

DOCTOR IN LITTERIS

Paulus Muldoon

“Virum mihi, Camena, in sece versutum” (Liv. Andr. *Odus.* 1). Ut Μοῦσα cedit Camenae, ut Odysseus Ulyxi, ut πολυτροπὸς viro versuto, ut infida fidibus, sic cedam ego tibi, PAULE MULDOON. Dic mihi, quaeso: quotiens plagas caeruleas ponti lustrasti, vel reditu vel itinere facto ad Heliconam? Ubi Proteus ingens te docuit quomodo rates atque rationem gubernes mutantibus fluctibus affectibusque? Quaenam tabulae tibi indicant insulas serenas ubi concinere solet Scylla Sirenis? – At iam vitium reprehenditis, oratorem laudandum adloqui; veniam date, academici docti, quod laudandus ipse, ni fallor, in errorem et culpam me induxerit cum festiviter dixisset re vera nullos esse locis fines. Nec mentitus est: animadvertite quo loco natus sit in limine regionum Hiberniae septemtrionalis: locum dico quem plane dicitis planum. Quid est limen nisi congressus locorum vel fluminum, hominum ac sermonum? Sic in limina hospitis nostri congregari videris Romanum vatem et Anglicum, patriam harenam et pulverem ab Atlante perflatam, elegos Iudaicos et epicos Americanos, cantores nobiles et plebeios. Qui huic omnes familiares, omnes comites fuere itinerum quae innumerabilia hic faceret ab adolescentia, cum primum affirmaret suum sibi locum duce poeta illustrissimo, fautore et comite fidei. Carminibus innumeris editis, ab illo primo de tempestate recenti, plagas nondum cessat peragrare ut semper nova sibi inveniat vel condita edat in lucem, si forte iuncta dividi possint aut iungi divisa, ut disiecta denique membra recomponat in unum inauditum mirabile verum. Poetam vere ποιητὴν dixerunt antiqui et recte (nec multum est qua vi verbum usurpes). Non mirum, quod praemiis insignibus decoratum acceperunt sodales docti, etiam in concilium ipsum admiserunt deorum qui inventioni poeticae praesident. At negotia minime neglegit quandoque Homerus cedit Aristarcho, vel rectius Professori studiorum humanitatis in universitate oppidi Principis, eidem quondam magistro Oxoniensi artis poeticae, fautori denique magnanimo collegii nostri. Nec spernit otia. Querentibus se numquam adisse convivia quae hospes splendide ornaverit carminibus in aedibus artium Hibernicarum Novi Eboraci, satis sit quod lyricus Latinus scripserit, Hibernicus verterit, de Fauni festo rure Sabino, ut iucunditatem laudent utriusque scriptoris et plaudeant sonore:

Inter audacis lupus errat agnos,
spargit agrestis tibi silva frondes,
gaudet inuisam pepulisse fossor
ter pede terram.

(Hor. *Carm.* III.18.13–16)

DOCTOR IN LETTERS

Paul Muldoon

“Tell me, Goddess of Song, of the clever man” (Livius Andronicus, *Odyssey* 1). As Mousa gives way to Music, as Odysseus gives way to Ulysses, as cunning gives way to kenning, as the liar gives way to the lyre, “I give way to you,” PAUL MULDOON. In your journey of constant return and renewal, how many times have you “braved the wine-dark sea” of poetic invention? What perilous waves taught you how to master the protean fluidity of sound and meaning? Which maps take you to the islands where Sirens and Scylla rhyme? – Ah, but the orator is breaking the rules of epic narration (talk about the hero, not to him). Forgive my temporary lapse, academy members: our eminent guest led me on an *Unapproved Road*, when he said: “You’ll like this: total disregard for any frontier.” Demarcations of space and time have no other meaning, to this native of the Moy, where county Tyrone meets county Armagh, other than opportunities for encounters, the less likely the more welcome. In his poetry, Horace sits by Coleridge, *Moy Sand and Gravel* meets New Jersey, Jewish ancestry duets with American mythology, traditional forms of verse become pop *Songs and Sonnets*. His adventures go back a long time. *Knowing My Place* was his first collection of poems, completed at nineteen, when Seamus Heaney was his mentor and not yet the friend of a lifetime. *New Weather* appeared when he was but twenty-two; innumerable words later, still relentless is his journey of discovery into the language’s hidden designs and refrains, allusions and illusions, paradoxes and paraetymologies, riddles to be solved and rules to be bent, broken or dissolved into the production of new and unexpected meaning. A poet is, quite literally, a maker—or a trickster (pick one, it is the same word). He is a Fellow of American Academies, with fellow Pulitzer prize winners, and of the Royal Society of Literature. Prizes entitled to T.S. Eliot and Shakespeare have raised him to the Olympus of English Language Poets. But he does not neglect his worldly duties, when the poet gives way to the Professor in the Humanities (so they address him in Princeton), to the Professor of Poetry (in Oxford, at the turn of the millennium), the guiding light of creative writers and artists (here, always). And he has time for fun. Anyone who has ever attended his ‘Picnics’ at the Irish Arts Center in New York will recognise the lyric playfulness of Horace’s Faunus Feast in the Sabine Farm: let the scene mark our joyful welcome to him:

The wolf moving among lambs remarkable for their nonchalance,
The trees putting out their red
Carpet for you, or the ditchdigger dancing a three-step victory dance
On the earth with which he’s gone head-to-head.

(Horace, *Odes* 3.18.13–16, translated by Paul Muldoon)

DOCTOR IN UTROQUE JURE

Nancy Hopkins

Scribenti tibi res gestas feminarum sapientium quaerenda sunt indicia certa virtutis quasi vestigia a temporibus illis antiquissimis, quibus homines primum congregati essent ad societatem generis humani. In Aegypto sita est prima artis medicae peritissima, Mesopotamia habet primam quae siderum studium susceperit. Millenniis interpositis Mariam Judaicam et Hypatiam Alexandrinam et ceteras paucas philosophia naturali artibusque praestitisse traditur quidem, sed etiam (horribile auditu) in iudicium traditas esse, ad tormenta adductas, tamquam improbas supplicio ipso ultimo affectas. Saeculorum vero tempus aequavit intervallum prius quam plures invenias quae quamvis doctissimae dignae viris doctis viderentur laudari. Qui fit, inquam, ut, cum iam antiquis omnes viderentur homines habere insitam quandam vel potius innatam cupiditatem scientiae, neglectis tamen indiciis mares tantummodo habiles putemus? Responsum certum facit NANCY HOPKINS, sodalis doctissimae cuiusque societatis in patria sua, quam summo gaudio accipimus a Collegio illo Technologico Cantabrigiae Novanglorum; ubi non historiam hominum, sed animalium arcana indagat acerrima acie. Quam assidue, quam diligenter a puella operam dabat ad causas inveniendas, quasi ab ipsis primordiis expetendas, aegritudinum quas vi antiqui verbi mutata carcinomata dicimus! Quantas spes periclitantium alit mulier causis quibusdam repertis, innumeris experimentis temptatis summa cura atque industria! Nec in una tantum re curam consumere contigit feminae piissimae. "Nullaene sunt," inquit, "feminae collegae in hoc collegio?" Huic respondebant aut doctas esse aut matres. Quod aegre ferebat femina iustissima, et nulla mora interposita rem in quaestionem vocavit. Unde ea duce quaestio prima facta est, an feminas in aequo viris poneret illud collegium; ex qua illa relatio de muliebri academica dignitate edita est viginti ab hinc annos. Saeculo deinceps incipiente placuit praesidi Nationum Confederatarum Concilium, cui praesedit candidata nostra de aequitate atque academia. Magnum quidem fecit; maius etiam quod causas invenit: ne humanissimos nostrum quidem in aequo ponere feminas viris, adversantibus opinionibus fallacibus quibus servire adsueverimus, quibus a pueris imbuamur; nec facile radicitus effoderis quae late disseminata sint. De his multis rebus nuper apud nos eloquenter disserebat et perurbane, ut cum dixerit se id ad tempus terendum solitam esse, mirari numerum quam exiguus adhuc sit feminarum sapientium electarum in summa officia. Plus quam humanam exhibuit fortitudinem mulier cum oppugnaret utramque hanc pestem permittiemque. Utinam debellasset! Nonne opiniones fallaces ac falsa crimina tam nocent animis quam ulcera serpentina corporibus? Si sapimus, sodales, et huic et illi multitudini acerrime resistamus, si forte, ut candidata docet, tandem possimus debellare.

DOCTOR IN LAWS

Nancy Hopkins

If you write a history of women in science, go back in time five thousand years, and find Merit Ptah, the Egyptian 'Chief Physician', and the Sumerian astronomer Enheduanna. Wait a couple of millennia, and you may encounter Maria the alchemist or Hypatia the mathematician (but brace yourself for horrific stories of persecution, prosecution, even execution). Centuries go by before the list of women's achievements in science gets much longer. Why has it taken so long to acknowledge that women were born with a desire for scientific knowledge and abilities, equal to those of men? NANCY HOPKINS, learned colleague, has an answer. We salute her, Amgen, Inc. Professor of Biology Emerita at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Fellow of the United States National Academy of Sciences, of the Institute of Medicine and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She is a scientist by vocation, by training, and by achievements in the vital field of cancer genetics for which she is recognised worldwide. Her current project on 'insertional mutagenesis in zebrafish' is an amazing source of hope for the prevention of the disease. But the long hours in the laboratory have never prevented her from wondering at some oddities in her work environment. How few were the female colleagues in the Institute at the start of her career! There was no such thing as 'parental leave', nor could you be heard uttering the word 'baby' in the work place. From personal observation to activism was but a short step for the young brave woman. Nearly twenty years ago she chaired the first Committee on Women Faculty in the School of Science at MIT, which produced the memorable 'MIT Report on the Status of Women Faculty in Science.' At the dawn of the new millennium she led the first Council on Faculty Diversity, which obtained the recognition of President Clinton. The influence of her action in the United States has been immense; and yet, she warns us, there is still a long way to go. When she addressed our Centre for Women in Science & Engineering Research in International Women's Week last March, telling of her dream from a very young age, to become a molecular biologist (girls' dreams can be very specific), she vividly reported her gradual discovery of the invisible barriers that make women scientists so often invisible. She explained why these barriers take decades to identify and bring down: they are built on unconscious biases that lurk silently and spread wide. And she told us of a recent pastime of hers: she counts the women currently employed in stem cell companies, just to see 'what a five per-cent looks like.' Here is a remarkable woman who has invested her time and talent equally in the battle against the two plagues that our societies have yet to confine and conquer. Prejudice is a condition just as creeping and corrupting as cancer. Stand up to it, my friends, and speak out.

DOCTOR IN UTROQUE JURE

Maria Patricia Lawlor

Non est, credo, qui nesciat illud poetae indignantis, 'quis custodiet ipsos custodes?' (Juv. VI.347-8). Quod olim satiricus dixit de improbis, probum quidem et verum fecit custos haec diligentissima pacis atque otii, MARIA PATRICIA LAWLOR, cum auxilia in prima acie praevalida instruxerit custodibus omnibus pacis atque humanitatis ubique terrarum. Iam tantum adiuverat paciferis illis communitatis et coniunctionis humanae defensoribus ubicumque periclitentur, ut ea duce ab exiguo eorum grege factus sit exercitus quo non amplior, non fortior sit in patria Hibernia. Defensores autem, quos ipsa eduxit et in aciem instruxit, quasi custodes praesidio sunt ipsis custodibus iuris legumque universarum in quibus posita est societas hominum et aequalitas et iustitia; libenter enim proficiscuntur auxilio ac praesidio periclitantibus custodibus pacis qui in patria sua, innocentes inermes, acerrima tela atque incursus strenui sustineant; qui iniuria capti vel vinculis constricti vel ad supplicium traditi sint; qui denique vera libertate fideliter defensa, sua amissa, in arbitrio sint hostis perfidi et iniquissimi. Haec non tantum dux fortis, sed etiam veri nuntia et iudex; nam cotidiane flagitat crimina, immo opprobria, hominum improborum qui nomine libertatis perfide usurpato ipsos custodes libertatis oppugnatos rapuere, dum gementia iacent simulacra virtutis vetustissima in terris caede madentibus:

At facies meretricis perfida prodit in altum,
dum latebras petit illa fidelis pectore puro.
Unde, precor, mihi ripa aut ora aut unde carina
invenitur, quae me eripiat e gurgite pravo?

Ingentem quidem classem instruxit femina fortis, ut maria secure fiant, ut pateat tandem via ad salutem quacumque in ora ac parte terrarum. Quam igitur summis honoribus decoravere principes iustissimae cuiusque rei publicae, nonne sequemur nos? Sequuntur laeti duces Collegii nostri, voce intrepida audita eius orantis causam nunc de paciferis legionibus Hibernicis, nunc de academicis per orbem periclitantibus, ne dubium sit quin custodes ipsi aequitatis ab innumeris iniquitatibus custodiendi sint. Sequuntur autem discipuli nostri piissimi, dum auxilium libenter ferunt auxiliantibus primoribus. Ex quo intellegitur, sodales, optimum esse hoc consilium et utile. Aequitatem igitur et pacem non tantum optemus, sed nulla mora, vel in prima acie vel postrema, strenui defendamus.

DOCTOR IN LAWS

Mary Patricia Lawlor

Not everyday does one see a cliché revitalized. ‘Who will guard the guardians?’ was an old poet’s indignant question (Juvenal, 6.347-8); this woman has given it the contemporary and urgent meaning of an humanitarian mission. I am proud to give you MARIA PATRICIA LAWLOR, the inspirer and leader of Front Line Defenders. She brought to this unprecedented initiative her fifteen year experience in the Irish Section of Amnesty International, which her charismatic leadership transformed into the country’s largest human rights organization. Since 2001 Front Line protects all those courageous individuals who guard the principles enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: all those men and women who challenge oppression while abjuring violence, who risk their own life in their home country, enduring personal and professional loss every day. She knows how many of them are held in confinement or prison, tortured, targeted and threatened because they tell the truth and peacefully defend it from violent assault. Read her daily denunciations. She knows that there are places where abductions of human rights’ defenders are perpetrated in the very name of freedom, while effigies of ancient wisdom lie on the blood-drenched earth, mutilated but not silenced:

And falsehood like a star all naked stands,
But truth still hides her face in hood and veil.
Is there no ship or shore my outstretched hands
May grasp, to save me from this malicious sea?

(Al- Ma’arri)

This fearless woman has equipped an entire fleet of rescuers. Within five years since its foundation, Front Line was awarded the International Development Prize of the King Baudouin Foundation. In July the French Government bestowed on her the Order of Chevalier of the Légion d’Honneur. Shall we remain inactive? She gives generously of her time to address the members of this academia, warning us that the forms of injustice suffered by the defenders of human dignity are just as innumerable as the violations of it. Under her auspices the Peace Brigades International Ireland were launched in our College last week. Our distinguished colleagues avail of her support to the series of lectures dedicated to Scholars at Risk. Our own students have often volunteered to participate in the organization of Front Line events. She has taught us that, be it in the front or the rear line, each one of us has a part to play in the defence of justice and peace. No more excuses.

DOCTOR IN UTROQUE JURE

David O'Sullivan

Is dies erat nonus ante Kalendas Maias anno fere centesimo ac quinquagesimo post Collegium Sanctissimae Trinitatis conditum apud Dublinium, quo discipulus quidam disertus sodales collegit qui honesto certamine virtutem atque eloquentiam colerent ut sapientia et urbanitate, prudentia et consilio ceterisque artibus perfectis utilitates quam maximas atque exempla praeberent societati generis humani. Discipulus ille, ut scitis, vir bonus fuit, Edmundus Burke; ab illo sodalicio facta est in Universitate Dubliniensi societas quae dicitur historica omnium antiquissima. Cuius temporibus nostris ducem disertissimum, emblemate ornatum, studiis oeconomicis feliciter excultis, DAVIDEM O' SULLIVAN coram oculis habetis, academici. Ne miremini eum principem legationis nuperrime missum esse a nationibus Europae ad Americae confederatas: tam spectata est huius vis animi consiliique, perurbana facundia atque prudentia in omnibus rebus domi forisque. Nec facile civem invenias qui tot et tanta officia conferret ad communes nostras utilitates. Hic fuit illi cursus honorum: quattuor fere annis post quam de patria meruisset praepositus rebus externis, profectus a patria honoribus petitis a senatu nationum quae in Europa essent cunctarum, egregia virtute paulatim insurgere, quam plurimis ministeriis muneribusque perfungi, ut maxime prodesset causae rei publicae. De quibus pauca dicam. Praefectus educationis cultusque iuventuti disciplinas illas Erasmi, ut ita dicam, in tempus extendit. Adeptus deinde amplissimum dignitatis gradum decrevit decem nationes, non antea consociatas, iure rei publicae adiciendas esse. Tertium, quod tamquam praefectus annonae omnia rexit pertinentia ad commercia, quae et quomodo contraherentur, quae commoda essent, si iis singulae civitates recte uterentur, quae autem pericula, si omnia ad utilitatem suam referrent ceterarum incommodo detrimentoque. Postremo legatos peritissimos creavit (rebus his novis iam iam incipientibus) qui foedera facerent ubicumque summa rerum in periculum venisset. Non quidem negat in tria quaedam certamina (an rectius dicam discrimina?) res esse adductas, de moneta, de motu et de mercatura; hortatur tamen, ut decet virum tam facundum quam liberalem, ut boni cives disserant, disputent, deliberent quibus fundamentis res publica constituenda adque administranda sit, si aequitatem petant et auctoritatem. "Si enim consensum fieri velis," inquit, "dissentientes adloquere, ne sententiae spernantur quaecumque ad bene commune pertineant; nam ea lege necesse vincula foederis felicitis ac fausti fiant, ut omnes civitates quae in Europa sint libertatem ac suos habeant mores salva libertate communi, regente concilio concordis; quis denique dividere audeat consensum et quasi concentum nostrum?" Placet nobis sententia viri probi ac prudentis, cui una voce laeti assentimur.

DOCTOR IN LAWS

David O'Sullivan

Trinity College, Dublin, 21st April 1747. An eighteen-year-old student preparing for the law founded a debating club, intended to provide, as stated in its statutory Preamble, “fair opportunities of correcting our taste, regulating and enriching our judgement, brightening our wit, and enlarging our knowledge, and of being serviceable to others in the same things.” That young man was to become the statesman Edmund Burke, whose club soon came to be known as the earliest debating society in the world. Its Auditor, Debater and Medaller of forty years ago was a bright student in Economics and Sociology, DAVID O’SULLIVAN: he stands before us today as the Ambassador of the European Union to the United States. His judgement, they say, is infallible; his wit is a delight; his knowledge is far-sighted, his service to his fellow citizens of Europe is unsurpassed in this country. After four years of service in the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs, he came to hold positions of the greatest responsibility in the European Commission, and excel in all of them. As Head of General Education, Training and Youth, he launched ‘Erasmus’ into a new era of exchanges in education and training. As Secretary General of the European Commission (the youngest man to be appointed to the highest civil service position in the EU), he welcomed ten new member states into the European Union. As Director General for Trade, he came to see exactly how the changes, conflicts and challenges of our time happen in the world of economics, which is beyond the control of individual governments: the road to safety, he says, is integration and cohesiveness. As founder and Chief of the European External Action Service, he has built a European diplomatic service fit to speak on behalf of each and every member state in situations of crisis (and he, too, has seen some revolution during his time in office) and on matters as universally urgent as climate change and energy. You may hear him speak of the three crucial ‘M’s of our times – Money, Mobility, and Market. His advocacy, however, is for the equally vital three ‘D’s which he learned to cherish in his young age: Debate, Dialogue, and Democracy. “Those of us who profoundly believe that the integration of Europe is how best we secure the freedom and our prosperity should not be afraid to engage and debate with those who take a different view”. This is how, he firmly believes, the voice of Europe in the World is constructed, and can contribute, credibly and effectively, to shape the 21st century. Let us speak with one voice, as we give our assent to this champion of integration and model of integrity.