Special and Public Lectures and Courses

SPECIAL LECTURES

*Elementary Irish*

A course in Irish for beginners is given each year. It is, as a rule, confined to members of staff, students on the College books and graduates of the University.

PUBLIC LECTURES

*The Cocker lecture in chemistry*

In 2007 the late Professor Wesley Cocker bequeathed a sum of money to the College for the benefit of the School of Chemistry. The income from this bequest is used to support an annual lecture on a topic of public interest related to chemistry. The speaker, eminent in the field of chemical science, is chosen by staff of the School of Chemistry.

*The Godfrey Day memorial lectures*

The Godfrey Day memorial lectureship was founded by the Board on 9 December 1939. Each year a lecture (or lectures) on a missionary theme is organised. The Board appoints the lecturer on the nomination of the Missionary Council of the Church of Ireland which is at all times advised by the committee of the Dublin University Far Eastern Mission.

*The Donnellan lectures*

The Donnellan lectures were founded by the Board on 22 February 1794, to carry out the intentions of Miss Anne Donnellan, of the parish of St George, Hanover Square, Middlesex, spinster, who bequeathed £1,243 to the College ‘for the encouragement of religion, learning, and good manners; the particular mode of application being left to the Provost and Senior Fellows’. The subject is presented in not less than two lectures.

*The Edmund Burke lecture*

The annual Edmund Burke lecture was instituted in 2014 by the Trinity Long Room Hub arts and humanities research institute thanks to a generous endowment from the Fallon family in honour of Trinity graduate Padraic Fallon (B.A. 1969). The lecture was established to mark Trinity College Dublin’s deep connection with the 18th-century philosopher, historian and politician Edmund Burke. This lecture is to be delivered by a leading public intellectual on a topic that engages with current challenges and in doing so keep Edmund Burke’s manifold legacies alive in considering the type of society we want to live in and the traditions, perspectives and values we need to draw on in the shaping of our future.

*The E.S. and R. Duthie lecture in microbiology*

In 1984 the late Mrs Ruth Duthie made a gift of £1,000 to the College, which she augmented in 1989 by a further £1,000, to fund a lecture to be delivered once every two years, the lecturer to be chosen by the Professor of Microbiology and the Head of Clinical Microbiology.

*The Hely-Hutchinson memorial lecture*

In 1976 the Earl of Donoughmore, together with members of the Hely-Hutchinson family, endowed a visiting lectureship in memory of John Hely-Hutchinson who established the Professorships of Modern Languages and Literature in 1776 (during his term as Provost). The lectures are given every second year by a scholar or writer of the highest distinction in the modern languages and literature field.
Public Lectures

The Joly memorial lectures

After the death of John Joly, F.T.C.D., SC.D., F.R.S., Professor of Geology and Mineralogy 1897-1933, a number of his friends subscribed a sum of money to found a series of lectures in his memory.

The John Kirker memorial lecture in epilepsy

Dr John Kirker (1922-2011), a graduate of the University of Dublin, was consultant neurologist in Sir Patrick Dun and Beaumont hospitals. He was instrumental in the development of clinical services in epilepsy in Ireland. Dr Kirker cared deeply about Trinity. In 2013 his family provided an endowment to fund an annual John Kirker memorial lecture in epilepsy to be organised by the School of Medicine.

The James Lydon lectures in Medieval history and culture

The Lydon lectures provide a platform for a distinguished lecturer to reflect on these issues and to convey specialist findings to a mixed audience of academic specialists, students and members of the public. The series, which is published by Cambridge University Press, is named for Professor James Francis Lydon, Department of History, who died in 2013. The inaugural Lydon lecture was Professor John Gillingham (Emeritus Professor of History at the London School of Economics) in 2014.

The MacNeill lectures

This lectureship was founded in 1970 from a benefaction provided by the Engineering School Trust Fund to commemorate Sir John MacNeill, the first professor of civil engineering in the University. A public lecture is delivered every year by a lecturer appointed by the Board.

The Normanby lecture in microbiology

Founded in 1996 by the Department of Microbiology in recognition of the generous support given to the department by the late Dowager Marchioness of Normanby and her family, which includes funding the construction of the Moyne Institute of Preventive Medicine in 1953 and the provision of additional research facilities within the institute since then. The lecture is delivered annually by a research scientist who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of microbiology.

The O’Donnell lectures in Celtic history and literature

These lectures take their name from Charles James O’Donnell 1850-1934, who bequeathed a sum of money to found annual lectures in the Universities of Oxford, Wales and Edinburgh, the National University of Ireland, and the University of Dublin. In the British universities the lectures are on the Celtic element in the English language and population; in the Irish universities they are on Irish history since Cromwell, with special reference to the history of ancient Irish families since 1641.

The first O’Donnell lecture given in the University of Dublin was in 1957.

The Royal Dublin Society lecture

In 1981, on the occasion of its 250th anniversary, the Royal Dublin Society commemorated the College meeting to which it traces its origins by endowing a biennial lecture on aspects of Irish social and economic policy and history with special reference to the contribution of individuals and institutions.

The Schrödinger lecture series

In 1995 the School of Physics, together with the Austrian Embassy and the Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies, hosted the first Schrödinger lecture. The lecture series is an annual event commemorating the famous lecture series entitled ‘What is Life?’ given by Erwin Schrödinger in Trinity College Dublin in 1943.
Public Lectures

The W.B. Stanford memorial lectures

These lectures were founded in 1988 from funds provided by subscription to commemorate William Bedell Stanford, Regius Professor of Greek 1940-80, and Chancellor of the University 1983-4. A series of three public lectures is delivered twice every three years by a lecturer appointed by the Board. It is intended that the lectures shall be published.

The John Lighton Synge public lecture

This lecture was established in 1992 from funds subscribed by friends and past colleagues and students to honour John Lighton Synge, F.R.S., M.R.I.A. [Scholar (1916), Fellow and Professor of Natural Philosophy (1925-30), Honorary Fellow (1954-95)]. The lecture is delivered once every two years by a lecturer appointed by the School of Mathematics.

The Hilda and Robert Tweedy lecture series

This lecture series was established in 2007 in honour of Mr and Mrs Robert and Hilda Tweedy by Dr Jean M. Tweedy Walker, a Trinity alumna and daughter of Hilda and Robert. It consists of biennial lectures alternatively addressing peace, gender and human rights, and environmental issues. These topics reflect long-time interests of Hilda and Robert Tweedy.

The H.O. White memorial lectures

These lectures were founded in 1964 from funds provided by subscription to commemorate Herbert Martyn Oliver White, Professor of English Literature 1939-60. A public lecture is delivered every two or three years by a lecturer appointed by the Board and is followed by a seminar for senior students in English literature.

The White social policy lecture series

This lecture series was established in 2004 from funds given by Tony White, former student of the College, to honour Emeritus Senior Lecturer in Social Policy, Anthony Coughlan.

The Whitfield Drama Series

This series of events incorporating academic talks from visiting lecturers and workshop masterclasses from visiting practitioners was established in 2019 from funds given by Needham Whitfield in memory of his wife Brigid Pike Whitfield, a Trinity graduate in modern languages and a life-long lover of the performance arts.

PUBLIC LECTURES IN THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The Mary Louisa Prentice Montgomery lectures in ophthalmology
The John Mallet Purser lectures
The Frederick Price lectures
The T.J.D. Lane lectures

For details see FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES.

PUBLIC LECTURES

The following public lectures were held during the academic year 2019-20.

TRINITY MONDAY DISCOURSE

Professor Eoin Mac Cáithglagh, F.T.C.D.: 'Eleanor Knott (1886-1975)'

MICHAELMAS TERM

Mark Braverman: 'Whose promised land?'
Shaun Brinsmade: 'Nutritional regulation of pathogenesis in *Staphylococcus aureus*'
Cornelius Casey: 'Hope in this time of need. The faith I love the best, says God, is hope'
Charles Dorman: 'Unpredictable'
Public Lectures

Pascaline Dupas: 'Improving health outcomes for the bottom billion: recent research findings and policy implications'
Anne Hege Grung: 'Gender justice in Muslim-Christian dialogue'
Oliver Kaplan: 'Resisting war: how communities protect themselves'
Farah Karim-Cooper: 'Racialising mortality in early visual culture and the Shakespearean stage'
Kim Knott: 'Religious matters in security policy and practice – producing and exchanging expert knowledge'
Margaret Leahy: 'When I stutter'
Steven Levene: 'Bends justify the means: how DNA nanomechanics and topology modulate activities of topoisomerases and recombinases'
Corinna Salvadori Lonergan: 'Dante, the comedy and greed - radix omnium malorum'
Laura McCoy: 'Anti-envelope antibodies in HIV infection'
Gerard Mannion: 'Pope Francis and the new political theology: moral and social leadership for a world in need'
Mary McAleese, Joan Chittister: 'The women the Vatican couldn’t silence'
Jonathon O'Donnell: 'American demons: demonology and sovereignty in current American evangelism'
Tanya Saroj-Bakhru, Kate Antosik-Parsons: 'Reproductive justice and sexual rights: transnational perspectives'
Noriko Seino: 'Onsen in Japan: an adventurous way of exploring the country!'
Wendy Turner, Matti Lehtihalmes: 'On speaking terms: eight centuries of communication disabilities'
Noboru Uchiyama: 'Will EVs be an ultimate answer to CO₂ footprint reductions?'

HILARY TERM

Lilith Acadia: 'To the soul's consent: how St. Augustine's moral innovation frames our conception of rape'
Tina Beattie: 'Listening to the essence of things: theology, language and meaning in the context of laudato Si'
Martin Cormican: 'AMR and Salmonella'
Peter Hamilton: 'Chop suey and other inventions: the history of Chinese overseas'
Katharine Hayhoe: 'Talking climate: why facts are not enough'
Ning Jiang: 'A man with rat-like eyes: how Chinese speakers swear'
John MacSharry: 'Aiming at asthma, the immune microbiome dialogue'
John O'Callaghan: 'When mercy became compassionate'
Loughlin Sweeney: 'From Roscommon to China: Emily de Burgh Daly and Irish professional networks in 19th century east Asia'
Marie-Theres Wacker: 'Bible, gender, and ethics – the case of same-sex relations'
Marie-Theres Wacker: 'The prologue to the gospel of Matthew (Mt 1-2): a gendered reading'
Graham Ward: 'Christian hope facing secular fatalism'