



## It's Galway! What now?

*In July, Galway was designated European Capital of Culture 2020, beating competition from Limerick and the south-east. It's a huge achievement for the bid team – but what does Galway 2020 mean for the city and our University?*

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...and much more!

# CELEBRATE

# OLLSCÉALA

## Focal ón Uachtarán



A Chairde,

As we reflect on the past summer one of the highlights will be Galway's designation as **European Capital of Culture for 2020**. Comhghairdeas ó chroí le foireann Gaillimh 2020!

This is a massive win for Galway - one that will see lasting and transformative benefits. It's the result of hard work by Galway City Council and a committed Galway 2020 bid team and

reflects broad community commitment. This has made the University, the city, the county and the province extremely proud. As a major supporter, NUI Galway looks forward to being centrally involved over the next few years in building Galway 2020 success.

Becoming the cultural capital of Europe will bring many visitors to our city, but NUI Galway is already attracting large numbers of **conference visitors**. With over 16,000 delegates to the campus this year - the majority of whom are international - the estimated economic benefit to the region is €24 million.

Highlights this summer include the COTEC-ENOTHE joint congress, organised by Professor Agnes Shiel, which attracted over 1,000 occupational therapists from across the globe to Galway for the largest academic conference ever held on campus. Other notable events include the 800-strong conference of the European Society for the Study of English, led by Professor Patrick Lonergan; the Summer School on Disability Law organised by the Centre for Disability Law & Policy; and Seafest, in conjunction with the Ryan Institute.

Over 35 countries were represented at successful conferences organised in August by Dr Xinmin Zhan (Livestock Waste 2016) and Dr Chaosheng Zhang (Joint International Conference on Environment,

Health, GIS and Agriculture). Amongst the delegates were 200 Chinese academics whose visit coincided with that of a high-level delegation from Tsinghua University as part of our ongoing academic collaboration.

I'd like to commend all colleagues who work to bring conferences to our city and campus. In so doing they help to build NUI Galway's academic reputation. I'd also like to encourage others to do so and I assure staff of my personal support and the very professional assistance of the Conference Office.

Many visitors comment on the attractiveness of our campus and its buildings. This was recognised recently when our **Biomedical Sciences Building** received a prestigious Top Ten Design Award for Sustainability from the American Institute of Architects (AIA), the only award made outside of the US. This is the architectural profession's most rigorous recognition programme for sustainable design excellence and celebrates projects that reflect an integrated approach to architecture, natural systems and technology.

Closer to home, **Mayo Medical Academy** was recognised as Conservation Project of the Year at the Irish Construction Industry Awards 2016. Mayo Medical Academy is housed in a purpose-designed facility located in a former chapel on the

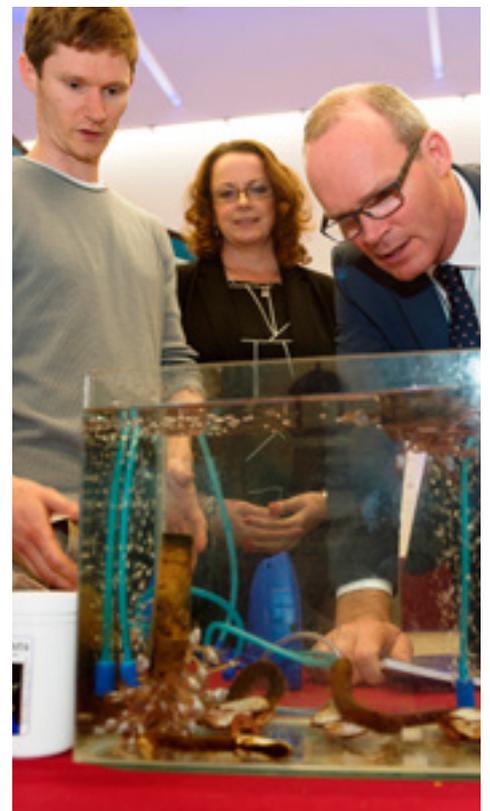
## Familiar Faces



In July, the Centre for Global Women's Studies co-hosted an international policy symposium in Ballina, Co. Mayo with the Mary Robinson Centre, which was focused on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. Staff and students from the School of Political Science and Sociology are pictured with the former Irish President: (l-r) Dr Niamh Reilly, (Mary Robinson), Dr Nata Duvvury, Gillian Browne, Dr Su-ming Khoo, Stacey Scriver, Amie Lajoie and Megan Reilly.



President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins, responds to presentations from Dr Sarah-Anne Buckley and Dr John Cunningham (History), and Professor Jim Livesey (Dundee University) at a symposium on James Connolly's life and legacy, held in Edinburgh.



In the company of Dr Sean McCarthy and Dr Martina Prendergast (Ryan Institute), Minister Simon Coveney explores some of the University's marine research at the 'Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth' conference in July.

grounds of Mayo University Hospital, Castlebar. Officially opened by An Taoiseach in December 2015, the building has been sensitively restored into a multipurpose teaching facility.

It's wonderful to see such work by our colleagues celebrated. I'm delighted to recognise our staff right across the University through the three President's Awards schemes. Over the summer the awards in teaching and research have been made and later this year we'll recognise the tremendous contribution of support staff through the President's Awards for Support Service Excellence.

In June, we announced the winners of the **President's Awards for Teaching Excellence:**

- Dr John Cullinan, School of Business & Economics
- Dr Catherine Houghton, School of Nursing & Midwifery
- Dr Angela Kearns, School of Medicine /Mayo Medical Academy
- Mr Conor McBrierty, School of Physics
- Dr Muireann O'Cinnéide, School of Humanities

I'm delighted to honour these outstanding teachers who will be presented with their Awards during conferring ceremonies later this year.

In April, I presented **President's Awards for Research** to the following:

### Early Stage Researcher Award

- Dr Ekaterina Yahyaoui Krivenko, ICHR and School of Law
- Dr Eoin Whelan, School of Business & Economics
- Dr Eva Szegezdi, School of Natural Sciences
- Dr Manus Biggs, CÚRAM and School of Engineering & Informatics

### Established Researcher Award

- Dr Gavin Collins, Environmental Microbiology, School of Natural Sciences
- Professor Gary Donohoe, School of Psychology

### Research Supervisor

- Dr Adrienne Gorman, Apoptosis Research Centre, College of Science
- Dr Lillis Ó Laoire, School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures

At the same event, the **Ryan Award for Innovation** went to the Nucleic Acid Diagnostics Research Laboratory (NADRL) for a novel project to develop test kits which detect human pathogens that contaminate water. The team - Dr Kate Reddington, Dr Thomas Barry and Shannon Fullbrook - aims to launch a spin-out company to develop this unmet market need. The Ryan Award for Innovation recognises the translation of innovative ideas in the area of Environment, Marine and Energy into outputs with societal and economic impact. Through Galway University Foundation, this initiative is supported by the Tony Ryan Trust.

As a new academic year begins, I look forward to achieving the ambitious goals we have set ourselves as we further develop NUI Galway into a university of choice, relevance and renown in the eyes in the world.

Le gach dea-ghuí

**James J. Browne PhD, DSc, MRIA, C.Eng**

Uachtarán – President

## Appointments

### Chief Operating Officer

In June, John Gill took up the new post of Chief Operating Officer, replacing the former Executive Director of Operations, Dr Kieran Loftus. A Galway native and graduate of UCG, John has years of experience managing large and diverse teams across a wide range of organisations. He has worked in some of Galway's best known companies, most recently at Senior Director level in Avaya Europe.

John has extensive experience in IT Management, Human Resources, Procurement and supply management and, more recently, in leading a team innovating in the field of Smart Buildings and Smart Campus. He will bring these skills to bear in the role of Chief Operating Officer as he leads the provision and development of services across the University. We wish him every success in his new role here.



### Internal Appointment

Mary McPartlan (Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance) has been appointed the first ever Fulbright Ireland Ambassador at NUI Galway. Her new ambassador role will see her advising Fulbright applicants in the University, as well as working with staff to promote NUI Galway and Fulbright links between Ireland and the USA.

### External Appointment

Professor Mike Hartnett (Civil Engineering) has been appointed Visiting Professor at the University of Edinburgh. Professor Hartnett has strong research collaborations with the University of Edinburgh particularly in the area of marine renewable energy. The appointment is for a period of four years.



## Honouring Galway Icons

There was a distinctly cultural air to June's Honorary Conferring, as the University acknowledged the life and work of some of Galway's most recognised faces. Pictured here, you can see the four new conferees from the ConTempo Quartet – Bogdan Sofei, Ingrid Nicola, Adrian Mantu and Andreea Banciu – showing off their instruments, while educator and festival director, Brendan Flynn; former Tánaiste, Éamon Gilmore; and iconic actor, Marie Mullen, listen in.

**ConTempo Quartet:** A Degree of Doctor of Music was awarded jointly to the four members of the ConTempo Quartet: Andreea Banciu, Adrian Mantu, Ingrid Nicola and Bogdan Sofei. Formed in Romania in 1995 while they studied together, ConTempo Quartet is one of the most celebrated quartets performing today, having won 14 international awards and performed over 1,400 concerts in 46 countries. In 2003, they were appointed Galway Ensemble-in-Residence, and since then have brought a programme of musical performance and education of the highest quality to the people of Galway city and county.

**Brendan Flynn:** A native of Co. Roscommon, Brendan Flynn was conferred with a Degree of Doctor of Laws in recognition of his commitment to the arts, education and community development. An awareness of the critical role of culture in the life of a community led Brendan to establish the Clifden Arts Festival in 1977, and he encouraged such celebrated artists as John McGahern, Richard Murphy, Seamus Heaney and John Behan to take part. The festival continues to

bring a diverse programme of high quality arts to the town each summer. Brendan is a tireless voice in defence of the arts and he has served on The Arts Council, as well as the board of the Irish Museum of Modern Art.

**Eamon Gilmore:** A native of Caltra, Co. Galway, Eamon Gilmore was conferred with a Degree of Doctor of Laws in recognition of his contribution to Irish politics at local, national and international levels. He began his political life in the UCG Students' Union, and he was an active union officer at the ITGWU before being elected to the Dáil in 1989. Eamon was leader of the Labour Party between 2007-2014, during which time he was appointed Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade. He is now the EU Special Envoy for the Peace Process in Colombia. In his citation, Professor Donncha O'Connell (Law) praised Eamon for his commitment to public life and for never shying from tough decisions in the public interest.

**Marie Mullen:** Marie Mullen was conferred with a Degree of Doctor of Arts in recognition of her lifelong contribution to Irish theatre. She is an award-winning Irish actress and member of Druid Theatre Company, which she co-founded with fellow UCG students, Garry Hynes and the late Mick Lally in 1975. Over the company's 40-year history she has performed many iconic roles and established herself as one of Ireland's greatest living actors. Arguably her most memorable role was that of Maureen in Druid's acclaimed production of *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* by Martin McDonagh in 1998, for which she won a Tony Award.

Hear a short interview with each of the graduates at: [www.nuigalway.ie/honconf2016](http://www.nuigalway.ie/honconf2016)



## Opening the Gate

In May, NUI Galway officially launched a partnership with Dublin's Gate Theatre that will see the University digitising their archives from almost 90 years of theatre production. When completed in 2018, the Gate Theatre Digital Archive will be exclusively available at the James Hardiman Library, where users will be able to access hundreds of videos, scripts, show programmes, and many more treasures from the Gate's history. Pictured at the launch of this exciting venture are (l-r) Professor Patrick Lonergan (Drama, Theatre and Production); actress and Gate Theatre regular, Lorna Quinn; and former Gate Theatre Artistic Director, Michael Colgan.



## How Green is your Campus?

NUI Galway has launched a new Sustainability Initiative in partnership with Sustainable Energy Authority Ireland, which aims to make the campus one of the greenest, smartest, healthiest and community-focused in the world. The initiative is based on a Learn Live Lead approach, where the University will analyse our campus, learn how to live more sustainably, and share this knowledge with the wider community. There are many strands to the Sustainability Initiative, which will be rolled out over the coming years. One of the most intriguing is 'Battle of the Buildings', which will discover which buildings are run most efficiently. At the launch of the 'battle' were students: Noel Beirne, Orlagh Reynolds and Mariana Câmara Ribeiro. Find out more at: [www.nuigalway.ie/sustainability](http://www.nuigalway.ie/sustainability)



## Making Waves across Europe

Galway celebrated on 15 July, as we were officially designated European Capital of Culture 2020. Behind the scenes, and over many months, staff from across the University were involved in the successful bid – volunteering with the bid team, submitting projects to the bid book, taking part in pilot festivals around the county, and decorating their offices and homes in the Galway 2020 colours. We asked three staff members connected with the bid to share their thoughts on what the award will mean for the city and University.

**Dr Pat Collins (Geography):** Pat is an economic geographer with a particular interest in evaluating the creative economy. He was appointed Lead Consultant for the Galway 2020 bid early on in the process, and his knowledge of the creative economy in the West of Ireland was critical for Galway's success. He looks forward to 2020 bringing a wide range of benefits to Galway, both quantitative and qualitative:

*"There will be very obvious impacts to Galway in terms of tourism numbers (up circa 20% for the year), and increased revenues associated with the Creative and Culture economy. But there will be more subtle changes associated with pride, sense of place and confidence that will come with this designation. That kind of change can affect real change in the social, psychological and economic development of any place. We at NUI Galway can be inspired*

*by the opportunity to put culture to the fore, to reflect on that in our teaching and research. Galway has the opportunity to be bold, to be brave with this designation, to trust in its people and celebrate all that is good about European values."*

**Professor Patrick Lonergan (Drama, Theatre and Performance):** Patrick is Director of the University's Centre for Drama Theatre and Performance and has played a leading role in the development of Drama at NUI Galway and our growing theatre archives. Patrick led the University's Galway 2020 project group, which invited all staff to share their input to NUI Galway's contribution to the bid book. Over 70 staff responded, and you can read more of our role on Page 60 of the bid book at: [www.galway2020.ie](http://www.galway2020.ie). Patrick sees huge potential for the development of culture on campus as we prepare for 2020:

*"The Capital of Culture designation gives us the opportunity to develop new courses, build new infrastructure, to engage with new communities, to change the way we work together, and to re-evaluate the role of universities for Ireland and Europe. We will use this opportunity to build links between the arts and sciences, something that Galway excels at – to show that the word 'culture' can encompass all forms of human knowledge. The Creative Arts will play a huge role in Galway 2020. The new theatre space provides state of the art facilities that will certainly host great new work, but we also see our space as a kind of laboratory that will allow creative artists to try out new things – in theatre,*

*music, creative writing, and many other forms of art. But while the new theatre will be centrally involved, we want the entire campus to be part of Galway 2020."*

**Mary McPartlan (College of Arts, Social Sciences and Celtic Studies):** Mary is a celebrated Irish traditional singer, with three albums and a network of collaborations with musicians, artists and actors across Ireland and overseas. She is Director of the University's Arts in Action programme, which presents a programme of weekly performances on campus throughout the year. As an artist and educator, Mary sees the benefits of Galway 2020 for connecting our students with a wider European identity:

*"In relation to my work at NUI Galway, the emphasis will be on creating new collaborations with European colleagues in specific universities and also making new work with artists from different countries. This will give our students enhanced opportunities to access European art form, open up the discussion on diversity and inclusion of the creative arts in their chosen academic study, and create further opportunities to experience and enjoy artistic excellence from Europe within their own campus environment. Galway as European Capital of Culture gives students at NUI Galway a sense of their own identity, specifically its impact on the student creative artistic experience, which can only be profoundly enhanced as we open up the opportunities to also journey to Europe and to share our culture with our fellow Europeans."*



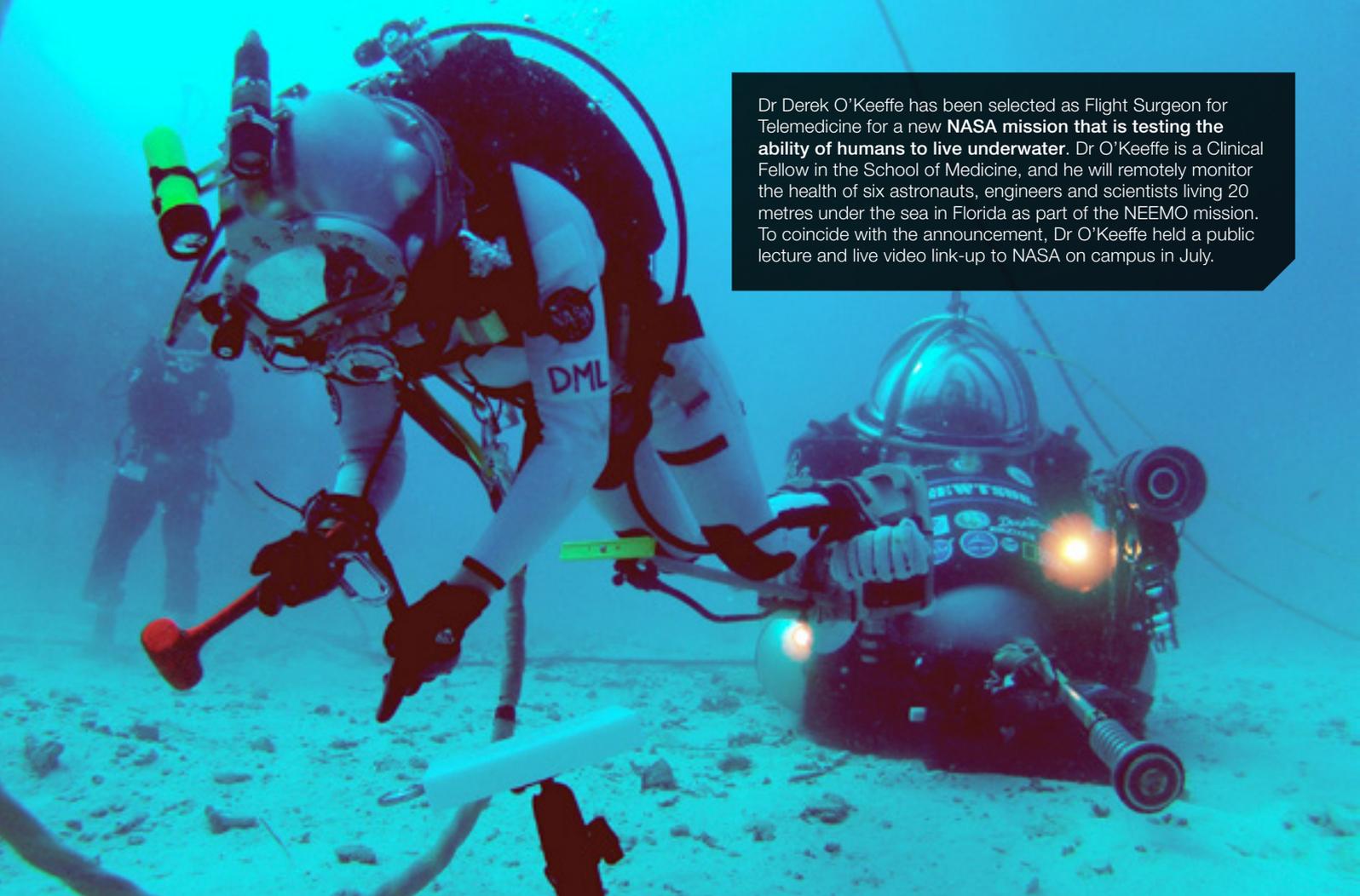
## Gaillimh 2020 agus an Ghaeilge

Tá áit faoi leith ag pobal na Gaeltachta i gcultúr na Gaillimhe, agus tá an éagsúlacht teanga ina cheist thábhachtach shóisialta san Eoraip i gcoitinne. Mar gheall air sin, ainmníodh 'Teanga' mar cheann de thrí phríomhthéama in iarratas na Gaillimhe, agus tá béim curtha ar an nGaeilge i gcuid mhaith tograí sa chlár cultúrtha. I measc na tograí sin tá *Aistriú*, ina n-úsáidfeair téacsanna Gaeilge chun imirce an lae inniu a phlé. Tá go leor baill d'fhoireann na hOllscoile páirteach sa togra, agus is féidir tuilleadh eolais a fháil agus do shuim féin a léiriú ann ar: [www.nuigalway.ie/aistriu](http://www.nuigalway.ie/aistriu)

## Next Steps

Feedback from the European Capital of Culture judges is due in September, and this will identify their highlights from the cultural programme, as well as any potential weaknesses in the bid. It is expected that a new Galway 2020 team will be appointed early in 2017, including an Artistic Director, who will then begin the task of planning and preparing, and ultimately delivering, on the promise of Galway 2020.

Read the Galway 2020 bid book at: [www.galway2020.ie](http://www.galway2020.ie)



Dr Derek O’Keeffe has been selected as Flight Surgeon for Telemedicine for a new **NASA mission that is testing the ability of humans to live underwater**. Dr O’Keeffe is a Clinical Fellow in the School of Medicine, and he will remotely monitor the health of six astronauts, engineers and scientists living 20 metres under the sea in Florida as part of the NEEMO mission. To coincide with the announcement, Dr O’Keeffe held a public lecture and live video link-up to NASA on campus in July.

# RESEARCH IN ACTION

Just some of the results, reports and discoveries that made headlines in recent months.

An international research project led by Dr Michael Madden (Information Technology) has been awarded €4.8 Million in EU funding to develop **new technologies for gathering forensic evidence more safely**. The ROCSAFE project is developing ICT and security software that will use robotics and intelligent reasoning to assess evidence in the event of a chemical, biological or nuclear incident. The project, which is funded through Horizon 2020, will greatly increase the safety of crime scene investigators by reducing the need for them to enter dangerous scenes to gather evidence.

A new study co-authored by Dr Tim Downing (Mathematics) and the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute has shown **how Black Fever parasites can become resistant to drug treatment**. The research shows that adding just two DNA bases to its genome stops the parasite from absorbing antimonial drugs. Black Fever is the second most deadly parasitic disease after malaria, killing up to 50,000 each year. The discovery shows that whole-genome sequencing can be used to track the emergence of resistance to drugs and to avoid potential outbreaks.

A new study carried out by Dr Line Caes (Psychology) explores **the development of worrisome thoughts in children and young adolescents**. Dr Caes collaborated with

researchers in Bath University on the study, which found that while ten year olds worry the most, young female adolescents at age 13 are most affected in performing daily activities due to worrisome thoughts. While anxiety is a normal part of growing up, it is important to evaluate the difference between normal and pathological worrying patterns in order to improve young people’s welfare.

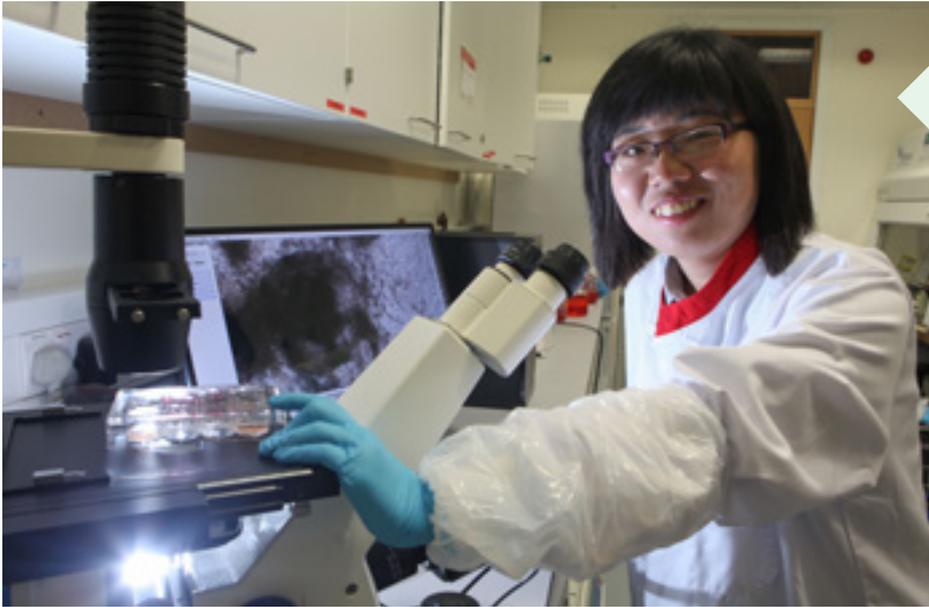
A team of researchers led by NCBES Director, Professor Rhodri Ceredig, has found that **a compromised immune system after major surgery can lead to post-surgical mortality**. The study, which was published in the journal Clinical & Translational Immunology, has revealed that post-traumatic immunosuppression is one of the leading causes of post-surgical mortality. A weakened immune system makes patients vulnerable to hospital-acquired infections, multiple organ failure and many other complications.

Courts across the EU are failing to respect **human rights in home eviction cases**, according to a new report led by Dr Padraic Kenna (Law). Entitled ‘Promoting Protection of the Right to Housing’, the research involved a number of European universities and agencies. It showed that evictions arising from increased rents are often greater than mortgage evictions, even in Ireland. The report calls for better legal

protection for those at risk, and an EU-wide adoption of best practices, such as Poland’s ‘No evictions to nowhere’ policy.

A new research collaboration in the Institute for Lifecourse and Society is **empowering local residents to highlight community issues** in their neighbourhoods. The ‘Citizen Authored Briefs’ draw on research conducted by older people, children and people with disabilities in six neighbourhoods across Dublin, Galway and Limerick. The research is carried out in an innovative partnership with the Project Lifecourse group, and it captures the impact of community change from the viewpoint of local people and vulnerable groups within each neighbourhood.

NUI Galway researchers have published **two new studies in the fight against cancer**. A young team led by Professor Corrado Santocanale from the Centre for Chromosome Biology has discovered how the protein USP9X contributes to the duplication DNA in cells and protects from the development of cancer. Meanwhile, a team of scientists and clinicians led by Dr Sanjeev Gupta at the Lambe Institute for Translational Research has revealed a new approach to treating breast cancers resistant to endocrine therapy. The study funded by Breast Cancer Now has found a potential new approach to overcoming the problem of relapse among patients treated with anti-estrogen therapies.



Biomedical researchers in REMEDI and CÚRAM are **using stem cells to help treat heart disease**, in a groundbreaking new research project. In collaboration with Our Lady's Children's Hospital Crumlin, the research team has developed the first synchronised beating heart cells in Ireland using human cells from a skin biopsy. The research aims to develop new therapies for unexpected sudden death in young people. The stem cell study was initiated by Professor Timothy O'Brien, while the research was carried out by Professor Sanbing Shen and Dr Min Liu (pictured here) in the Biomedical Sciences building.

Watch a video of their discovery:

[www.nuigalway.ie/suddendeadth](http://www.nuigalway.ie/suddendeadth)



Researchers from the University's Connaught Automotive Research Group (CAR) showcased their work on intelligent vehicles at a recent visit by EU advisors. Dr Edward Jones and Dr Martin Glavin are developing **new technology for the next generation of autonomous vehicles**, which they presented to the European Road Transport Research Advisory Committee (ERTRAC). The research is focused in particular on signal and image processing technology for applications such as automatically detecting pedestrians and other vehicles using cameras and other sensors. The meeting was hosted by CAR industry partner, Valeo Vision Systems, in Tuam.



Without clinical trials, researchers and patients would be denied access to the latest medical advances, and two new initiatives aim to increase awareness of their importance. May saw the launch of **It's OK to Ask**, a public campaign to encourage participation in clinical trials. Launched by the HRB Clinical Research Facility Galway, the campaign encourages patients, carers and the public to ask healthcare professionals if there is a clinical trial study suitable for them. In June, **QUESTS (Qualitative Research in Trials Centre)** was launched to maximise the integration of qualitative research in trials. QUESTS was set up by Dr Catherine Houghton (Nursing and Midwifery) and is hosted at NUI Galway with links to the HRB-TMRN.

Volunteer coordinators from across Ireland gathered in the Institute for Lifecourse and Society for the first ever **Research Symposium on Student Volunteering**. The event showcased research findings on volunteer motivations, barriers and experiences. Delegates from universities, NGOs and policy groups shared best practice on how to integrate student volunteering practice into research.



# CONFERENCE SEASON

Over 16,000 delegates attended international conferences on campus this summer. Here's a taste of what they came for.

The first joint congress of Europe's biggest representative organisations for occupational therapists welcomed 1,000 delegates from across the globe to Galway for the week-long COTEC-ENOTHE Conference in June. This is the first time that clinical therapists, researchers and educators from both organisations have come together to debate issues of mutual interest. Chaired by our own Professor Agnes Shiel (Occupational Therapy), the conference provided delegates with a unique opportunity to meet, network and develop collaborations with colleagues across Europe and beyond.

World-renowned constitutional expert, Professor Mark Tushnet from Harvard Law School, was keynote speaker at the **Annual Conference of the Irish Society of Comparative Law** in May. The theme of this year's conference was '(Dis)Locating Comparative Law' and delegates explored the role of space or place in the comparative law arena, in an increasingly interconnected world.

Staff in the J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics hosted a **Twitter for Research Conference**, which highlighted the increasing availability of massive datasets from the Twitter platform. Delegates discovered how this data is revolutionising the scientific study of a variety of phenomena in fields as diverse as Sociology, Computer Science, Business, Law and Psychology and others.

In June, the University's Centre for Landscape Studies hosted the **UNISCAPE General Assembly and International Conference**, which was entitled 'Landscape Values: Place and Praxis'. With 95 papers and 130 experts from around the world, the conference explored innovative ways in which values associated with place are shaped and made. Diverse topics included landscapes of wellbeing, the material culture of the Galway

Hooker, and sustainable food tourism. UNISCAPE is the European network of universities especially dedicated to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention.

In May, an inaugural conference on '**Living With Dementia in Rural Ireland**' explored rural isolation impacts on those living with dementia and examined strategies and approaches in dealing with the issue. As well as contributions from experts from universities across Ireland, delegates heard personal accounts from family members, carers and healthcare professionals working with people with dementia. The conference was organised by graduate, Carmel Geoghegan, and included a contribution by national Research Leader of Dementia Care, Professor Eamon O'Shea.

In June, the University hosted the **International Association for Feminist Economics Annual Conference**. The three-day event was entitled 'Transitions and Transformations in Gender Equality', and it brought together leading practitioners, academics and advocates from around the world to discuss a wide range of issues including gender and development, macroeconomic policy, capabilities and well-being. The conference was organised by the Centre for Global Women's Studies, and among the international experts speaking were our own Dr Anne Byrne, Dr Nata Duvvury, Dr Su-Ming Khoo, Dr Una Murray and Dr Ekaterina Yahyaoui.

Over 200 delegates from across the world attended a three-day **Conference of Italian Archaeology** in April. Organised by staff in the Discipline of Classics, the conference included 150 presentations on the newest discoveries in the archaeological heritage of Italy, with a particular focus this year on funerary archaeology. This is the first time the conference was held in Ireland, and Dr Edward Herring welcomed the opportunity to showcase our work in Classics and Archaeology to so many international scholars.



Agus muid ag breathnú siar ar 1916 i mbliana, bhí neart comhdhála agus imeachtaí ar siúl le trí mhí anuas ina ndearnadh comóradh agus cioradh ar Éirí Amach na Cásca. Bhain cuid mhaith acu leis an teanga, an cultúr agus an ealaín. Reáchtáil Ionad an Léinn Éireannaigh **sraith d'agallaimh phoiblí le mórphearsaí chultúr na hÉireann** – an drámadóir, Thomas Kilroy, an t-ealaíontóir, Robert Ballagh, agus an gníomhaí teanga agus scríbhneoir, Pádraigh Ó Snodaigh, ina measc. I mí Aibreáin, reáchtáladh **léacht phoiblí agus seimineár lae faoin ilteangachas in Éirinn** na linne seo, agus bhí an tOllamh Antonella Sorace ó Ollscoil Dhún Éideann ina haochainteoir ann. I mí Bealtaine, cuireadh **comhdháil mhór idirnáisiúnta faoin Éirí Amach sna scannáin** ar siúl san Ollscoil, agus díreach ina dhiaidh sin reáchtáil Dan Dwyer in Acadamh na hOllscolaióchta Gaeilge **Féile Scannán na Réabhlóide** in ionaid éagsúla i gCois Fharraige, i gcomhpháirt le Club Scannán Sílearna.

Tá go leor imeachtaí eile – i mBéarla agus i nGaeilge – fós le teacht mar chuid de chlár comórtha 1916 na hOllscoile. Féach an suíomh gréasáin: [www.nuigalway.ie/anationrising](http://www.nuigalway.ie/anationrising)



Shannon College of Hotel Management hosted the **Travel and Tourism Research Association's Annual European Conference** in April, welcoming practitioners and academics from all over the world to share their research and ideas on the sector. Pictured launching the conference are: Peter Nash, Tourism Ireland; Dr Sean Ruane, Kate O'Connell, and Dr Phillip Smyth, Shannon College of Hotel Management; and Dr Michael Mulvey, DIT.



In May, researchers from MaREI, Ireland's Centre for Marine and Renewable Energy, hosted experts from across Ireland for a symposium on **Research, Development and Innovation in Marine and Renewable Energy in Ireland**. With energy demands continuing to grow, and with a sea to land ratio of over 10:1, Ireland is ideally placed to benefit from developments in marine energy. The two-day symposium brought together experts to discuss the main scientific, technical and socio-economic challenges of realising this ambition.

***New Horizons for a Data-Driven Economy: A Roadmap for Usage and Exploitation of Big Data in Europe***, co-edited by Dr Edward Curry (Insight), explores existing and emerging technologies across the different stages of the big data value chain, offering insights into legal aspects of big data, the social impact and education needs.

***Women's Voices in Ireland: women's magazines in the 1950s and 60s***, by Dr Caitríona Clear (History), offers new perspectives on the life of Irish women by using the letters and problems sent in to women's magazines as a primary source, and discussing them within their wider social and historical context.

***Sentencing Law and Practice, 3rd Edition***, by Tom O'Malley, is a treatise running to more than 1,000 pages on all aspects of Irish sentencing law. The book is dedicated to the memory of the late Mr Justice Adrian Hardiman who contributed a foreword to the second edition in 2006.

## New Books | Leabhair Nua

***Rethinking Psychology: Good Science, Bad Science, Pseudoscience***, by Professor Brian Hughes (Dean of International Affairs) challenges psychologists to take a more scientific approach to their work, arguing that much of the field's research suffers from serious methodological flaws. He is pictured on campus with Professor Douglas Carroll (University of Birmingham) who helped launch the book.



***Small Nations and Colonial Peripheries in World War I***, edited by Dr Gearóid Barry, Dr Enrico Dal Lago and Dr Róisín Healy (History), offers an innovative perspective on World War I by integrating the experience of subject peoples close to the centres of European power and those at their periphery, in places as diverse as Ireland, Algeria and Turkestan.



President Michael D. Higgins is pictured in Áras an Uachtaráin in June with contributors to a new book entitled ***Philosophy and Political Engagement***: (l-r) Joseph Mahon, Dr Allyn Fives (Political Science and Sociology), Professor James E. Mahon, Professor Felix O' Murchadha (Philosophy) and Annie McKeown O'Donovan. The book was co-edited by Dr Fives.



Tháinig cairde agus iar-chomhghleacaithe Nollaig Mac Congáil le chéile i mí Aibreáin le leabhar nua a sheoladh in ómós don ollamh. Bailiúchán aistí atá sa leabhar ***Ag Siúl an Bhealaigh Mhóir***, atá dírithe ar phríomhthéamaí shaothar Mhic Congáil: an Ghaeilge, an Ghaeltacht agus an teangeolaíocht i gcoitinne. Chaith Nollaig daichead bliain i Roinn na Gaeilge, sular ceapadh é mar Mheabhránaí na hOllscoile. D'imigh sé ar scoir dhá bhliain ó shin. Tá sé le feiceáil anseo (ar chlé) in éineacht leis an Uachtarán Jim Browne agus le comheagarthóir an leabhair, an Dr John Walsh (Gaeilge).



## GLOBAL CONNECTIONS



### Back to Brazil

NUI Galway bid 'despedida' to our Science without Borders students in July at a special barbecue organised by the International Office. It was a chance for staff from across the University to acknowledge the dynamism and diversity that over 345 Brazilian students have brought to the campus over the past three years. Many students shared their positive experiences of studying in Galway, while staff like Dr Martina Kelly (Mechanical Engineering) acknowledged the enthusiasm and joy they brought to the classroom.

Watch a video about the Science without Borders programme, and hear staff and student testimonials at: [www.nuigalway.ie/brazilBBQ](http://www.nuigalway.ie/brazilBBQ)



### Meet the Dodds

This inspirational Galway family are on a global mission to make their language learning solution accessible for children with autism. Having moved to San Francisco to design and develop the new software, Enda and Valerie Dodd are back in Galway to expand their Animated Language Learning company here on campus. Based at the Business Innovation Centre, they are determined to create a visually rich language learning program that has already lifted their twin sons' from the isolation of autism, and make it accessible to every family in need. Find out more about this life-changing project at: [animatedlanguagelearning.com](http://animatedlanguagelearning.com)

### Debating Brexit

TG4 news presenter, Eimear Ní Chonaola, hosted a public debate on the Brexit referendum in the aula maxima in May, in association with the British Embassy in Ireland. A distinguished panel of speakers, including British Ambassador, Dominick Chilcott (pictured), and VP of the European Parliament, Mairéad McGuinness, debated the economic and political implications of Brexit on both the UK and Ireland. NUI Galway has very close links to the UK, with many students and staff moving and working between the two countries. It remains to be seen how the Leave vote will impact on issues such as student recruitment, funding applications, and shared research projects in the future.



### Linking Irish Research with the World

The University welcomed delegations from two Asian countries this summer as part of Science Foundation Ireland's International Strategic Cooperation Award (ISCA) programme. In May, the Ambassador of India to Ireland, Her Excellency Smt. Radhika Lal Lokesh, provided the welcome address at a special meeting on campus to promote collaboration with India. The ISCA India Meeting brought together researchers from both countries to explore the possibilities of future collaboration and joint funding applications. Meanwhile, in June, Her Excellency Ms Mari Miyoshi, the Ambassador of Japan to Ireland, attended a special 'Ireland-Japan Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering Meeting' organised by the University. Seven Japanese scientists with expertise in functional biomaterials, tissue engineering, nanotechnology and stem cell technology met with their counterparts in Galway. The ISCA programme provides a coordinated national approach to promoting Ireland's scientific and technological reputation across the globe.



## The 1916 Story

The story of the Easter Rising has been imaginatively retold in two new iBooks produced in partnership with the School of Education as part of the national centenary programme. *The Story of 1916* and *Scéal 1916* are packed with videos, interactivity and multimedia to engage readers with an authentic learning experience, which brings this period of Irish history to life. Pictured at the launch of the iBooks at Scoil Chroí Íosa in Galway city are iBook producer, Seán Ó Grádaigh (Education), Scoil Chroí Íosa student Ursula, and John Concannon, Director of Ireland 2016 Centenary Programme.

## Marine on Screen with SeaScience App

A new app has been developed by the Ryan Institute that gives users a virtual tour of Galway Bay above and below the waves. The SeaScience app encourages users to learn about the marine environment by teaching in a fun way - using text, audio and video content - about the value of the oceans to all life on the planet. The app was designed in partnership with Galway City Museum, where the SeaScience exhibition is permanently housed.

Download the app free-of-charge from the Apple App Store or from Google Play. 



## Remembering the Battle of Aughrim

In May, the University received a wonderful collection of books about the Battle of Aughrim. Colman Morrissey, a retired ESB engineer, amassed this library of 240 books over more than 40 years, and it contains all the known contemporary accounts of the war. A particular highlight is the List of Claims, printed in 1701, of the Court in Dublin where lands confiscated from Irish Catholics were redistributed. Colman Morrissey is pictured right, alongside (l-r) Dr Pádraig Lenihan (History), and Marie Boran and John Cox (James Hardiman Library). Dr Lenihan delivered a public lecture on the Battle to mark the donation of the archive.

## AN TEANGA BHEO



## Carlann Mháirtín Uí Dhireáin

I mí Bealtaine, bhronn Peadar agus Treasa Mac Mághnaís ábhair óna mbailiúchán pearsanta a bhaineann le saol agus saothar an fhile Máirtín Ó Direáin ar an Ollscoil. I measc na n-ábhar luachmhar, bhí masc mairbh an fhile, an chéad dréacht den dán 'Máire ag Caoineadh Mháirtín' le Máire Mhac an tSaoi, leagan lámhscríofa den dán 'Teangmháil' leis an Direánach féin, agus pictiúr álainn de Kilmurvey House ar Árainn leis an ealaíontóir clúiteach, Patrick Hickey (atá le feiceáil anseo). Is laoch mór litríochta é Máirtín Ó Direáin, a bhfuil ceangal láidir aige le Gaillimh, agus cuirfidh na hábhair seo go mór le carlanna agus le bailiúchán ealaíne na hOllscoile.



NUI Galway  
OÉ Gaillimh

## Páirtnéireacht RTÉ-Acadamh

Seoladh páirtnéireacht nua idir Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge agus RTÉ i mí Bealtaine a thugann deis do dhaltá idirbhliana oiliúint a fháil i léiriú míreanna raidió agus teilifíse. Tá an cúrsa faoi stiúir Kevin Burns, léiritheoir ar an gclár teilifíse Prime Time, agus beidh bailiú foirne agus iarmhíic-léinn an Acadaimh ar an gCeathrú Rua páirteach ann chomh maith. Le linn do na daltaí a bheith ar an gcúrsa, tabharfaidh siad cuairt ar na meáin i gConamara, ar roinnt comhlachtaí léiriúcháin, agus ar phríomhchamps OÉ Gaillimh, áit a dtabharfar léargas dóibh ar Léann na Meán mar ábhar ollscoile.

## Celebrating Outstanding Researchers



The 2016 President's Awards for Research Excellence were presented in June, in recognition of the achievements and contributions of some of our outstanding researchers. The awards are presented in three categories – Early Stage Researchers, Established Researchers, and Research Supervisors.

This year saw a broad mix of research interests and disciplines in Arts, Science, Business and Engineering. Pictured receiving their awards are: Dr Adrienne Gorman (Apoptosis Research Centre), Dr Ekaterina Yahyaoui Krivenko (Human Rights), Dr Eoin Whelan (Business Information Systems), Dr Eva Szegezdi (Biochemistry), Professor Gary Donohoe (Psychology), Dr Gavin Collins (Microbiology), Dr Kate Reddington (Natural Sciences), Dr Lillis Ó Laoire (Gaeilge), Dr Manus Biggs (Biomedical Engineering).



## Meet your Newest Colleagues

In April, the University welcomed 28 new faces to campus in our latest staff induction. They are pictured here in the Quadrangle, with Staff Training and Development Manager, Orla O'Donovan (pictured far right). You may already have seen some of the newbies around campus. If you do, make sure to extend a warm Galway welcome and share some of your tips for making the most of University life!



## Training Effective Managers

In April, four staff members achieved QQI certification in Managing People, having completed the Management Effectiveness Programme coordinated by our HR Office and delivered over three months by the LEAP training agency. The graduates are pictured here: (back row, l-r) Ronan Kennedy (James Hardiman Library) and Kevin Hynes (CELT), and (front row, l-r) Nuala McGuinn (Centre for Adult Learning and Professional Development), Tricia Cunningham (LEAP Senior Partner), Orla O'Donovan (HR Office), and Sylvia McDonagh (Nursing and Midwifery).

Are you interested in taking this training? Look out for details of the next programme at: [www.nuigalway.ie/staff-development/courses.php](http://www.nuigalway.ie/staff-development/courses.php)

## New Library Services

As part of its strategy to offer high quality and compelling services to staff and students, the Library launched three new initiatives in recent months.



1. What do ogham stones, DNA and drones have in common? They have all been 3D-printed in the Library's new Maker Space, a place where staff and students are invited to 'make stuff' using the latest technology. Users can avail of two 3D printers, Arduino platforms, Raspberry Pi computers, and a suite of Adobe design software free of charge. The Maker Space is already revolutionising how we teach, with 3D models of mountain ranges in Earth and Ocean Sciences and a hand-built drone in Engineering. The space is open to everyone – simply contact the Maker Space team, pictured here (l-r): Cillian Joy, Ann Mitchell, Evelyn Bohan and Connell Cunningham.



2. In June, the Library launched a new Reading List Service that enables academic staff to create more dynamic and up-to-date reading lists. The service was co-funded by the Students Project Fund, and it is fully integrated into BlackBoard to make it easier for students to access their required reading. A particular highlight is the Integrated Analytics component, which gives a better understanding of how students are using reading lists, which in turn helps making resource decisions. You can find out more about the system or book a training session by visiting: [lists.library.nuigalway.ie](http://lists.library.nuigalway.ie)



3. May saw the launch of a new guide to the Library's rich collection of old and rare books. Entitled James Hardiman Library: Highlights from our Special Collections, the book is beautifully illustrated with images from the collection, with an easy-to-use layout according to various themes from Anatomy to Zoology. The book was edited by Library staff, Marie Boran and Olivia Lardner, and is available in the Special Collections Reading Room. Marie is pictured here with colleagues, Niall McSweeney and, University Librarian, John Cox.



### Postgraduate Course of the Year

Congratulations to the MSc in Biotechnology team for being named Postgraduate Course of the Year in Science at this year's national gradireland awards. In praise of the course, the judges remarked that despite being around since 1981, the course keeps evolving with deep-rooted industry links, comprehensive content and a great reputation. Pictured receiving the award from IRC Director, Dr Eucharia Meehan (centre), and gradireland's Louise Keegan (right), are (from left) Dr Cindy Smith, Dr Aoife Boyd and Dr Mary Ní Fhlathartaigh.



### Fulbright Stars

Nine NUI Galway researchers and students were among the 39 Fulbright Irish Awards to work and study in the USA in 2016/17. The awardees come from diverse backgrounds in Law, Science and the Arts, with three of our students and graduates appointed Language Teaching Assistants to teach Irish in some of America's most prestigious universities. Pictured here are Dr Ruth and Rita Melia from Athenry, who are the first mother and daughter pair to win Fulbright Irish Awards in the same year. Ruth is a Clinical Psychologist and Adjunct Lecturer in the University, while Rita is a Doctoral Researcher at the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre.



### Ireland's Best Societies

Our Societies have done it again! We are consistently the top performers at the national BICS Awards and 2016 was no exception. We took home top prize for Best Cultural Society (Medical Society), Best Intersvarsity (Potter Soc's 'Potterfest'), and Best Fresher (Arts student Ciarán MacChoncarraige). Pictured here are members of the Draíocht Society who were named Best Charitable Society for their work sending volunteers to their partner charities in Nepal and Tanzania.



### Mayor's Awards

In May, our own Cathy Killeen (Buildings Office) was presented with a Galway City Mayor's Award in recognition of her tireless work over many years with voluntary youth organisation, Foróige. Cathy is pictured here with her daughter Claudia and Galway City Mayor, Cllr Frank Fahy. We are lucky to have someone so committed to her community on our team!

### International Biomaterials Awards

CÚRAM Researchers scooped five awards at the 2016 World Biomaterials Congress in Montreal. Paolo Contessotto won a Trainee Award for his poster presentation, while Marc A Fernandez-Yagüe, Diana Gaspar, Dilip Thomas and Catalina Vallejo Giraldo all received Merit Awards for their research. CÚRAM also received the 'Best Image in Biomaterials' award at the Congress.

### Inaugural Dom Colbert Award

Retired academic, Dr Dom Colbert, is one of the most respected academics in the field of Travel Medicine, and this year saw the first Travel Medicine Prize in his name awarded to Evelyn Fennelly, a third year medical student. At the presentation, Dr Gerard Flaherty (Medicine) expressed his delight at recognising Dom's enormous contribution to education, and described Evelyn as a fitting winner of the inaugural award.



## They CÉIM. They Conquered!

The CÉIM programme at NUI Galway was named ‘Student Engagement Activity of the Year’ at the National Student Achievement Awards in June. CÉIM helps students settle into University by encouraging peer-led support from other students already established on campus. It was first introduced by the Students’ Union in collaboration with the College of Engineering and Informatics back in 2013, and since then CÉIM has been rolled out to Law and Geography students too. CÉIM Co-ordinator, Amber Walsh Olesen, explains the benefits of the programme: *“It’s a structured programme where student leaders from higher years facilitate weekly study sessions for small groups of first year students, creating peer-led learning communities where it’s easy to ask questions.”*

## Helping the Homeless

Rover Soc are at it again! In June, the student society arranged drop-off points across the city and campus to collect unwanted goods from students before summer break. A total of ten van-loads of clothes, bedding and unopened food was collected, sorted and delivered to the COPE charity for distribution to the homeless in Galway. Pictured are members of Rover Soc with some of their haul.

## 21 More Projects to EXPLORE

EXPLORE marked a milestone in May when the number of projects funded by the initiative surpassed 100. At a special showcase in the Aula Maxima, they presented the latest 21 EXPLORE projects, each bringing an innovative idea to life through staff-student collaboration. Highlights included the DIY Laparoscopic Trainer that helps improve medical students surgery skills, and the Astronomy Society’s ‘Loss of the Night in Galway’ project, which aims to run Galway’s first light pollution campaign to help Galway become Ireland’s first ‘dark sky city’. Participants are photographed here outside the showcase.



## University for All

The Inclusive Centenaries Conference was held on campus in June, and focused on the importance of ensuring access to higher education for Ireland’s diverse communities. At the conference, NUI Galway launched a new, merit-based Inclusive Centenaries Scholarship Scheme that will give financial support to high-achieving students in Ireland’s newest communities. The scheme will help young people of immigrant communities, in particular those in direct provision, to realise their full potential and to contribute to shaping Ireland’s future. Pictured at the scholarship launch were: Minister of State for Justice, David Stanton TD with student Victoria Chihumura. Find out more at: [www.nuigalway.ie/scholarships](http://www.nuigalway.ie/scholarships)



## STARTing Clinical Trials in Schools

A new competition coordinated by staff in the Health Research Board – Trials Methodology Research Network (HRB-TMRN) is inviting primary schools to design, carry out and evaluate their very own clinical trials. The START competition stands for Schools Teaching Awareness of Randomised Trials, and this year’s winners – Scoil Íde in Corbally, Co. Limerick (pictured here) – were announced in May to coincide with International Clinical Trials Day. Their trial tested whether an upcoming triathlon led to increased participation in fitness activities.

## The View from Around Campus

Dr Muriel Grenon (Biochemistry) photographed these budding scientists getting hands-on at the Bio-EXPLORERS Summer Science Camp in July.



Tony Richardson (Buildings Office) raised a whopping €3,362 for the Galway Hospice by single-handedly growing and selling over 2,000 sunflowers. If you're quick, you can spot some of Tony's blooms growing against the wall outside the College Chapel.



PhD student Collette Mulkeen (pictured right) helped organise the Inaugural International Conference on Natural and Constructed Wetlands, and captured these delegates enjoying a trip to the wetland along the River Corrib here on campus.



Dr Colette Kelly (Health Promotion) shared this photo of delegates at the 20th Anniversary Annual Health Promotion Conference in June as they enjoyed a grand stretch in the evening!



In July, the Centre for Adult Learning and Professional Development organised a Farewell Party to say 'slán' to the Irish Studies Summer School as they headed home to the US, Canada, China, Colombia and Germany.



These are just some of the brains (and bakers) behind May's 'Orange Day' fundraiser organised by staff in the HR Office to raise money for the Join Our Boys charity. By dressing in orange, baking cakes and brewing coffee, the team raised an impressive €2,892 for the charity, which is helping three Galway boys with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.

July saw the first same-sex civil marriage take place on campus as graduates Jack Stenson (kneeling) and Stefaan Verbruggen (lying) tied the knot in the Aula Maxima surrounded by staff and graduates of Engineering.



# STELLO

## Desktop Diary

September 2016							October 2016							November 2016						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
							31													

### Fulbright Scholarships

Inspired by our Fulbright Scholars on page 13? The next round of applications for the awards is open between Wednesday, 31 August and Friday 28, October. Interested applicants from all disciplines are encouraged to visit the Fulbright Commission's website [www.fulbright.ie](http://www.fulbright.ie) for more information.

### Cellular Imaging and Flow Cytometry: Getting it right

This three-day workshop will introduce 15 PhD students to principles of experimental design and analysis in microscopy and flow cytometry, ensuring that the next generation of Irish researchers have these critical skills to interpret the behaviour of cells.

### National 1916 Conference

'Ireland 1916-2016: The Promise and Challenge of National Sovereignty' will take place on campus on 10-12 November. This major international conference will explore the vision and aspiration invested in an independent Irish state by the revolutionary generation, and how that should inspire us now as we face the future.

### Christmas Holidays

Summer is over and thoughts turn to Christmas holidays! This year, the University closes on the evening of Thursday, 22 December and reopens on the morning of Tuesday, 3 January 2017. This means we will not open from 23 December to 2 January inclusive. As a result staff will need to retain four days annual leave to get you through the Christmas break.