementia Epidemic

By Tommy Gavin

An ambitious new joint initiative between Trinity College and the University of California, San Francisco aims to improve health and dementia care worldwide.

There is a looming global health crisis facing humanity. This crisis is of dementia which affects 48 million people globally, and without intervention, will double every 20 years as the world population ages. Left unaddressed, it will cripple social and healthcare services all over the world; as dementia already costs the economy more than heart disease, stroke, and cancer combined.

Faced with this stark reality the Global Brain Health Institute (GBHI) was established in 2015. A joint initiative between Trinity College Dublin and the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), the GBHI was funded by the Atlantic Philanthropies with a €138 million grant, the largest programme investment in its history. The portion of the grant going to Trinity represents the biggest grant in the history of Irish state. Taking a long-term approach, the GBHI will train up to 600 people in the next 15 years. By bringing scientists, economists, engineers, journalists, artists and policy advocates together to translate cutting-edge research into policy recommendations, the plan is not just about developing new treatments and identifying disease markers, but also making society more aware and ready to address brain health issues. According to GBHI Co-Director Professor Ian Robertson, "No other centre in the world is trying to train leaders who will influence policy and practice while tying this closely to the latest science and research evidence."

The GBHI is structured into two tiers: a fellowship programme and a scholarship programme. The former will have a two-year commitment at either Trinity College or UCSF, where four fellows at both sites will conduct inter-disciplinary research and learn ways to bridge neuroscience and public health policy, and is aimed at experts. The latter is a shorter programme with 32 annual places, 16 at each site, designed to train people from a broader pool, including journalists, artists, lawyers, and technologists.

Dementia is an umbrella term which describes a range of conditions which cause damage to our brain. This damage affects memory, thinking, language and our ability to perform everyday tasks. The most common form of dementia is Alzheimer's disease, accounting for 50-60 per cent of all cases. One key objective of the GBHI is in changing public attitudes towards dementia, as there is an added social stigma associated with living with it.

Helen Rochford Brennan is Chair of the Irish Dementia



Helen Rochford Brennan,
Chair of the Irish Dementia
Working Group

Working Group and a member of the International Consortium for Health Outcomes Measurement, which assists in informing policy for the World Health Organisation. Four years ago, Helen was diagnosed with Early Onset Alzheimer's. She says that the GBHI represents an exciting opportunity to share best practices on a global scale.

"The fact that the scholars programme is open to those that may not be directly linked to academia and gives a person like me with the lived experience an opportunity to be involved is really encouraging. I can't stress enough how important it is to have people with dementia involved in the decision-making. As someone living with dementia, I know only too well that we need change. We need change in how we talk about dementia; in how we include people with dementia in our communities and in our society; we need change in how we develop dementia care pathways from the point of diagnosis to post-diagnosis support and we need change in how we fund dementia."

Over 50,000 people are currently living with dementia in Ireland and it is the biggest barrier to independent living for older people. For Helen, overturning the stigma and bringing dementia out of the shadows is one of the most crucial objectives for the GBHI. "People with dementia have the same human rights as everyone else, but we often face barriers to fulfilling these rights. Our rights include the right to a timely diagnosis, to person centred, quality care, and to be respected as individuals in our communities."

"I can't stress enough how important it is to have people with dementia involved in the decision-making. As someone living with dementia, I know only too well that we need change."



Professor of Psychology, Ian Robertson,
and Conolly Norman Professor of Old Age
Psychiatry, Brian Lawlor who are leading
the GBHI in Trinity

Trinity and the Decade of Commemorations

By Professor Eunan O'Halpin

Trinity College has had a significant role in the commemoration and analysis of events that ignited political and social change in Ireland a century ago.

Although not yet at the mid-point of the Decade of Commemorations of 1912-23, for the Irish public and diaspora the high point undoubtedly came at Easter, with the centenary of the 1916 Rising. The commemorative tide had been rising since October 2013, when the Dublin Lockout was very successfully marked by various events which set the tone with an emphasis on public participation.

This focus on public involvement has been reflected in Trinity's own commemorative activities: in March 2014 a public centenary symposium on *The Curragh Mutiny in Context*, organised in conjunction with the Defence Forces, took place at the Curragh; in July 2014 the *First World War Roadshow*, run in conjunction with RTÉ and the National Library, drew about 7,000 visitors into College. In August 2014, a plinth commemorating Trinity's war dead was unveiled outside the 1937 Reading Room, and in June 2015, a conference *The North Began?*, organised in conjunction with St Patrick's College Drumcondra, brought many descendants of northern republicans into college. On Easter Monday 2016, thousands of people visited Trinity to attend a broad range of talks, debates and performances presented in conjunction with RTÉ as part of the extraordinarily successful *Reflecting the Rising* initiative. The Department of History's online course *Irish Lives and Revolution* developed by Professors Anne Dolan and Ciaran Brady, has attracted thousands of users from across the world, while the Centre for Contemporary Irish History is the lead partner in the acclaimed *The Revolution Papers* which has been an unprecedented academic and commercial success.

Easter 2016 was emphatically a time for commemoration rather than for critical reflection. A myriad of state, local, institutional, and political commemorative events inside and beyond the state passed off successfully and without rancour. The Government's unashamed embrace of every variety of commemorative exercise, such as entrusting the Defence Forces with the task of bringing the national flag and the proclamation to each primary school, had the effect, *inter alia*, of taking the wind out of Sinn Féin's sails. That party ostentatiously stood aside from official commemorations, instead mounting its own not altogether dignified centenary events outside the GPO and elsewhere.

Trinity's role in the 1916 Rising was more significant than is sometimes realised.

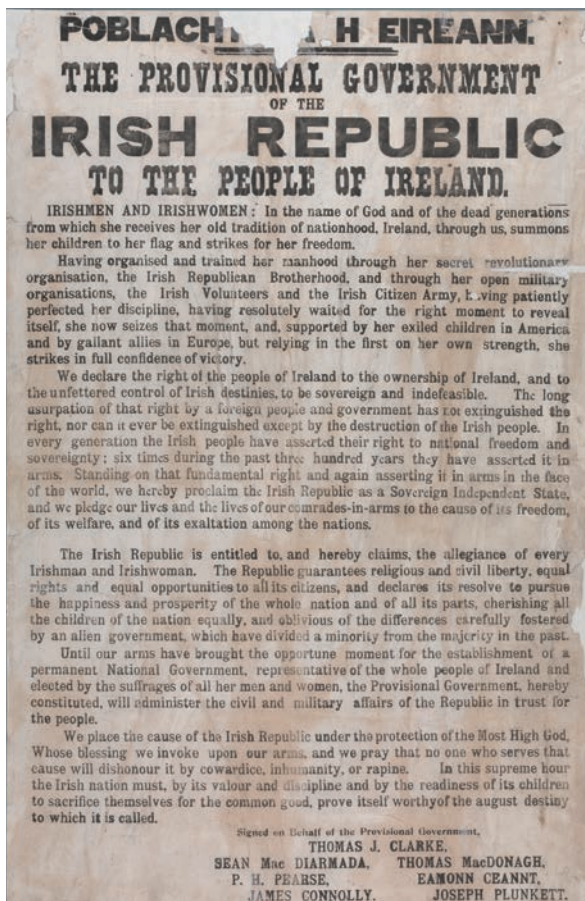


Troops in Trinity's Front Square

The rebels would have been far better advised to make it their headquarters than the poorly-sited General Post Office in Sackville Street. Instead Trinity became a key bastion from which rebel positions were sniped, within which the wounded found succour, and where British forces could rally prior to pushing on towards the main rebel positions.

The speed with which the college was secured and defended was crucial. So too were the actions of a Trinity law graduate, Major Ivon Price. A Royal Irish Constabulary district inspector with experience in political policing, Price spent the war as an intelligence advisor to the army in Ireland. He was in Dublin Castle conferring with officials about a proposed round-up of rebel suspects when he heard the shot which killed an unarmed constable at the gate of the Upper Castle yard. Price, whose son Ernest had perished a few weeks earlier while serving with the Royal Irish Rangers in France, ran down into the yard and opened fire on a group of Irish Citizen Army rebels who were milling about (some say they were in shock at the brutal killing they had just witnessed). Price and a handful of soldiers drove the rebels off.

For his conduct he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order (DSO), and during the Royal Commission on the Rebellion he was a star witness amongst those who said they had warned for months about the state of the country and the need for a crackdown. Price left Ireland suddenly shortly after the 1921 Treaty – his son Norman said his father had been told to 'leave his hat behind the door' in Dublin Castle one lunchtime, so that he could slip away unnoticed without alerting potential assassins. But he never lost his love of Ireland, and Norman himself returned to study at Trinity, captaining the athletics club in 1928-29 before embarking on a career as a colonial official which culminated in his appointment



Proclamation of the Irish Republic.
Image courtesy of the Library of Trinity College Dublin and the Board of Trinity College Dublin.



Irish World War I recruitment posters

in College Park between army officers and civilians, held to raise funds for ex-servicemen. In the same month the 78 year-old Canon John Finlay, a Trinity man, was murdered by an undisciplined IRA Volunteer in Cavan, an unplanned and unprecedented act roundly condemned by the local Catholic clergy but which must have terrified Protestants throughout Ireland.

From 2017 onwards, centenaries such as the foundation of Dáil Eireann and the commencement of the War of Independence in 1919, the inauguration of home rule for Northern Ireland and the Treaty in 1921, the establishment of the Irish Free State in 1922, and the civil war of 1922-23, are likely to be less universally embraced across Ireland. Trinity has a particular interest in the Irish Convention of 1917-18, the last occasion on which all constitutional parties on the island attempted to come to a compromise on the question of Irish self-government. Proceedings were held in Regent House, and the convention was the last chance for southern unionists and nationalists to persuade Ulster unionists to compromise on the question of home rule for all of Ireland. But Ulster unionists, schooled by the one-time University of Dublin MP Edward Carson, were not for turning.

Provost Bernard, who had originally argued that Trinity should be exempt from any measure of Irish self-government, was distraught at the Government of Ireland Act, writing in 1920, "the Imperial interests, including the interests of the University and of the Church will be at the mercy of an exasperated and hostile majority." After the signing of the Anglo-Irish Treaty in December 1921, he told Lord Midleton that "inasmuch as we are only loyal people who have given the Empire all we can in war and in peace, we get nothing and are faced with academic bankruptcy, because the pledges of an Act of Parliament are not being carried out." In fact, however, Trinity secured significant explicit protection in the new Ireland, not least through representation in Dáil Eireann, and from 1937 in the recast Seanad Eireann.

It is a pity that Trinity's champions, acutely conscious of the perils of being a minority in a new predominantly Catholic state, did not advocate comparable protections for the minority in the new Northern Ireland.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Professor Eunan O'Hallpin is Bank of Ireland Professor of Contemporary Irish History, and Director of the Centre for Contemporary Irish History.

as lieutenant governor of Northern Rhodesia (later Zambia).

By a curious twist of fate, after retiring in 1964, Norman worked for a time as an intelligence advisor to Ian Smith's rebel white Rhodesian regime. When I interviewed him in 1983, living in exiguous circumstances in Somerset because he had returned to Britain with only his colonial pension, he spoke of Trinity with deep affection, although recounting regretfully how on a nostalgic trip to Dublin he had been unable to find anyone in college to talk about the old days.

The Rising centenary was planned by the state in parallel with commemoration of Irish involvement in the Great War. That conflict naturally resonates rather more for Trinity than did the Rising, because so many people with Trinity connections fought, and almost 500 died, and because participation in the war was seen as proof of loyalty to Britain and the empire: indeed, the crowds who gathered in College Green on Armistice Day in 1924 were so large that they rekindled the hopes of Provost John Bernard (1919-27), whose son had fallen at Gallipoli in 1915, that Ireland might yet see sense and return to the

British fold: he told Lord Midleton that 'the enthusiasm with which the men on parade yesterday were greeted by the crowd shows that the spirit of imperialism is undoubtedly alive in Southern Ireland.'

Trinity largely escaped direct violence between 1919 and 1923 but was always under menace and was not entirely unscathed. The task of preparing the first officially sanctioned history of the Irish conflict was given to Lecky Professor Walter Alison Phillips, who in 1922 secured access to Dublin Castle records for *The Revolution in Ireland, 1906-23*, a valuable though partisan early study.

More recently, Tomás Irish's commissioned volume *Trinity in War and Revolution 1912-1923*, explored the college's experience of that momentous decade. A few instances reflect the times: in 1920, an IRA arms raid on the Officer Training Corps armoury was called off at the last minute. In March 1921, the Cork IRA murdered Trinity engineering student and war veteran, William Good MC, who had returned to the family farm after his father's killing a fortnight earlier. Three months later the IRA killed the young spectator Kathleen Wright when they fired on a cricket match



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF THE IRISH TIMES

No Imitation Game

By Nicole Matthews

Bletchley Park code-breaker and Trinity graduate, Leslie Greer passed away in Dublin on 25th June 2016. She was in her hundredth year.

She waited a long time for recognition of her secret work, but earlier this year, just before her 99th birthday, Leslie Greer was honoured with a medal for “vital services performed during World War II” at Bletchley Park in England, or the “Government Code and Cypher School” as it was officially known.

On the occasion of meeting Leslie on her 99th birthday in April 2016 she joked that what she would really like as a present was, “a new head...but I suppose a lot of people would like that, so there is very little hope for me.”

We began by talking about her recent award. Was this something she was proud of? “It’s a tiny medal in reality,” she said smiling wryly.

During World War II, Germany believed that its secret codes for radio messages were indecipherable to the Allies. However, the meticulous work of code breakers based at Bletchley Park cracked the secrets of German wartime communication, and played a crucial role in the final defeat of Germany.

So how did Trinity graduate Leslie end up working at the highly secretive organisation during the Second World War? Eileen Leslie Tyrrell was born in London in 1916. Her father was a barrister and her mother served as a motorcycle dispatch rider for the Royal Flying Corps during World War I.

The family moved to Dublin when Leslie was a young girl and after attending Alexandra College she studied Modern Languages in Trinity. By her own admission, she came to German rather late in life, but remembers that the language “just spoke to me” and she went on to earn a First Class Honours.

During Leslie’s time at Trinity in the late 1930s, women were leaving a significant mark on college life and fighting for a level playing field with their male peers. Leslie’s contribution to this was by penning satirical letters and in one she wrote that college life should be altered to better suit women’s needs with examinations in “the understanding and use of cosmetics and a lecture in strategy and tactics by a distinguished married woman graduate”. She was also involved in Players and remembered it fondly as the one place in College where men and women stood on an equal footing.

Upon graduation she took up a position lecturing at Queen’s University, however soon found it to be a “waste of time when there was a war going on”. With encouragement from a senior lecturer she went for a job interview to London for which she was given no details at all but simply told she would be working at Bletchley Park.

Most of her day-to-day role consisted of listening to codes in Hut 3 and manually writing down everything which was picked up on. She said thinking back it was “writing, writing, writing...until you had a pain in your hand so it wasn’t glamorous at all.”

Often she would be asked for advice from the “really important people” in Hut 6 or the cryptanalysts tasked with deciphering the German communication codes transmitted through Enigma and Lorenz cipher machines.

“I was surprised that I was expected to give advice to these experts who were in fact breaking codes and the ridiculous thing was that several of them didn’t know very much German at all — so I had to tell them what it all meant.” Did she meet Alan Turing? “Unfortunately not and I would have liked to as he was a very important person at Bletchley.”

She recalls that while much of the work was dull, there were some exciting moments. “We did have a few times when something really exciting came in about the Germans starting something with Russia or something happening in North Africa – that always had us on the edge of our seats.”

It was estimated that the work at Bletchley shortened the war by four years and Leslie recalled Winston Churchill visiting them to praise them for their work. “He came down to congratulate us and I was very struck by how small he was.”

After the war, Leslie continued working for the foreign office in Germany, Spain, Brazil, and Uruguay and was awarded the MBE for her work before moving back to Ireland in the 1990s.

Having lived an incredible life, it was a privilege to meet this remarkable woman shortly before she passed away.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nicole Matthews B.A. (2001) is Director of Communications with Trinity Development & Alumni.

Trinity Affinity Card. You get, we give.

You get a unique credit card and we give back to Trinity every time you make a purchase with your card.

These funds are used by the TCD Association and Trust to support a range of Trinity student and staff projects.



Apply online or call today

bankofireland.com/alumni

0818 200 412

Bank of Ireland 

For small steps, for big steps, for life

HIGHER EDUCATION:

Forward Thinking

By Louise Holden

The inaugural Seamus Heaney Professor of Irish Writing, Chris Morash, has been appointed Trinity's 72nd Vice-Provost. He discusses his new role and the impact of Brexit on higher education.

Irish literature scholar Professor Chris Morash is assuming the role of Vice-Provost at an exciting and challenging time for Trinity College Dublin. As Chief Academic Officer, a key part of Professor Morash's new job is to coordinate the university's strategic planning around research and education, at both undergraduate and postgraduate level.

"What excites me is the opportunity to effect change," says Professor Morash. "We are in the implementation phase of the Trinity Education Project, which is an opportunity to go into the syllabus and to really rethink foundational ideas about education."

The Trinity Education Project encompasses everything from assessment to learning, looking at how students can move across disciplines and take more ownership of their degrees. Much of the groundwork has already been laid, so Professor Morash is keen to drive its implementation and enhance the learning experience of all students at Trinity.

He has significant challenges on his plate as well. "Another key area for me will be the question of third level funding in Ireland. Its influence is becoming

increasingly more apparent on the points race – it is very competitive for places at the moment and funding influences that. As a sector, as a nation, we have to get to grips with the issue: business as usual is not an option."

The other major challenge for Trinity and for higher education is Brexit. The implications of the UK vote are only now being studied. The close research relationships between Ireland and the UK are under the spotlight. The movement of students between the islands will be disrupted. Movement of research talent is likely to change too, if European research funding is redirected. As the behaviour of sterling has demonstrated, perception is important when it comes to money.

"I think that were Brexit to happen, which is still by no means certain, my sense is that we are not facing a cataclysm but an extended period of adaptation and adjustment. There are dangers and opportunities, depending on how we manage the change," says Professor Morash.

There have been some alarmist predictions — Erasmus students disappearing from UK universities and European member states retracting from research partnerships with the UK for example. Professor Morash doesn't

support the idea that England's difficulty is Ireland's opportunity.

"I think that's the wrong way to look at it. It's not helpful to step into the role of vultures circling the carcass. It's not neighbourly and it's not a carcass. Many of the major European research universities are in the UK – I don't believe for a minute that Oxford and Cambridge are suddenly going to be cut out of the loop."

Will Brexit impact research?

Since 2007 the UK has been a net beneficiary of EU research funding. A deficit of billions will open up if EU funding flows to the UK are dammed. It may not happen, but the threat is damaging. Confidence is critical to the retention of research talent and the fostering of international collaborations.

"Trinity researchers have co-authored more papers with UK universities than with Germany, France and Italy combined," according to Professor Morash. "It's in our interests to protect our research relationships with the UK."

He points to members of the European Economic Area, such as Iceland and Norway, who continue to partake in EU-funded research consortia.

"There is a lot of fluidity in the academic sector. Researchers will follow projects with large amounts of funding attached. One



We have to get around the crisis mindset and find ways to communicate the excitement of the future to people who feel left behind.

outcome that we may look forward to is Ireland being included as a middle partner in consortia involving member states and the UK. If Brexit does happen, Trinity is going to be the top ranked English-speaking university in the European Union. If someone is looking to partner with an English-speaking university, we're on the radar like never before."

What will Brexit mean for students?

"Student lecturer ratios in Ireland have been moving in the wrong direction for years. A combination of funding cuts, changing demographics and better access programmes means that we have fewer lecturers and more students. Brexit could mean changes in student numbers, an increase in Erasmus visitors and a rise in applications from students within and beyond the EU. We have to get a handle on funding. The Cassells Report has been published now and there's no challenging its core finding: Irish higher education must secure more funding."

Individual institutions must try to plan for increased capacity, even in the midst

of flux. "There is anecdotal evidence that Erasmus students are hesitant about the UK and are starting to look to Ireland. This could throw the system out of balance if we don't plan for it," he warns.

There are between 12,000 and 15,000 Irish full-time students studying in the UK, and around 2,000 in Northern Ireland. It's not yet known whether there will be fee hikes for those students if Brexit takes place. If so, this could also lead to swelling of the ranks in Irish undergraduate courses over the coming years.

"Northern Ireland is a special case within the UK," Professor Morash explains. "The third level sector in the North is already going through a tumultuous period with a funding crisis, cuts in student numbers and the elimination of entire departments. Applications to Trinity from Northern Ireland have gone up. If those students have to pay international rates to attend Irish universities that's a problem, but I don't see it happening. It's much more likely that there will be a European Economic Area-style accommodation. Where there could be a complication, however, is in the

area of student supports that are currently funded by the EU."

What are the potential benefits of Brexit for Irish higher education?

"Trinity values internationalisation. We are competing for the best students in the world. The rhetoric surrounding Brexit will deter some international students from applying to the UK. If they want an English-speaking country in the EU, they will look to us."

Professor Morash hopes that the impending change might finally force the issue of higher education funding in Ireland. "The Cassells Report is very clear. A substantial infusion of funding is required, most likely a combination of increased exchequer funding, student fees, and employer contributions. Only in the last 10 years has the Irish university system really started to operate in a global context. Brexit will accelerate that."

Brexit reminds us of the true mission of the university, says Professor Morash. He believes that the rhetoric of the Leave campaign, the rise of the right in Europe, and the success of Donald Trump all point to the continuing importance of academic values: progressive thought and global collaboration.

"The day after the Brexit result we awarded an honorary doctorate to US Vice President Joe Biden. In his address he described the vote to leave as an expression of helplessness, the feeling that the world has gone beyond our control. Then he explained how the graduates before him were the embodiment of a very different outlook, a generation with the greatest potential of any that had gone before. They are, he said, the most tolerant, the most committed to equality, with greatest potential for learning.

"His words crystallised my thinking on Brexit. We have to get around the crisis mindset and find ways to communicate the excitement of the future to people who feel left behind. The onus is on the universities to foster a form of globalisation that isn't about economic exploitation, but about the potential of connectedness. The 18 to 24 year-old cohort voted overwhelmingly to remain in the EU. As universities we have to continue to support their vision."

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Louise Holden B.A. (1995), is a former education correspondent with *The Irish Times* and a graduate of Trinity College's Department of English.

Headlines and Deadlines

by Dominic McGrath

The incoming Deputy Editor of *The University Times* shares his experience of juggling time between lectures, exams and creating copy.

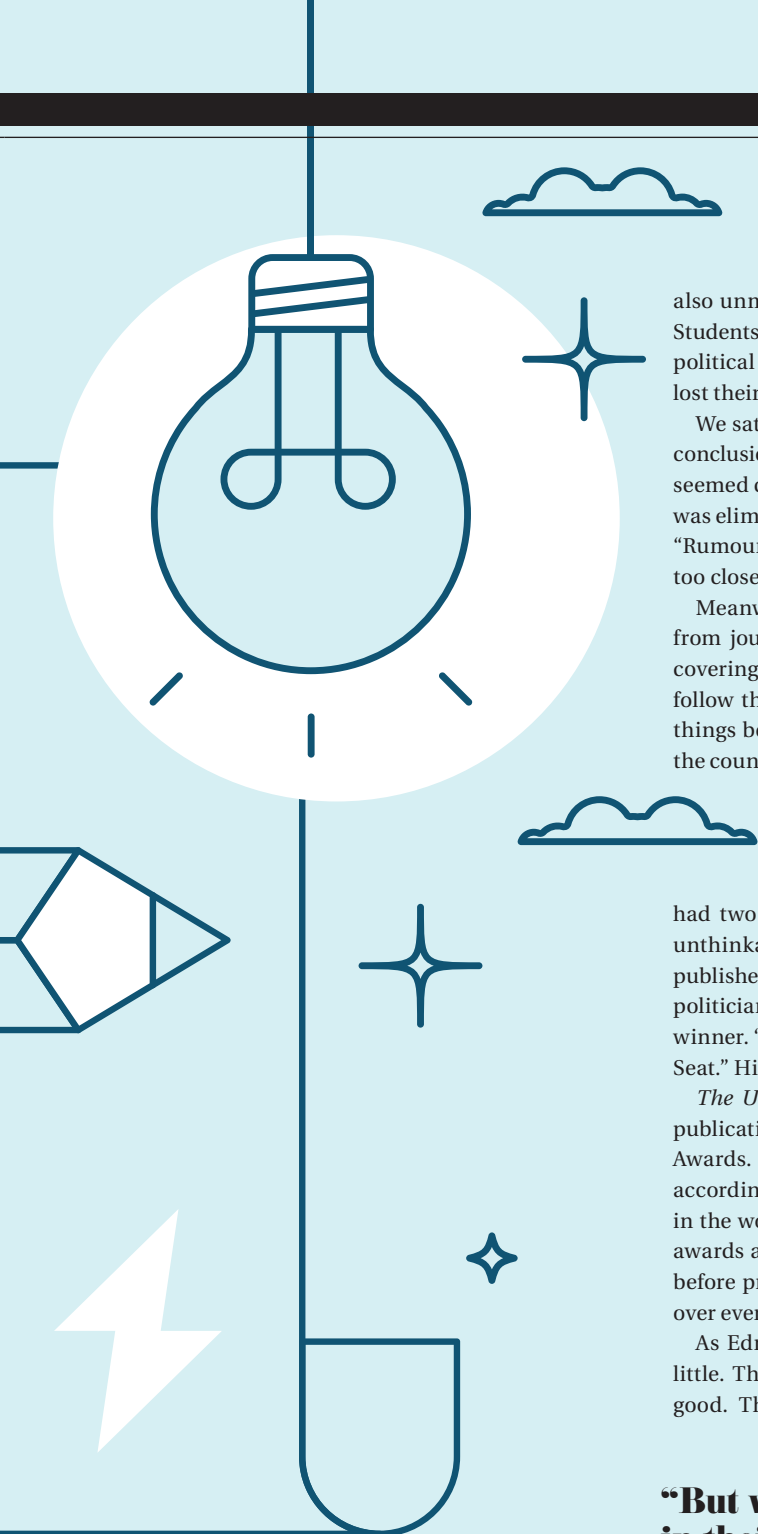
It is 4am on the Sunday night of our last production weekend of the year, our final print issue. Amid the detritus of a weekend's worth of editing, writing and facebooking, a small group of student journalists hack away at keyboards and stare bleary-eyed at screens full of text. Beneath the window, our Deputy Editor, Sinéad Baker, is nearly finished laying out the news features. A half-eaten curry is on the table beside her. Behind his desk our Editor, Edmund Heaphy, works his way through the news section. Every now and then he sighs, or scowls, or questions me on some aspect of a particular piece. I'm used to this by now; since September, I've worked nine production weekends on the newspaper as news editor, putting together the printed edition of *The University Times*. All around the office, stacks of old editions glare down, with bundles and bundles of ancient issues scattered across the room. Sinéad has called it our archive. I imagine very few offices or libraries possess an archive that presents such a constant health and safety risk.

Watching Edmund read the section each weekend, I'm sometimes relieved that he has anything to read at all. There were some large gaps in the news section right up to only 48 hours earlier. Gaps that totalled around 2,000 words, with no easy way to fill them.

We had no such worries the previous April, as the votes for the University of Dublin Seanad election were counted. The Exam Hall, or more grandly, Trinity's Public Theatre, is usually the place for commencement ceremonies or the occasional guest speaker. For a few staggering days though, the room was a buzz of agitation and impatience. Looking around at the mix of people roaming the hall, from the Provost to Senator Ivana Bacik to Director of Friends of the Earth, Oisín Coghlan, the major sport between counts was candidate spotting.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dominic McGrath is a Junior Sophister student of Law and Political Science, and is the incoming Deputy Editor of *The University Times*.



also unmissable. As the votes between the incumbent, Seán Barrett, and outgoing Students' Union (SU) president, Lynn Ruane, drew closer and closer, one amateur political scientist was trying to remember the last time an incumbent senator had lost their seat in Trinity. He wasn't certain, but was sure that it was a long time ago.

We sat in our corner, which seemed to swell with people as the counting neared conclusion, trying to predict which way the votes would be transferred. Edmund seemed confident that Ruane would benefit most, but, as candidate after candidate was eliminated, the gap between her and Barrett was still no more than marginal — "Rumours flying here about which candidate is getting more, but it's honestly way too close to even chance trying to make some sort of call."

Meanwhile, *The University Times* blog was getting serious attention on Twitter from journalists, students and avid election watchers. An *Irish Times* journalist, covering the count from the hall, quipped that he might just slip out for a pint and follow the liveblog instead. As Norris in first place, and then Bacik, were elected, things became tenser in the hall. Our liveblog, sedentary for the first few hours of the count, was now being updated every few minutes. Between counts, Edmund and

Sinéad would get discreet shots of the candidates in conversation. When Averil Power eventually arrived, they got a great picture of her, laughing, and leaning over the barrier that separated us from the counters.

We had a race on when it came to announcing Ruane's election. We had two articles prepared, one for Barrett winning, the other for Ruane. It was unthinkable that we might publish the wrong one. What mattered was that we published first. To have a SU president beat off an incumbent senator and a national politician was going to be big news. We waited for the official announcement of the winner. "Lynn Ruane Defeats Barrett on Fifteenth Count to Secure Third TCD Panel Seat." Hit publish. Promote on facebook and Twitter. Relax.

The University Times is Ireland's largest student newspaper and this year won publication of the year at the Union of Students in Ireland's Student Achievement Awards. It was also the best-designed student newspaper in the world in 2016, according to the Society for News Design, and has one of the top ten editorial boards in the world, according to the Society of Professional Journalists. As great as these awards are, they are little solace when you're faced with a blank section only days before production weekend. In those few days, a kind of collective madness takes over everyone in the paper. Lectures, essays, and seminars go out the window.

As Edmund finished looking over the news section, I allowed myself to relax a little. The small collection of stories I'd accumulated over the last 48 hours were good. They had passed the test, and were now the responsibility of the copy

editors, currently crammed into another corner of the office, methodically reading each and every article in the issue. Every Sunday night, they sit in a corner of the office until sunrise, murmuring in American accents about full stops and compound adjectives, slowly dissecting all the articles that will be published in the issue. No article can get into the print

"But with my articles left in their capable hands, I'm finished. The clacking of keyboards gives way to the gentle hum of traffic at 5am. I'm already planning my day ahead."

issue without them. They read every article, from a news analysis piece on higher education policy, to a sports article about Trinity's cricket team winning their last match of the season.

But with my articles left in their capable hands, I'm finished. The clacking of keyboards gives way to the gentle hum of traffic at 5am. I'm already planning my day ahead. Back in the office at 10am, to read over the issue before it's sent to print. There's a news team meeting at 2pm. A lecture at 3pm, and then seminar work due at 9am on Tuesday. Someone might have mentioned an essay due on Friday. With exams beginning in a few weeks, normal college work just doesn't seem as exciting.

But *The University Times* team, fresh from a production weekend and midway through exam season, were most definitely not just there to socialise. Instead, after establishing our base in a corner of the hall, we began our liveblog of the count.

Every count was tracked, every moment caught on camera. Most people were sure that Bacik would be re-elected. As the counting began in earnest, David Norris looked set to top the poll. But it was still a slow process. On the first night, counting finished at around 1am, and began again at 9am. With everyone except the paper's editor also trying to prepare for exams (the editor is a full-time sabbatical position), covering every moment of a national election was challenging to say the least, but it was



SPORT ONE ON ONE:

Prakash Vijayanath

By Tommy Gavin

Prakash Vijayanath speaks to *Trinity Today* about being named Trinity Sports Person of the Year, what it's like to be a high-performance athlete, and the great sport of badminton.

W

hen asked whether it was a surprise to win the Sports Person of the Year Award at the 2016 Trinity Sport Awards and Commons, Prakash Vijayanath admits in a tone that is charmingly polite, that it was a surprise and a great achievement, but that 2016 was not his best year so far. That would be the year he finished second in the All Africa Championships, won the South African National Men's Singles, and came from South Africa to Ireland and to Trinity. He has since maintained and surpassed that level, but that was the year everything came together. A Senior Sophister Business and Computer Science student, Prakash is a Trinity Sports Scholar and ranks third in Africa for Men's Singles badminton, and his sights are firmly set on the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

The sport of badminton is the subject of some common misconceptions, which spring from the particularities of the sport itself. For one thing, the cone-shaped shuttlecock is designed to slow down after it is hit, as the feathers create drag and make its trajectory easier to predict. Despite that though, badminton is the world's fastest racquet sport, and the shuttlecock can reach speeds of up to 300 kph. Serious badminton is almost never played outdoors, as weather and temperature can drastically affect the movement of the shuttlecock, which only weighs around five grams. It is not hard then to see where misconceptions stem from; the poles between beginner and master are light years apart.

Prakash considers Lin Dan to be the best badminton player of all time. "He has two Olympic Gold medals which nobody has ever been able to do in Men's Singles. He has also won every major tournament there is to win. When he was younger he had an explosive style of play, but as he got older he has managed to change his style to be less explosive but still very effective which is why his body has been able to cope with him playing at a top level for so long."

The history of badminton dates back centuries across Eurasia, but the modern game developed in the mid-nineteenth century. The Bath Badminton Club formed and developed the first set of official rules in 1877. "Many people view badminton as a beach or garden sport which is definitely not the case. At a competitive level, badminton requires a high level of speed, strength, stamina and agility. It's a very interesting and fun sport at all levels and is slowly gaining more publicity in Europe," explains Prakash.

Prakash started playing badminton with his parents in Johannesburg at the age of five. By the time he was 13, he started to take it seriously and began to focus more on training. By the time Prakash was 18 and finished school, he was ready to go pro, and so he moved to Ireland. "In South Africa the training was good," Prakash says, "but I just reached a certain level where I couldn't improve any more. Living in Ireland would be a good base to travel from as well so it also meant I could play European tournaments. My coach was already linked in with Badminton Ireland, he knew the CEO, and they've definitely helped me a lot. I used to have a more defensive style of play, and would wait for my opponent to make a mistake. Now I tend to attack more and be proactive to win the point early. All parts of my game have improved since moving to Ireland but I feel as if I have improved my attacking game and my speed on court the most." Prakash's achievements to date include a Silver Medal in African Games 2015, Gold in Thomas Cup Qualifiers 2016 (Men's Team Championship). Prakash was a National Champion in South Africa in 2013 and 2014, he also played in the Commonwealth Games in 2014.

Speed on the court is of paramount importance, and the player has to be able to move in any direction at any time. Footwork and stamina are the foundations of good badminton. They are what you build your mobility on, and from there your choice of stroke, and therefore your tactics. Prakash's preferred tactics are risky. "My favourite stroke would be the crosscourt net shot. It's a daring shot to play in a match which is why I try not to use it too much, but when it works, it looks really good."

All of this of course requires constant training, and Prakash is militant in his scheduling. Any given weekday during term will include court training in the morning, lectures in the afternoon, and gym training in the evening. "Although managing studies and sport is quite tough, it has been something I am used to doing since I was in school. What helps me most is to have a set plan or routine each week. This helps me plan my sessions and my study times effectively and also reduces the time I spend doing nothing. It gets pretty exhausting by the end of the week but I don't train much on the weekend so I have more time to relax."

For now, Prakash is working on his off-court physical training to get stronger and develop an explosive style of play, and as summer finishes he will go back to on-court exercises. There are four years until Tokyo 2020, and there are plenty of senior international tournaments between now and then.

"I used to have a more defensive style of play, and would wait for my opponent to make a mistake. Now I tend to attack more and be proactive to win the point early. All parts of my game have improved since moving to Ireland."



Prakash accepts the Trinity Sports Person of the Year award from former Irish athlete Sonia O'Sullivan and Michelle Tanner, Head of Sport at Trinity College Dublin.



The Sesquicentenary Regatta at Islandbridge in April



Game On

With a new strategy providing a roadmap, Trinity Sport is on a definite course for success.

A game-changer – that's probably the best way to describe 2015-16 from a sports perspective in Trinity. Following the official launch of the strategy in February 2016, there is now a concerted effort to put sport at the heart of the Trinity experience. Trinity Sport is raising its game when it comes to all things sporting and the strategy provides a roadmap for improving the performance of our athletes and for enhancing participation among students and the wider college community over the next few years and beyond.

One group that has already raised their game, it seems, are the college's **GAA** players, who've had one of their best years in recent times. The men's football freshers played a blinder all year, becoming the first freshers in Trinity history to win the Division 2 championship. Their future looks bright. The men's senior hurlers had another great year, defending their Ryan Cup title and in the process elevating themselves to the Division 1 Fitzgibbon Cup competition.

The highlight for the Trinity ladies Gaelic football team was playing in the Division 1 O'Connor Cup – the first time in the club's history to compete at such a high level. Since 2012 the ladies have progressed swiftly up through the divisions. They started the 2012-13 season in Division 3 and by 2015-16 had reached the top tier. The Camógs put in some very impressive performances resulting in a well-deserved win in February to claim the Fr Meachair Cup. The talents of camogie sports scholar **Aisling Maher** were also recognised when she was selected as the

Dublin Camogie Young Player of the Year in November 2015, and also made the CCAO Third Level Camogie All-Stars selection.

It was a landmark year too for **DUFC's** senior team, who were promoted to Division 1A in April under the stewardship of **Tony Smeeth**, who was awarded a Trinity Sport Award that same month for his special contribution to rugby. The team's winning ways didn't end there – they also triumphed in the intervarsity Dudley Cup, which Trinity won for the first time since 1994, beating a UCD team consisting of 14 professionally contracted players. Trinity played its Colours match this year in College Park beating rivals UCD by a margin of 28-15, its first triumph since 2012. They were also runners-up in the World University Cup held in Oxford in October. Well done too to **James Bollard** who earned his first international cap at the World Rugby U20 Championship in Manchester in June.

As **women's rugby** continues to grow as a sport, so too does women's rugby on campus. Not only did this year see an increase in the number of women participating in college rugby, the women's team emerged



Sonia O'Sullivan with members of the Women's Senior 8 team who were awarded Pinks at the Sport Awards and Commons in April

SPORTS IN NUMBERS

21

Pinks awarded at this year's annual Sports Awards and Commons

48

The number of student sports clubs

60

Sports scholarships awarded for academic year 2015-16



DUFC outgoing captain Nick McCarthy in action — Trinity were promoted to Division 1A this year



The camogie team celebrate their Fr Meachair Cup win

victorious from the Student Sport Ireland (SSI) 7s competition in April.

One of the highlights of the rowing year was the Sesquicentenary Regatta held at Islandbridge in April. The event marked 150 years since the first regatta was held in 1866 and welcomed 259 crews from Ireland and beyond. For **DUBC**, the year really belonged to the Novice 8s, who won at the Irish Rowing Championships in Cork in July to crown a year in which they were unbeaten. In terms of results, it was an especially good year for **DULBC's** Senior 8 and Novice 8. Highlights include Erne Head, where the Senior 8 retained their title as fastest women's 8. They also beat hosts Queen's at the University Boat Race in May. Meanwhile the Novice 8s recorded several big wins to be crowned Novice 8s champions at the National Rowing Championships in July.

Trinity's hockey alumni were feted at an event in the Dining Hall in March. Among those present were **Dorothea Findlater** (106) along with her granddaughter **Zanya Bowers**, both of whom not only played for Trinity but also for Ireland. In fact, Dorothea earned her first international cap 80 years ago in Philadelphia. Notable hockey successes this year include performances by sports scholars **Anna May Whelan**, who gained her first international cap in June against Spain, and **Rachel O'Brien** who vice-captained the Leinster U21 team.

Finally, in June we got to welcome alumni **Ronan Gormley** (BESS 2001-05), **Conor Harte** (2013-14) and **Stephen Barry** (2001-04), as well as the rest of the Rio-bound Irish men's hockey team, to Santry for a match against Canada. It was great to showcase our new international-standard pitch, which was upgraded as part of the first phase of redevelopment of the 34-acre Santry site.



Dorothea Findlater and Ronan Gormley at the alumni event in the Dining Hall

3



The number of Trinity alumni in the Irish Men's Hockey squad who competed in Rio — the first time an Irish hockey team has qualified for the Olympics in over 100 years



1854

The year DUFC was founded, making it the oldest rugby club in the world in continuous existence

43,000

Visits to the swimming pool





Trinity College Dublin

Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

Did you know?

There are substantial discounts for alumni at the Trinity Sports Centre.

For more details visit www.tcd.ie/alumni

Waxing Lyrical

BY TOMMY GAVIN

Winner of the 2016 Hennessy Emerging Poetry Prize, Jane Clarke, fills us in on her creative approach to writing poetry and shares her thoughts on how the art form is valued in Ireland.



For Isobel

I
Your father's alive in our house;
his books talk to ours on the shelves.

His photograph above the piano,
violin tucked under his chin.

You play the pieces he arranged,
quote his sayings and stories,

read his fountain-penned notebook
of favourite poems, Yeats,

Frost and Verlaine,
for what they tell about him.

You would run to keep up
as he walked Three Rock Mountain,

insisting you listen to the latest
from Sartre and Teilhard de Chardin.

Read to me from the Russians, he'd say,
those months when he lay in the Mater.

You cycled from your summer job,
grateful for each day and even

for his request through a medicated blur,
speak clearly and enunciate your words.

II
In a room full of strangers you sit by her side;
she plays with your fingers, fidgets with rosary beads.

She whispers meanderings of mama and dada
back home in Rockcorry and frets about the cows

that broke into the meadow, the stove to be blackened,
feeding corn to the goose, walking her brothers to school.

One day she shouts, you let her slap your hand.
The next she holds onto you. She cries when you leave.

She's forgotten your name, sees her sister in your face.
She's floating away from you, a leaf in a slow stream.

Today she smiles, looks you straight in the eye:
Agh Isobel, you're here. Where have you been?

Jane Clarke's poetry is both subtle and enduring. Often appealing to images of wildlife, her work is rooted in a rural sensibility that recognises the indifferent violence of nature, but also its beauty, giving expression to the depths of human experience. She believes that poetry is primarily aural, closer to sculpture or painting than literature, in the creation of almost-intangible art objects through language. Winner of the 2016 Hennessy Emerging Poetry Prize, Clarke's first collection, *The River*, was published in 2015 by Bloodaxe Books. She is currently working on a second collection.

HOW DO YOU APPROACH YOUR CREATIVE PROCESS?

My work is lyrical, so I'm working with sound, with emotions and with ideas. It's highly intuitive, and intuition is honed by reading, reading, reading. When I'm in-between poems, I have the fear that there won't be another one, so I try to make sure that if I am not writing, I'm reading. As long as the poems are coming, I'm very grateful.

COULD MORE BE DONE TO SUPPORT IRISH POETRY?

On the one hand poetry is thriving with poetry readings in pubs and at festivals all over Ireland every night of the week, with *The Poetry Programme* and *Sunday Miscellany* on RTÉ, with poetry featured in *The Irish Times* and *The Irish Examiner*. It hasn't translated into sales of books and I think that's a pity. Unfortunately the Irish Book Awards don't even include poetry as a category. And yet Irish people love poetry and at key moments in life, it's poetry they turn to. I think it's also a pity that poets can't make more of a livelihood from something they

work so hard at. I don't necessarily want to give up my other work, but there should be a better living from poetry. The arts just aren't valued adequately in terms of the role they play in life.

WHAT WAS YOUR TIME IN TRINITY LIKE?

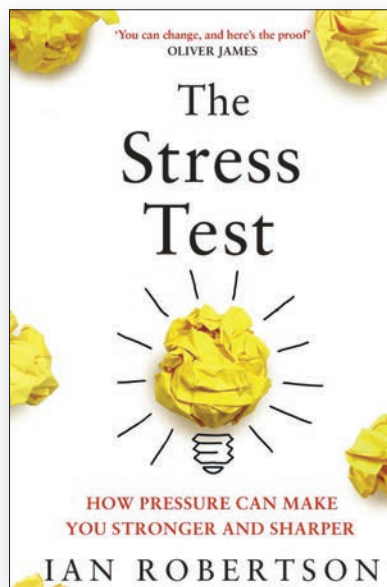
I did a B.A. in English and Philosophy. Brendan Kennelly was my tutor, the poet Peggy O'Brien and the critic Terence Browne were both there, and Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin was teaching Old English. So it was a vibrant Department. I remember Brendan meeting me in Front Square and introducing me to Michael Longley and Derek Mahon because they were his pals. That's a whole other world, you don't get that in many places.



Jane Clarke, *The River*
(Bloodaxe Books, 2015)

The Book Shelf

A selection of recent books published by some of Trinity's academics.



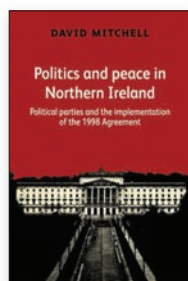
THE STRESS TEST: HOW PRESSURE CAN MAKE YOU STRONGER

Published by Bloomsbury Publishing

By Professor Ian Robertson
Professor of Psychology, Trinity College Institute of Neuroscience

Professor of Psychology Ian Robertson argues in his new book that stress can not only be a healthy motivational tool, but can actually be consciously used to reshape how our brains respond to high-pressure situations. One of the reasons for this is that anxiety and excitement manifest as exactly the same symptoms: a racing pulse, sweaty skin and a dry mouth. There is, however, a crucial psychological difference between recognising those symptoms as anxiety or as excitement. In the former, your attention is focussed on recalling negative past experiences and on identifying threats, whereas in the latter you look for solutions in the expectation of a reward. The point is that you can control how you perceive stress, and that can have huge effects on how you deal with it. Robertson

even argues that a moderate amount of stress can make you sharper and more resilient, because it increases the flow of hormones like noradrenaline, which helps different parts of the brain communicate better. He explains all this with flair and nuance, using vivid stories to illustrate his points, and draws from four decades of research to present a compelling and highly readable account of how we can better handle stress.

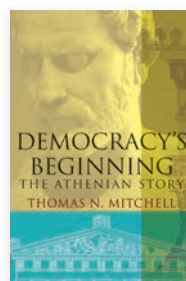


POLITICS AND PEACE IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Published by Manchester University Press

By Dr David Mitchell
Assistant Professor in Conflict Resolution
at the Irish School of Ecumenics,
Trinity College Dublin

The Northern Ireland Peace Process is widely regarded as an outstanding success story of conflict resolution, given the traumatic violence of the preceding decades. For those more familiar with the North though, the so-called success is far more uncertain. Peace walls are still prevalent, sectarianism is rampant, and critics of the consociational structure of the Good Friday Agreement argue these are treaty in-built outcomes. In this insightful new work by Dr David Mitchell, Assistant Professor at the Irish School of Ecumenics, the positions and policies of the five largest parties are analysed, in how they understand and approach the political uncertainty of the Peace Process.



DEMOCRACIES BEGINNING: THE ATHENIAN STORY

Published by Yale University Press

By Professor Thomas Mitchell
Chair of the School of Classics
at Trinity College Dublin,
Professor and former Provost

This compelling history sets out to recount the full and remarkable story of Athenian democracy, from its inception in the seventh century B.C through 200 years until its demise at the hands of Macedonian conquerors. In telling this story, Mitchell attempts to reveal the true nature of this radical political project, how it enabled an empire and a cultural revolution that transformed art and philosophy, and what caused its eventual demise.

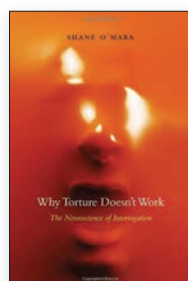


LYCANTHROPY IN GERMAN LITERATURE

Published by Palgrave Macmillan

By Professor Peter Arnds
Associate Professor in
Comparative Literature
School of Languages,
Literatures and Cultural Studies
Trinity College Dublin

Lycanthropy in German Literature traces the use and context of the wolf as a metaphor through German literature from the Middle Ages to the mid-twentieth century. Along the way it offers an insight into some of the cultural origins of totalitarianism, which was heavily invested in the conceptual reduction of humans to parasitic animals. From the late Middle Ages on, the fear of the beast within man is a fear of Satan introduced by the spread of Christianity in Central and Northern Europe. The use of a wolf metaphor continued as an expression of conventional anxieties about crime, vagrancy, and idleness in the context of nineteenth and twentieth century nation building.

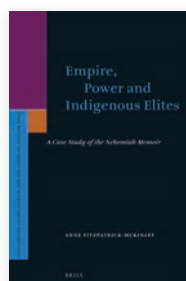


WHY TORTURE DOESN'T WORK: THE NEUROSCIENCE OF INTERROGATION

Published by Harvard University Press

By **Professor Shane O'Mara**
Brain Research, Trinity College Institute of Neuroscience

There is no scientific basis for the claim that torture works to extract reliable information from detainees, according to Shane O'Mara, Professor of Experimental Brain Research and Director of the Trinity Institute of Neuroscience in his new book, *Why Torture Doesn't Work: The Neuroscience of Interrogation*. Drawing on neuroscience and cognitive, social and clinical psychology, as well as examining the use of torture in Northern Ireland, Iraq, Cambodia, Algeria and by the CIA, the book is a detailed account of the human brain under stress and demonstrates that torture is at best ineffective, usually counterproductive, and always inhumane.

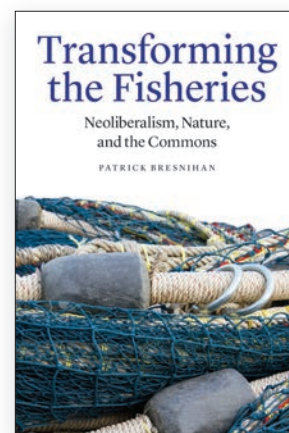


EMPIRE, POWER AND INDIGENOUS ELITES: A CASE STUDY OF THE NEHEMIAH MEMOIR

Published by Brill

By **Dr Anne Fitzpatrick-McKinley**
Lecturer in Islamic Civilisations, Trinity College Dublin

Nehemiah is the central figure in the Book of Nehemiah, which concerns the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem in the Second Temple period, following the Roman destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple on the Mount. This work of scholarship compares the roles of native elites in the Book of Nehemiah to those elsewhere at the time such as in Assyria and Babylon, and how, as a loyal servant of Persia, Nehemiah appealed to ancient Jerusalemite traditions in order to eliminate opposition to him from powerful local elite networks.

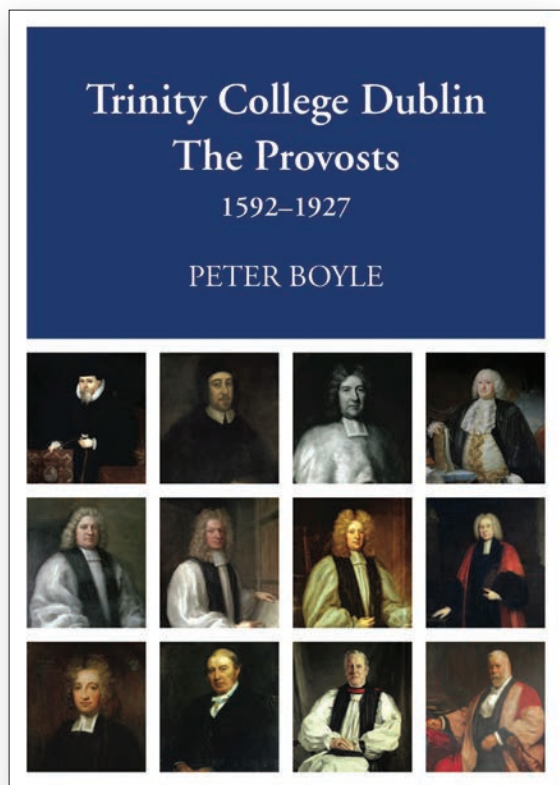


TRANSFORMING THE FISHERIES: NEOLIBERALISM, NATURE AND THE COMMONS

Published by University of Nebraska Press

By **Dr Patrick Bresnihan**
Assistant Professor of Environmental Geography, School of Geography, Trinity College Dublin

Fish stocks are severely depleted and will require huge conservations on fishing activity in order to be sustainable. However, as Bresnihan argues, the ways we think about concepts like scarcity and sustainability can be problematically simplistic and naive. This ground-breaking work takes depleting fishing stocks as a case study through which to explore crucial issues of ecology, the market, knowledge, and nature. Based on fieldwork in a commercial fishing port in Ireland, Bresnihan examines how scientific, economic and regulatory responses to the problem of overfishing have changed over the past 20 years, and crucially, what assumptions have informed those responses. Bresnihan systematically skewers many of these key assumptions, while remaining empirically grounded, and he argues for a new conceptual relationship with our natural resources, and indeed the idea of nature itself.



TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN: THE PROVOSTS 1592-1927

Published by Hinds Publishing

By **Dr Peter Boyle**
Fellow Emeritus at the School of Chemistry, Trinity College Dublin

While there are several definitive histories of Trinity College, Peter Boyle's is the definitive chronicle. Throughout the book many surprising facts emerge about some of these men. In 1592, on its foundation, the first Provost of Trinity College Dublin was Adam Loftus, an immensely powerful man, being at the same time Provost, Archbishop of Dublin and Lord Chancellor of Ireland. William Bedell (Provost 1627-29) wrote of the Irish language that 'my endeavour shall be to understand the tongue of this country which I see is a learned and exact language and full of difficulty.' Later he translated the Old Testament into Irish, checking the text against the original Hebrew. Robert Huntington (Provost 1683-92), was fluent in Arabic, having spent 11 years as chaplain to the Levant Company in Aleppo in Syria. He

returned with a priceless collection of manuscripts and antiquities. Of these 37 men, two were technically not Provosts. Faithful Teate took over the college for two years in 1641 after Provost Washington fled from Ireland, and he was never properly appointed. In 1688, with the looming threat of James II, Michael Moore was appointed by King James to replace Provost Huntington, who fled to England. This volume brings together in one place the life of each Provost from 1592 to 1927. Its focus is on the person of the Provost rather than on the history of the university, although of course that history is an important part of each life.

Honorary Degrees

Between winter 2016 and summer 2017, Trinity awarded eleven honorary degrees to outstanding individuals at two separate ceremonies. Among them were the US Vice President, a cancer awareness campaigner, the man behind a cult classic and Trinity's oldest student.

Joseph Robinette Biden (LL.D.)

Joseph Robinette Biden, Jr., is the 47th Vice President of the United States of America and is the administration's point person for diplomacy in the Western Hemisphere, addressing issues of governance, economics, and security. As a Senator from Delaware for 36 years, Vice President Biden established himself as a leader in facing some of the United States' most important domestic and international challenges. As Ranking Member of the Senate Judiciary Committee for 17 years, then-Senator Biden was widely recognised for his work on criminal justice issues. As Ranking Member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for 12 years, then-Senator Biden played a pivotal role in shaping U.S. foreign policy. Vice President Biden was conferred with a Doctor in Laws (LL.D.).



Joseph Biden

Tomas (Tomi) Reichental (LL.D.)

One of only three Holocaust survivors left in Ireland, Mr Tomi Reichental has, for the last ten years, dedicated his time to speaking of his experience in Bergen-Belsen concentration camp to Irish secondary schools, third-level institutions and other fora to educate the Irish people about the Holocaust, to promote racial and religious tolerance and to further reconciliation and German-Irish friendship. In 2013, the German Ambassador presented Mr Reichental with the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany, the highest tribute the Federal Republic of Germany can pay to individuals. Mr Reichental was born in 1935 in Slovakia to a Jewish family. Aged nine, he and other family members were taken to Bergen-Belsen concentration camp. He lost 35 members of his family in the Holocaust. He is the author of the book *I was a Boy in Belsen* and the subject of two Irish documentaries. He is closely associated with the Holocaust Education Trust Ireland. Mr Reichental was conferred with a Doctor in Laws (LL.D.).

Lia Mills (LL.D.)

Lia Mills is a novelist who also writes short stories and essays. In 2006, she was diagnosed with, and treated for, an advanced squamous cell carcinoma in her cheek and gums. Afterwards she published a memoir of the experience, *In Your Face*. Subsequently, she joined forces with interested professionals and other cancer survivors to co-found the Mouth, Head & Neck Cancer Awareness Ireland (MHNCAI) group, which initiated a campaign to raise public awareness of mouth cancer involving the Dublin and Cork dental schools, the Irish Cancer Society, the Dental Health Foundation, the Irish Dental Association, and cancer survivors. She was conferred with a Doctor in Laws (LL.D.).

James Patrick (J.P.) Donleavy (Litt.D.)

Best known for his 1955 novel *The Ginger Man*, Donleavy's seminal work caused such a furore that it was banned outright in both the U.S. and Ireland. Acknowledged as being in the top 100 Novels of the 20th century by the Modern Library, it is also a multi-million copy selling book and cult classic. He was part of a group of young Irish writers, who, in late-1940s Dublin, would come to be regarded as the vanguard of modern Irish literature. He developed a wide canon of work, including *A Fairy Tale of New York* and more latterly, scripted and starred in a televisual drama, *In All Her Sins and Graces*. Mr Donleavy was conferred with a Doctor in Letters (Litt.D.).

Peter McVerry SJ (LL.D.)

Fr Peter McVerry has worked with vulnerable young people in inner city Dublin for the last 40 years during which time he has campaigned tirelessly for their rights. Ordained as a Jesuit in 1975, his vision for the Peter McVerry Trust is to support all those living on the margins and to uphold their rights to full inclusion in society. In 2014 the charity worked with 4,460 vulnerable youths. As a social activist Fr McVerry is a strong advocate for those who have no voice in society. He has written widely on issues relating to young homeless people such as accommodation, drugs, juvenile justice, the Gardaí, prisons and education. He was conferred with a Doctor in Laws (LL.D.).

Rory O'Neill (LL.D.)

Rory is proprietor of 'Pantibar' which is at the heart of the gay community in Dublin. Performer, actor, writer, orator, activist, campaigner for equality, figurehead and the grande-dame-drag-doyenne of Dublin, both Rory and Panti have entered the nation's conscience as a significant voice speaking for equality, respect and fairness for all. Panti reached out to a global audience with her Noble Call speech at The Abbey Theatre directed at anyone who has been considered and treated "less" in any way. Rory O'Neill/Panti has spoken at many events in Trinity and is an inspiration to a large college community of staff and students. Mr O'Neill was conferred with a Doctor in Laws (LL.D.).

Graça Machel (LL.D.)

Graça Machel is Founder and President of the Foundation for Community Development, an NGO that works to promote development, democracy and social justice in Mozambique. She is also the Founder of the Zizile Institute for Child Development and the Graça Machel Trust where she has focused on advocating for women's economic and financial empowerment, education for all, an end to child marriage, food security and nutrition, and promoting democracy and good governance. She is a member of The Elders, Girls Not Brides, President of SOAS, University of London, Chancellor of the University of Cape Town, and Member of the Education Financing Commission. She was formerly the Minister for Education in Mozambique. She was conferred with a Doctor in Laws (LL.D.).

Josef Veselsky (M.A.)

At 97, Josef Veselsky is Trinity's oldest student, and has taken extramural courses in the School of Histories and Humanities every year since 2010. Having joined the resistance, he was later decorated with the Order of the Slovak National Uprising. With his wife, Katarina, he escaped the Prague coup of 1948 and came to Ireland in 1949. Here, he established his own jewellery business and captained the Irish table tennis team for over 20 years. In 2007, he was made a Commander of the Slovak Order of the White Double Cross for outstanding achievement in sport and for his contribution to the development and maintenance of diplomatic relations between Slovakia and Ireland. He was conferred with a Master of Arts (M.A.).



BACK ROW: Peter Higgs, Provost, Dr Patrick Prendergast, Josef Veselsky, JP Donleavy
FRONT ROW: Lia Mills, Chancellor, Dr Mary Robinson, Hina Jilani



BACK ROW: Rory O'Neill, Tomi Reichental, Provost, Dr Patrick Prendergast, Fr Peter McVerry
FRONT ROW: Senator David Norris, Chancellor, Dr Mary Robinson, Graça Machel

Peter Higgs (Sc.D.)

Peter Higgs was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2013 for "the theoretical discovery of a mechanism that contributes to our understanding of the origin of mass of subatomic particles, and which was recently confirmed through the discovery of the predicted fundamental particle, by the ATLAS and CMS experiments at CERN's Large Hadron Collider". Formerly Professor of Physics in the School of Physics and Astrophysics, University of Edinburgh, he has given public and academic lectures in Ireland, served on a review committee for the School of Theoretical Physics at Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies and is a staunch supporter of basic research in Ireland and internationally. Professor Higgs was conferred with a Doctor of Science (Sc.D.).

David Norris (LL.D.)

David Norris has been an Independent Senator representing the University of Dublin since 1987. As a campaigner for human rights for gay people, David Norris has made a lasting contribution. His campaign to decriminalise homosexual acts ran from 1977, moving from the High Court through to the European Court of Human Rights until in 1988 the laws in Ireland were deemed to be in contravention of the Convention on Human Rights, with decriminalisation of same-sex sexual activity finally occurring in 1993. Senator Norris is best known academically as a Joycean scholar. He has been central to the revival of parts of the North Inner City, notably the James Joyce Cultural Centre. Senator Norris was conferred with a Doctor in Laws (LL.D.).

Hina Jilani (LL.D.)

A renowned lawyer and civil society activist, an Advocate of the Supreme Court of Pakistan since 1992, Hina Jilani has dedicated her life to fighting for human rights and democracy in Pakistan and around the world. In 1980 she founded the Women's Action Forum to campaign for women's rights and challenge Pakistan's discriminatory laws. She was one of the founders in 1986 of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan. In 2000 she became the first Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on Human Rights Defenders and in 2013 she was also elected to join the International Commission of Jurists. Ms Jilani is a member of the Leadership Council of Front Line, the International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders. She was conferred with a Doctor in Laws (LL.D.).

Alumni Events

ALUMNI WEEKEND 2016

FRIDAY BANQUET



1



2



3



4



5



6

1 Michele Harrison M.B. (1986), Martin Donnelly M.B. (1986)

2 Siobhán Donohue M.B. (1996), Joe Cottrell, Jamilah Hashim M.B. (1996), Kevin O'Shaughnessy

3 Raman Patel M.B. (1964), John Simon M.B. (1964), Ingrid Simon, Sarah Wang, David Wang M.B., M.A. (1964), Mark Agnew M.B., M.A. (1964)

4 Margaret Hanlon B.Sc. (Physio.) (1991), Sarah Moore B.Sc. (Physio.), M.B.A. (1991)

5 Sayd Raissian M.B. (1964), Ali Raissian

6 Dervela Gray B.Sc. (Physio.) (1991), Des O'Neill M.A., M.D. (1983)



7



8



9



10



11

- 7 Sophie Westerberg B.A. (1996), Nina Byrnes M.B. (1996), Mark Sheehy M.B. (1996), Neville Shine M.B. (1996), Adrienne Foran M.B., M.D. (1996)
- 8 David Marshall M.V.B. (1971), Dorothy Marshall B.A. (1970)
- 9 Jakki McWade, Terry McWade M.B. (1986), Angela Hamill M.B., M.R.C.G.P. (1986)
- 10 Ann-Marie Ennis B.Sc. (Physio.) (1991), Claire Haseldine B.Sc. (Physio.) (1991), Natasha Leonard B.A., B.Sc. (Physio.) (1988), Gaye Castles B.Sc. (Physio.) (1991), Marian Mullaney B.Sc. (Physio.) (1991), Marese Gilhooly B.Sc. (Physio.) (1991), Susan Madden B.Sc. (Physio.) (1991), Deirdre Cawley B.Sc. (Physio.) (1991), Dervela Gray B.Sc. (Physio.) (1991)
- 11 Kate Adams, John Adams M.V.B. (1971)
- 12 Michael Murphy M.B. (1984), Éilish Cleary M.B. (1986), John De Sousa M.B. (1986), Conor Maguire M.B. (1986)

View more photo galleries on www.tcd.ie/alumni



12

ALUMNI WEEKEND 2016

SATURDAY BANQUET



- 1 Alan Squires B.B.S. (1966), Pauline Squires, Jenny Stafford, John Stafford B.B.S. (1966)
 2 Rita Lawlor M.A. (1986), Stewart Thompson M.A. (1987)
 3 Robin FitzGerald B.A.I. (1976), Zinda FitzGerald M.A. (1979)
 4 Jean Robinson, William Robinson B.A. (1956)
 5 Rhiannon Barrar, Alistair Loughrey B.A. (1976), Lynne Loughrey
 6 Jennifer Lyons, Trevor Lyons B.A.I. (1976), Anne Fahey, Martin Fahey B.A.I. (1976)



7



8



9



12



10



11



13

- 7 Howard Handy B.B.S., M.Litt. (1966), Roanna Handy
- 8 Courtenay Thompson B.A., B.B.S. (1966), Susan Feldman, Alec Feldman B.B.S., M.A. (1966), Melanie Jones, Adrian Jones B.B.S. (1966), Rosemarie Ashe, Lesley Thompson B.A. (1965), Alan Ashe B.B.S., M.A. (1966)
- 9 Sheila Whysall M.A. (1967), Celia Dwyer B.A., M.A. (1968), Clive Westwood B.A. (1967), Norma Graham, John Whysall M.A. (1968)
- 10 Steven Moody B.B.S. (1996), Peter Lennon B.A. (1996)
- 11 Abdul Hanid B.A.I. (1976), Mumtaz Hanid
- 12 Gillian Walsh-Kemmis B.A., Ph.D. (1966), Philippa Wells B.A. (1967), Catherine Russell B.A. (1967)
- 13 Raymond Wilkinson B.A., M. Ed. (1976), Aileen Redmond B.A. (1976), David Kerridge

View more photo galleries on www.tcd.ie/alumni

Trinity Alumni Branches

From Cork to Chicago, from Munich to Malaysia,
wherever life takes you, there is a Trinity Alumni Branch for you.

Branches organise activities and social events on behalf of alumni within their region. They also provide a channel of communication between their members and the university, keeping you up to date with Trinity news. Branch events range from casual get-togethers to black tie dinners, from cultural excursions to networking lectures by visiting academics. For graduates new to a region, joining a branch is a great way to make friends while maintaining the link with your alma mater. Our branches always welcome new members.

IRELAND & NORTHERN IRELAND

CORK

Gerry Donovan
E: donov@eircom.net

KILDARE AND WICKLOW

Michael J McCann
E: tcd@infomarex.com

MIDLANDS

Noelle O'Connell
E: noellespeaking@gmail.com

NORTHERN IRELAND

Mark Conlon
E: conlonmj@yahoo.co.uk

ANTRIM AND DERRY

Stanley & Joy White
The Old Rectory, Macosquin,
Coleraine, BT51 4PN, Co Derry

GREAT BRITAIN

CAMBRIDGE

Brian Bromwich
E: brianbromwich@googlegmail.com

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Jonathan Moffitt
E: jonathan_moffitt@blueyonder.co.uk

LONDON ASSOCIATION

Finbarr Begley
E: secretary@TCDLondon.co.uk

LONDON DINING CLUB

Geraldine Dooley
E: secretary@TCDDiningClubLondon.co.uk

MIDLANDS (EAST)

Sydney Davies
E: sydney.davies@ntlworld.com

MIDLANDS (WEST)

Edward Sweeney and Joyce Byrne
E: e.sweeney@aston.ac.uk
joycemibyrne@gmail.com

NORTH OF ENGLAND

Suzanne Temperley
E: david.temperley@talk21.com

OXFORD

Martin Gaughan
E: martinigaughan@yahoo.co.uk

SCOTLAND

Christopher Haviland
E: c.p.haviland@btinternet.com

SOUTH EAST UK

Nick Beard
E: beardm@tcd.ie

WEST COUNTRY UK

Douglas Henderson
E: tcdwest@yahoo.co.uk

EUROPE

AUSTRIA

Eudes Brophy
E: brophyandhand@netscape.net

BELGIUM

George Candon
E: georgecandon@gmail.com

DENMARK

Carolyn Rutherford
E: rutherfc@tcd.ie

FRANCE

Gabrielle Puget
E: tcdalumniparis@gmail.com

GERMANY

Berlin
James Löll
E: loellj@gmail.com

Erlangen - Nuremberg

Elisabeth Mayer
E: elisabeth.mayer@zuv.uni-erlangen.de

Munich

Dominic Epsom
E: Dominic.Epsom@bmw.de

ITALY

Pamela Maguire
E: pamela.maguire@tiscali.it

MALTA

Matthew Agius
E: agiusm@tcd.ie

NORWAY AND SCANDINAVIA

Roger Strevens
E: Roger.Strevens@2wglobel.com

PORTUGAL

Ben Power
E: benpower@sapo.pt

SPAIN

Emma Naismith
E: emma.naismith@gmail.com

SWITZERLAND

Malcolm Ferguson
E: malcolm.ferguson@ieee.org

AFRICA

EAST AFRICA

Gerard Cunningham
E: gerard.cunningham@unep.org

LIBYA

Dr Mohamed Daw
E: mohameddaw@gmail.com

SOUTH AFRICA (CAPE TOWN)

Anthony G Marshall Smith
E: marsmith@iafrica.com

@ If there is no branch in your area
and you would like to set one up, please
contact alumni@tcd.ie or visit
www.tcd.ie/alumni for more information.

**SOUTH AFRICA (KWAZULU-NATAL)**

John Conyngham
E: lyric@mwweb.co.za

UGANDA

Henry Tumwebaze
E: tumwebah@tcd.ie

USA**ATLANTA**

Julie Jones
E: julie@juliejonesconsulting.com

BOSTON

Tomas John Ryan
E: tcdbostonalumni@gmail.com

CHICAGO

Jeffrey Koh
E: jeffrey.j.koh@gmail.com

MID-ATLANTIC

Jackie Hoysted
E: tcdmidatlantalumni@gmail.com

NEW YORK

Fiona Stafford
E: tcdalumninyc@gmail.com

NEW YORK - UPSTATE

Ronald Ferguson
E: fergusonrng@gmail.com

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Thomas Browne
E: dr.thomas.browne@neurenics.com

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Graduates
E: tcdalumnipnw@gmail.com

PHILADELPHIA

Paul Maguire
E: pmaguire@maguirehegarty.com

SAN DIEGO

Rob Mullally
E: robmullally1@gmail.com

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Niall Reynolds
E: niallreynolds@gmail.com

SOUTH FLORIDA

Ronald Ferguson
E: fergusonrng@gmail.com

CANADA**ALBERTA**

Graham Wynne
E: gw17@telus.net

GREATER VANCOUVER

Laura Kidd
E: laurakidd111@hotmail.com

ONTARIO

John G Payne
E: trinitydublin@rogers.com

OTTAWA

Deirdre O'Connell
E: deirdreocon@gmail.com

VANCOUVER ISLAND

Mary Pike
E: tyrell.me@gmail.com

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND**NEW SOUTH WALES**

Dylan Carroll
E: dylancarroll@gmail.com

QUEENSLAND

Kieran O'Brien
E: kieranob@mac.com

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

James Smyth
E: smyth153@gmail.com

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Alex O'Neil
E: alexoneil@bigpond.com

CHRISTCHURCH

Bernadette Farrell
E: tcdalumninz@gmail.com

ASIA**BEIJING**

Xusheng Hou
E: houx@tcd.ie

CHINESE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (DUBLIN BASED)

Tao Zhang
E: info@tcdchinesealumni.org

HONG KONG AND MACAU

Henry Au
E: henrywau@gmail.com

SHANGHAI

Nick McIlroy
E: mcilroy@tcd.ie

JAPAN

Leo Glynn
E: lglynn@hotmail.com

MALAYSIA

Malaysian Irish Alumni Association
E: miaa.info@gmail.com

SINGAPORE IRISH GRADUATES ASSOC

Irish Graduates' Assoc. of Singapore
E: admin@irish-graduates.org.sg

SOUTH KOREA

Gaya Nadarajan
E: gaya.nadarajan@gmail.com

INDIA & PAKISTAN**BANGALORE**

Sai Prakash
E: saierin@hotmail.com

DELHI

Rahul P. Dave
E: rpdave@yahoo.com

PAKISTAN

Tia Noon
E: tahnianoon@gmail.com

REST OF THE WORLD**ARGENTINA**

David Madden
E: David.Madden@smurfitkappa.com.ar

COLOMBIA

Laura Dixon
E: dixon.laurajayne@gmail.com

GULF REGION

Jessica Pakenham-Money
E: pakenhaj@tcd.ie

ISRAEL

David Rivlin
E: tcd.alumni.il@gmail.com

MEXICO

Stephen TL Murray
E: smurray@cilatam.com

MOSCOW

Daria Voronina
E: daria.voronina5@gmail.com



1

The Lansdowne Club,
Mayfair, London

LONDON BALL

APRIL 2016



2



3



4



5



6



7



9



8



10

- 1 Claire Cuffe, Aidan Cuffe, Aoife Cuffe B.A. (1981), Matthew Cuffe, Carol Cuffe, Dave Cuffe M.V.B., M.A., M.R.C.V.S. (1974)
- 2 Hannah McCarthy LL.B. (B.S.) (2014)
- 3 Lora Shercliff B.A. (2007), Tom Shercliff
- 4 London Ball 2016 Organising Committee: Ruth Patten B.A., M. Phil (2006), Lucie McInerney B.A. (2006), Nikki Maguire, Dexter Galvin, Alix O'Neill B.A. (2006), Anna Hamilton B.A. (2007)
- 5 Benji Ashe, Caroline Hume B.A. (2009), Justin Kennedy-Lunde
- 6 Robert Wyse Jackson LL.B. (2010), Emily Stennett
- 7 Hannah Jones, Sean McGuinness LL.B. (2010)
- 8 Caroline Von König B.A. (2013), Peadar Ó Mórdha M.B., M.A. (1991)
- 9 Alix O'Neill B.A. (2006), Rosie van Cutsem B.A. (2006)
- 10 David Symington B.A. (2007), Catherine O'Shea B.A. (2013)

View more photo galleries on
www.tcd.ie/alumni



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

Did you know?

Alumni have lifetime access to the College Library
and can access WiFi on campus.

For more details visit www.tcd.ie/alumni



1



2



3

NEW YORK BALL

JUNE 2016



4



7



5



6



8



9

- 1 FRONT: Ambassador David Donoghue, Josephine Hennelly, Provost, Dr Patrick Prendergast B.A.I., Ph.D., Sc.D. (1987), Consul General Barbara Jones, Patrick Treanor B.A.I., M.A., Ph.D. (1986), Jill Donoghue; BACK: Dianne Hurley, Ultan Guilfoyle B.A. (1979), Linda Quinn, John Quinn B.B.S., A.C.A., C.P.A. (1974)
- 2 Paul O'Sullivan B.B.S., M.A., F.C.A.(1979), Cindy Miller, David Mooney B.A. (1985)
- 3 Aoife McCormick B.A. (2008), Neil McGough B.A. (2008), Barry Redmond B.A., M.Sc. (2008), Rehal Massoud B.A. (2008), Maeve McCormick LL.B. (2011)
- 4 Xai McGerty, Stephen McGerty B.A., M.Sc., M.A. (1994), Niall McKay M.A. (1989), Shane Naughton M.Sc., M.A.(1994), Marissa Aroy, Eileen Punch B.A. (1988)
- 5 Sasha Sabapathy, Cianna O'Connell LL.B. (2012), Georgia Walsh
- 6 Fiona Stafford B.A. (1994), Eoin Healy M.A., Ph.D. (2006), Aileen Denne-Bolton B.A. (1982), Bridget Healy B.A. (2009), Katherine Sheane B.A. (2007)
- 7 Lisa Cagney, Scott Gray B.A. (2008), Nikita Nadkarni, Niha Nadkarni, David Carr B.A.I., Ph.D. (2008), Sarah Rattigan B.A. (2003), Cara Gorey B.B.S. (Lang.) (2002)
- 8 FRONT: Kristen Pratt, Garrett Dargan B.B.S. (2012), Mary Loughney B.A. (2011), Stephanie Walsh B.A. (2012), Celia Abele B.A. (2010); BACK: Luke Carroll B.B.S. (2011), Una McKeown B.A. (2012), Jeanie Igoo, Patrick Rhatigan, Keith Donnelly B.A. (2014).
- 9 Sean Reynolds B.A.I. (1987), Charles Garland, Pauline Turley B.A. (1996), Provost, Dr Patrick Prendergast B.A.I., Ph.D., Sc.D. (1987)

View more photo galleries on www.tcd.ie/alumni



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



Did you know?

The Alumni office can help you organise a class reunion and there are also a wide range of events for alumni at Trinity and abroad.

For more details visit www.tcd.ie/alumni



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



Did you know?

You can give back and develop your coaching skills by volunteering or becoming a Gradlink mentor.

For more details visit www.tcd.ie/alumni

CHRISTMAS COMMONS

DECEMBER 2015



1



2



3



4



5



6

- 1 Mary Magowan, William Magowan B.COMM., M.A. (1953), Nicola Dalrymple
- 2 Paula Ledbetter, Peter Ledbetter B.B.S., M.A., F.C.A. (1974)
- 3 James Gardiner, Frances Gardiner Ph.D. (2000)
- 4 Brian Pickering B.A. (1984), Neil Willis B.A.I. (1980), Erica Pickering B.A. (1983), Robert Willis M.A., LL.D. (h.c.) (1945)
- 5 Peter Boyle M.A., Ph.D., F.T.C.D. (1960), June Stuart M.A. (1966)
- 6 Brian Spelman, Anne McMonagle M.A. (1985)
- 7 Vanessa Langheld B.A. (1992), Laura Fryday B.A. (1992)
- 8 Susie Bioletti, Peter Keegan, Jennifer Taylor
- 9 Heather Sheane B.A., M.Phil. (1973), Paul Sheane B.A.I. (1973)

View more photo galleries on www.tcd.ie/alumni



7



8



9

Eachtraí Comórtha 1916

By Aonghus Dwane

Réimse leathan imeachtaí Gaeilge eagraithe i gColáiste na Tríonóide le comóradh a dhéanamh ar Éirí Amach 1916



I mbliana, rinne Oifig na Gaeilge TCD, i gcomhpháirt le heagrais eile, réimse leatha imeachtaí a chomhordú le comóradh a dhéanamh ar Éirí Amach na Cásca 1916- eachtra ina raibh an Ghaeilge mar chuid lárnach d'fhís na gceannairí.

SEIMINEÁR

I mí na Samhna, reáchtáladh ollsheimineár dátheangach i gcomhar le Conradh na Gaeilge, le cioradh a dhéanamh ar fhealsúnacht Ghluaiseacht na Gaeilge roimh Éirí Amach 1916 agus ar an mbrí atá leis na coincheapa “Saor agus Gaelach” lenár linn féin. Ghlac cainteoirí Éireannacha agus idirnáisiúnta páirt sa phlé: an tOllamh Allan I. MacInnes ó Ollscoil Shraith Chluaidh i nGlaschú, Albain; An Dr Chris McGimpsey, Iarchomhairleoir Cathrach i mBéal Feirste agus ball de Pháirtí Aontachtach Uladh; Íte Ní Chionnaith, Iar-Uachtarán Chonradh na Gaeilge agus Iar-Léachtóir Sinsearach le Gaeilge in Institiúid Theicneolaíochta Bhaile Átha Cliath; An Ceart-Oirmhinneach Michael Burrows, Easpag Eaglais na hÉireann ar Chaiseal, Farna agus Osraí; agus Mary Harris, Léachtóir Sinsearach in Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh (OÉG).

Chuir Rúnaí an Choláiste, John Coman fáilte roimh an slua, ina measc Aire na Gaeltachta Joe McHugh TD; Uachtarán Chonradh na Gaeilge Cólín Ó Cearbhaill; Rónán Ó Domhnaill, Coimisinéir Teanga agus Michael McDowell, Abhcóide Sinsearach. Bhí radharc againn transna na sráide ar an teach inar rugadh agus inar tógadh Pádraig Mac Piarais. Tá tuairisc chuimsitheach ar an seimineár ar fáil ar shuíomh: <http://www.universitytimes.ie/2015/11/bri-nua-le-fealsunacht-an-phiarsaigh-saor-agus-gaelach/>.

AN TROCAILÍN DONN

Go luath sa bhliain acadúil 2015-2016, d'iarr an Oifig ar an gCumann Gaelach dráma speisialta a scríobh, bunaithe ar chás cúirte ina raibh an Piarasach páirteach: An Trocailín Donn. Bheadh an dráma le léiriú ag dinnéar Ard Fheis Chonradh na Gaeilge i mí Feabhra 2016. Ghlac Úna Ní Artaigh go fonnmhar leis an dúshlán seo, agus scríobh sí dráma spreagúil a d'inis scéal Neil Mhic Giolla Bhrighde, úinéir cairte, a cuireadh an dlí air de bharr go raibh a ainm scríofa ar thaobh a chairte i nGaeilge sa chló Gaelach. Léiríodh an dráma i dTeatar Players. Fuair an dráma tacaíocht ó Chiste Amharc- agus Dearcealaíona an Phropaist.

ÉIGSE LITRÍOCHTA: OIDHREACTH AN PHIARSAIGH

San imeacht seo chualamar ó Ollamh Emeritus le Gaeilge Cathal Ó Háinle agus ón Dr Anne Markey agus iad ag caint faoina obair eagarthóireachta ar ghearrscéalta Phádraig Mhic Phiarais. Bhí an Dr Eoin MacCárthaigh ó Roinn na Gaeilge sa chathaoir. Leag an t-imeacht seo béim ar oidhreacht litríochta an ghníomhaí teanga agus ceannaire 1916.

DINNÉAR ARD FHEIS CHONRADH NA GAEILGE

Bhí thart ar 200 duine i láthair ag an dinnéar ar an Satharn 27 Feabhra. Léiríodh an dráma An Trocailín Donn agus chuireamar léacht ar fáil an Dr Éamonn Ó Ciardha ó Ollscoil Uladh ar fáil, ina raibh “Réabhlóid, Teanga, Conradh agus Coláiste na Tríonóide” faoi chaibidil aige.

COLÁISTE NA TRÍONÓIDE AG MÚSAEM NA BPIARSACH

Chuireamar clár speisialta imeachtaí Gaeilge ar siúl ag Músaem na bPiarasach

i Ráth Fearnáin (Scoil Éanna) ar maidin Shathairn an 12 Márta. Chuir Brian Crowley, coimeadaí an Mhúsaeim, fáilte roimh an slua mór. Chuireamar turas Gaeilge ar fáil, faoi stiúir beirt mhac léinn ó na scéim cónaithe Gaeilge. Chualamar ceol ó lucht TradSoc, léadh Forógra 1916 go dátheangach ag beirt mhac léinn eile, agus léiríodh an dráma, An Trocailín Donn ag an gCumann Gaelach.

RTE REFLECTING THE RISING

Ghlacamar páirt sa lá speisialta “RTÉ Reflecting the Rising. Agus muid ag cur fúinn i Séipéal an Choláiste, thosaigh an clár Gaeilge le léiriúchán den “Trocailín Donn”. Ina dhiaidh sin léiríodh cur i láthair speisialta “Aisling: Vision,” le filíocht, ceol agus amhránaíocht. Chan cantaire dhá véarsa d'Amhrán na bhFiann, seinneadh ceol ar an chláirseach agus ar na píopaí uilleann, agus léadh an Forógra i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla.

Bhí seirbhís speisialta dhátheangach “Urnaí na Nóna” ar siúl sa Séipéal ag 17:00 mar chuimhneachán ar Harry Nicholls, céimí Innealtóireachta de chuid an Choláiste agus ball de Chumann Gaelach Eaglais na hÉireann. Bhí ceol córúil agus paidreacha i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla, chomh maith le haitheasc ar Nicholls tugtha ag Brian Foley, Ceann Scoil na hInnealtóireachta. Bhí an-rath ar na himeachtaí uile.

Bhí bliain iontach ag an Ghaeilge sa Choláiste. Bhuaigh an Cumann Gaelach céad duais Ghíor na nGael don Chumann Gaelach 3ú leibhéal is fearr arís (mar a bhuaigh i 2012, 2013 agus 2014 freisin)! Agus bhí Coláiste na Tríonóide sa bhabhta ceannais de Ghradam Gnó Gaeilge 2015 na hInstitiúide Margaíochta.

Aonghus Dwane, Oifigeach na Gaeilge, Coláiste na Tríonóide
www.tcd.ie/gaeilofig



Trinity College Dublin

Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

Did you know?

The Alumni office can help you connect with a number of special interest groups and networks.

For more details visit www.tcd.ie/alumni



REBECCA WINCKWORTH
B.A. BESS and French
(Class of 2011)



TURTLE BUNBURY
B.A. History
(Class of 1996)



JOHNNY O'REILLY
B.A. Russian
(Class of 1994)



ALISON HACKETT
B.A. Mathematics and Economics
(Class of 1982)



LOUISE RICHARDSON
B.A. History
(Class of 1980)



MICHAEL HANNON
BA (MOD), CLASSICS
(Class of 1965)

Class notes

News from Trinity alumni around the world.



Jennifer Walsh-O'Donovan

PH.D (2009)

As a volunteer carer from a young age, Jennifer Walsh-O'Donovan (above) was inspired to pursue a future where she could help people on a daily basis. After graduating with a degree in Medical Mechanical Engineering, Jennifer went on to pursue a doctoral research project to investigate the crash safety of customised wheelchair seating systems. She is currently working in a wheelchair seating department and gait analysis laboratory, supporting amputees and children with cerebral palsy. To improve clinicians understanding of wheelchair cushions Jennifer organised a national conference on the science and clinical application of wheelchair cushions. Last November, Jennifer won the Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) Hero award for her work in bioengineering.



Rebecca Winckworth

B.A. (2011)

After graduating from Trinity in Business & French, Rebecca Winckworth travelled across the world as a singer, performing in shows including *Celtic Woman*, *Celtic Nights* and *Anúna*, the original Riverdance Singers. During her extensive travels, Rebecca began to question global inequality and how patterns of trade benefit some people whilst exploiting others. Inspired by the desire to create a more equitable system of global trade, Rebecca worked with NGOs in Africa and Asia and completed a Master's in International Development at the London School of Economics. Rebecca has recently launched her own company, White & Green, Ireland's first fully certified organic and fairtrade cotton bedding brand.



Jane Deasy

B.A. (2011)

Jane Deasy is a Composer and Director of Music Theatre having studied Music, Drama & Theatre Studies. She is currently rehearsing her most recent work for the Tiger Dublin Fringe 2016 KAPERLAK. Jane has been leading a public discussion called Composing the Feminists in response to gender imbalance in music programming. She has organised an Open Meeting in the National Concert Hall as part of their Centenary Festival Programme *Composing the Island*. Jane is currently artist in residence at Pearse House and has received a commission to write a new string quartet. Another new music theatre piece based on *Eurydice* will be in production early 2017.

Naomi McMahon

B.B.S., M.A. (2005)

Naomi (left) moved to New York after graduating from Trinity in Business Studies in 2005, where she accepted a marketing role with Enterprise Ireland within the Software, Services and Emerging Sectors division. There, she worked with some of Ireland's leading tech companies on shaping their US go-to-market strategies. In 2010, while working at the VIA ad agency, Naomi ran a series of salon gatherings for marketing leaders which included live musical performance. It was while organising these events that Naomi identified the power of music in helping brands connect more deeply with consumers which led to her current career in the music industry. Naomi is now the Senior Vice President of Strategic Marketing at Universal Music Group.



Áine Toner

B.A. (2003)

After graduating from Trinity with a degree in English Literature and History, Áine Toner (above) completed a M.A. in Journalism in DCU. She has been editor of *Woman's Way* magazine for seven years, having been its deputy editor for 18 months prior. Over the course of her career, she has worked for national daily, weekly, fortnightly and monthly publications, several websites and the BBC Northern Ireland press office. Áine is a recent recipient of the Editor of the Year Award in the Consumer Magazines category at the 2015 Irish Magazine Awards.

Turtle Bunbury

B.A. (1996)

After his Trinity years studying History, Turtle Bunbury spent three years in Hong Kong working as a freelance correspondent with the *South China Morning Post* and *Business News Indochina*, before returning to Ireland on the eve of the Millennium from where he operated as a travel writer and started the award-winning *Vanishing Ireland* project. Since 2004, Turtle has been a prolific writer of general interest history books. Turtle's latest book *1847 - A Chronicle of Genius, Generosity & Savagery* is a snapshot in time of an action packed year in an action packed century, and is Turtle's thirteenth book to date.

Lorna Jennings

M.A. (2005)

Lorna Jennings had a strong interest in politics and current affairs growing up. After finishing her Masters at Trinity in History and Political Science, Lorna went on to work in public relations and public affairs for ten years. During this period she worked in Government, in-house for Ireland's largest health charity and in an agency. Lorna was recently appointed Managing Director at Keating and Associates. As a strong advocate for women in business, she is now the President of Trinity's women alumni group the Dublin University Women's Graduate Association (DUWGA).





Bonnie Millar

B.A. (1994)

Since graduating in 1994 Bonnie Millar has studied at the University of Nottingham where she completed an M.A. in Medieval English, and later gained her Ph.D. in English Studies in 2000 by examining the fourteenth-century alliterative romance entitled the *Siege of Jerusalem* in its social, literary and historical contexts. In 2014, she received an M.A. in English Language and Literature from Trinity. During and following the completion of her Ph.D., Bonnie held tutorships at the University of Nottingham and the University of Leicester, before becoming audit and compliance co-ordinator at Central College. Currently, a researcher at the University of Nottingham she also publishes regularly on alliterative poetry, medieval romances, gender theory, medical humanities and sound studies. She also joined the Nottingham Hearing Biomedical Research Unit (NIHR) in 2014 to work on the QUIET-1 clinical trial.

Johnny O'Reilly

B.A. (1994)

After graduating from Trinity with a B.A. in Russian, Johnny O'Reilly (right) completed a number of month-long workshops on filmmaking in New York University, and then set about getting any kind of experience he could in the world of film. He worked on professional film sets as an assistant, and started to learn the craft through making corporate videos and short films. He has lived in Moscow for over 12 years and he co-wrote and directed *The Weather Station* and wrote and directed the experimental documentary *Co/Ma*. In 2015 Johnny's film *Moscow Never Sleeps*, which he wrote and directed, was nominated for an Irish Film and Television Award (IFTA) for Best Script, which he wrote, directed, and produced.



Mark Ryan

M.B., B.CH., B.A.O. (1988)

Having grown up influenced by family members involved in healthcare, Mark was aware that he wanted to become a doctor at an early age. This led him to study medicine in Trinity whilst swimming with the DU Swim Club and working as a medic for the Trinity Rugby Team. After graduating, Mark became an Interventional Radiologist at Massachusetts General Hospital in

Boston. He went on to become an Assistant Professor of Radiology at Duke University Medical Center in North Carolina for nearly seven years and received his current consultant position at St James's Hospital in Dublin in 2004. Since 2010 Mark has also provided paediatric interventional radiology expertise in developing countries with the charity Operation Childlife.

Nicholas Harvey

B.A. (1985)

Following graduation, Nicholas aka Klaus taught English as a foreign language and later German in Sallynoggin College of Further Education. After completing an M.A. in Communication and Cultural Studies at DCU he began teaching Communications, Intercultural Studies and Media Law. In 2001, he wrote a college textbook *Effective Communication* published by Gill and MacMillan. In 2006, he studied Permaculture/Practical Sustainability at Kinsale College and now teaches there. He has been a leading member of Transition Town Kinsale, a voluntary initiative promoting community resilience and sustainability and set up Kinsale Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) linking members with local farmers which successfully grew porridge oats and quinoa. He plays gigs regularly with his band *The Good Rain* who have independently released two CDs.



Alison Hackett

B.A. (1982)

Alison (right) is the author and publisher of *The Visual Time Traveller: 500 Years of History, Art and Science in 100 Unique Designs*, a book, talk and exhibition presenting a kaleidoscopic view of history and human achievement. Over a thousand facts are woven into 100 graphic plates, each one representing a five-year time period since the Renaissance. The book is a finalist in the Global Irish Design Challenge – a celebration of Irish design innovation and will be exhibited in Dublin Castle Coach House in 2016 and in the National Craft Gallery in Kilkenny in 2017. Alison was born in Cork and after graduating from Trinity with a B.A. in Mathematics and Economics, she spent a number of years teaching mathematics. Between 2000 and 2012 she worked for the Institute of Physics as its representative in Ireland, promoting the subject across the island of Ireland.



Louise Richardson

B.A. (1980)

Professor Richardson (left) became Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford on 1 January 2016. She had previously served as Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of St Andrews, Scotland 2009-2015. A doctoral graduate of Harvard, she spent 20 years on the faculty of the University's Government Department, and latterly served as Executive Dean of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study. She currently sits on the boards of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Booker Prize Foundation and numerous other charities. Widely recognised as one of the world's foremost experts on terrorism and counter-terrorism, her book *What Terrorists Want*, is considered as one of the most influential in the field. Professor Richardson has received many teaching awards and honorary degrees including the Trinity Alumni Award in 2009 having studied History at Trinity. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, an honorary member of the Royal Irish Academy and in 2016 was elected to the Academy of Social Sciences in the United Kingdom, and to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.



Ingrid Nachstern

B.A. (1976)

Ingrid Nachstern started classical ballet at the age of three, and took the Royal Academy of Dance examinations up to the age of 17. After graduating from Trinity



with a B.A. in Modern Languages, Ingrid spent time as a translator in Toronto, London and Oxford. In Canada she returned to dance and in 2003 she set up Night Star Dance Company. She is now director, choreographer, performer and script writer for her films. Ingrid attended the 19th Brooklyn Film Festival, where her dance film *Freedom To Go* won the Audience Award. The film previously won two IndieFEST awards, and has been screened at the Athens International Film and Video Festival in Ohio. Ingrid also runs a school of classical ballet in Dublin.

Norville J. Connolly

B.A., M.A. (1974)

Following his graduation Norville became an apprentice in the established firm of D & E Fisher Solicitors in Newry. After qualifying as a solicitor he became a partner of the firm in 1978. Norville went on to serve as President of the Law Society in Northern Ireland in 2010 and has been recognised for his promotion of Northern Ireland's legal profession to international business audiences with an Ambassador of the Year Award. As the Law Society's International Bar Association representative, he has been instrumental in securing important international events for Northern Ireland such as the International Bar Leaders Conference which is taking place in Belfast in May 2017.



Michael Hannon

B.A. (MOD) (1965)

In 2015 Michael Hannon published *Mrs. Findlay's Broadwood Square Piano*, the tale of the 1804 Broadwood piano, which his late mother bought on a whim at auction in Ballycastle, Co. Antrim in 1977. Attending his 50th anniversary Classics graduation dinner last year, he met fellow graduate Angie Mezzetti, who subsequently made a documentary about the story for Lyric FM to be broadcast in late 2016. Now retired, his professional career has been in academic librarianship, having held posts at Queen's Belfast, Leicester and Liverpool Universities, before being appointed University Librarian at Sheffield University. Michael is a great grandson of Anthony Traill, who was Provost of Trinity from 1904 to 1914. www.mrsfindlaysbroadwoodsquarepiano.co.uk

Rorke Bryan

B.A. (1961)

Professor Bryan recently published *Ships to Remember*, a collection of short essays he wrote about remarkable ships, illustrated with new, original paintings by Austin Dwyer. He is an Emeritus Professor of Physical Geography, Environmental Science and Forest Conservation at the University of Toronto. After graduating from Trinity, he worked as a meteorologist and glaciologist with the British Antarctic Survey at Base T, Adelaide Island, in Antarctica from 1961 to 1964. He then completed a Ph.D. in Physical Geography at the University of Sheffield, England, before emigrating to Canada to pursue an academic career.

Richard Pine

B.A., HDIPED (1971)

Richard Pine published *Greece Through Irish Eyes* with Liffey Press in 2015, having lived in Greece since 2001, where he founded the Durrell School of Corfu and is the Director of the Durrell Library of Corfu. Richard contributes a regular column on Greek affairs to *The Irish Times*

on which the book is based, and he was a Senior Editor for RTE's Public Affairs Division for sixteen years. Richard is a guest lecturer at the Ionian University in Corfu. During his time in Trinity, he was President and gold medallist of the University Philosophical Society, and winner of the Vice-Chancellor's Prize for English.



Ruth Tarlo née Sampson

B.A. (1947)

Ruth Tarlo was one of the first women to graduate from Trinity with a degree in Chemistry and studied under Professors Walton, Werner and Bailey. In 1956, Ruth and her husband Hyman Tarlo, a Trinity law graduate, moved to Australia. There, he became a Professor at the University of Queensland.



Ruth taught high school chemistry, science and mathematics; writing the first computer textbook for schools on its history, flowcharting and simple programming in the 1970s. For the past two years, Ruth has endowed a scholarship in her husband's name for an Australian law graduate to study for an LLM in Trinity. Last year to mark Ruth's birthday, her family and friends contributed to a Trinity Access Programmes scholarship in her name.



One -on- One

Noel McCann

The soon to retire Head of Campus Services shares a bit about himself and his work.

What excites you most about your job? The nature of my job means that I am constantly meeting staff and students so there is never a dull moment. I am not office bound and I really enjoy getting up and moving about.

What are your most memorable moments? When Queen Elizabeth visited in May 2011 there was a real sense that you were witnessing history in the making. It was the first public interaction with the people of Ireland. President Obama's visit came a couple of days later so the restrictions on campus flowed into one another. There was a slight relaxation for a day or two and then the re-imposition of an even stricter regime. That was a memorable couple of days.

What do you do to relax? I follow sport very closely. I'm from Kilkenny originally but I've lived all my life in Dublin so I'm in the lucky position that I follow Kilkenny in hurling and Dublin in football.

When and where are you happiest? I'm happiest when I'm with family and friends just relaxing. If it happens to be on a beach with the sun shining I'm even happier.

What is your greatest fear? As a lifelong Manchester United fan, my greatest fear is that Liverpool might one day win the Premier League. But it's probably an unfounded fear.

What is your greatest achievement?

Managing the Trinity Ball for 15 years with a great team around me. Looking after 7,500 people through the event from start to finish and getting them all home safely is a critical issue for me every year. There would be over 120 people on the Trinity team and probably the same number again of external contract people. So overall, between stewarding, security, back-up staff, and the set-up of tents and back stage management, you're probably talking about 250 people. There is a great sense of relief after the students have come in and had a great night and have gotten home safely, some worse for wear!

What projects are you particularly proud of?

One that I derive a lot of satisfaction from is the Green Campus initiative because it involved working with staff and students who were volunteering their time freely. That whole effort came to culmination in 2013 when we got the Green Flag for the first time. You have to re-apply every three years for the Green Flag and thankfully in 2016 we were successful again.

Whom do you most admire? The civil rights movement in America had a big influence on me, Martin Luther King and people like that. Also the civil rights movement in Northern Ireland which was inspired by America. I admire John Hume in particular.

What is your favourite building on campus? The Museum Building. I often go in and discover another feature of the building that I hadn't noticed before.

Which guests from any stage in history would you invite to a dinner party? Maybe it's indicative of the stage of life that I'm in but I was the youngest of nine children, so by the time I came around all my grandparents were dead. Maybe now that I'm a grandparent myself I reflect back that I'd love to have met my grandparents. So I'd love to have the opportunity to meet them around the dinner table, have a few glasses of wine and talk about what life was like for them in their time.

What are your plans for retirement?

To achieve the right mix of relaxation and recreation. To quote Oscar Wilde, *I want to do everything in moderation, including moderation.*



Trinity College Dublin

Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

Did you know?

Alumni can get married in the Trinity Chapel up to twelve years after graduation. Trinity alumni can also avail of accommodation on campus at discounted rates.

For more details visit www.tcd.ie/alumni





KEEP IN TOUCH WITH
TRINITY AND EACH OTHER

www.tcd.ie/alumni



@tcdalumni



/tcdalumni



tcd alumni



@tcdalumni



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