



# ALL SCIENCE

## Science to the People!

*From seminars to street spectacles, from field trips to festivals, our staff have been sharing their expertise with the public in engaging ways. Find out more about our summer of science inside.*

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...and much more!



# OLLSCÉALA

## Focal ón Uachtarán



A Chairde,

Looking back over a busy and productive summer, there's no doubt our University has been a hive of activity. Creativity, diversity and culture were much to the fore, as the campus hosted a wide range of events and activities, bringing many visitors and conference delegates to the campus.

Many of these visitors – and indeed many staff – will have used the new **University Trail** map available in The Archway to learn more about the wonderful stories which abound on our campus. If you haven't done so – I'd encourage you to pick up a pamphlet and take a walk to learn more about the people, the place and the past of our historic University.

As a committed partner of the **Galway International Arts Festival**, now in its 40th year, the University was delighted to provide a range of venues for spectacular festival performances, including the Big Top at Fisheries Field, the Bailey Allen Hall, the University Art Gallery and the new flagship O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance. And in a wonderful inversion of location, the University's Aula Maxima was replicated in The People Build event in Eyre Square, which saw thousands of participants build a stunning cardboard replica of the Aula during the Arts Festival (see back cover).

The Marine Institute-led **Seafest 2017** attracted more than 100,000 visitors to Galway over three days in late June. We were centrally involved - hosting two of the festival's main events. The

Bailey Allen Hall was home to the Digital Ocean conference and Our Ocean Wealth Summit, while College Park housed a major Trade Expo, at which the Ryan and Whitaker Institutes had significant presence. The O'Donoghue Centre was the impressive venue for a month-long exhibition and programme of events for Cold Recall – Roald Amundsen's Reflections from the South Pole. This exhibition from Norway's Fram Museum was presented in partnership with the Marine Institute and the Norwegian Embassy in Ireland.

In recognition of just how impressive a venue it is, the **O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance was voted Ireland's favourite new building in the Irish Architecture Awards 2017**. These Awards are the premier architectural awards in Ireland and recognise excellence in design and the social contribution made by architecture. Designed by Taylor Architects with Richard Murphy Architects, and built by local contractor Purcell Construction, the O'Donoghue Centre was opened in April 2017 by President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins. The Centre recognises the generous philanthropic support

## Familiar Faces



Archivist, Barry Houlihan, introduced President Michael D. Higgins and Oscar-winning actors, Jessica Lange and Gabriel Byrne, to some of the gems from our Archives and Special Collections during their visit to campus for the Eugene O'Neill Conference in July.



Dr Ian R. Walsh (Drama and Theatre Studies) directed students Fiona Buckley, Shane McCormick and Cathal Ryan alongside Irish acting legend Fionnuala Flanagan in Joe Hassett's 'Two Stars' in June. The new play, which was produced by Lelia Doolan and performed in Thoor Ballylee, charts the relationship between Joyce, Yeats and Nora Barnacle.



Comedian, Tommy Tiernan, joined staff and students of Nursing and Midwifery to award the Victoria Thompson Fund scholarship to two students on the new Masters in Children's Palliative and Complex Care – Aisling Devitt and Anne Browne.

## On the Cover

Dr Jessamyn Fairfield (Physics) and Dr Dara Stanley (Natural Sciences) organised Galway's first 'Soapbox Science', which saw twelve female scientists sharing their passion and expertise with the public at the Spanish Arch in July.

of Galway businessman, and Galway graduate, Dr Donagh O'Donoghue whose relationship with NUI Galway goes back to his student years in the 1960s. Read more on page 5.

The **Honorary Conferring** on 9 June saw over 300 visitors join us to celebrate the achievements of four outstanding individuals:

- Professor Jane Grimson (LLD honoris causa)
- Dr Kristina Johnson (DSc honoris causa)
- John MacNamara (LLD honoris causa)
- Fintan O'Toole (LLD honoris causa)

You can read more about them on page 4.

I had the pleasure of meeting many of our most committed and talented teachers as part of CELT's annual Galway Symposium on Higher Education - now in its 15th year. Following that event I announced the **President's Awards for Teaching Excellence for 2016-17**:

- Dr Louise Allcock, School of Natural Sciences
- Dr Louise Campbell, School of Medicine
- Mr Ruadhán Cooke, School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures

- Dr Helen Dodson, School of Medicine
- Dr Gerard Fleming, School of Natural Sciences
- Dr Michelle Millar, School of Political Science and Sociology

Congratulations to each of these outstanding teachers who will be presented with their Awards during conferring ceremonies later this year.

These awards complement the **President's Research Awards** programme (to be announced in early September) and the **President's Awards for Support Service Excellence** (reported in Ollscéala March 2017). And I'm delighted to announce the establishment of the new **President's Awards for Societal Impact**, which will celebrate the significant contributions to society by individuals or teams that further emphasise the University's values and strategic mission. The inaugural awards will be made in the autumn. For more information see [www.nuigalway.ie/institutionalresearchoffice/presidentsawards](http://www.nuigalway.ie/institutionalresearchoffice/presidentsawards)

Another highlight of the summer was the historic celebration of **Pride Week** on 8 August. I had the pleasure of officially raising the Pride flag before a

large crowd at the Archway to visibly support and celebrate the diversity of the LGBT+ community of staff and students in this University. Led by the Office of the Vice-President for Equality & Diversity, the occasion offered a great opportunity to acknowledge the nascent LGBT+ network which has been in development over recent months and which is committed to ensuring that matters of equality, diversity and inclusion are a live and active part of the agenda right across the institution.

It's a great privilege to see our campus as such a vital part of the fabric of Galway's cultural and civic life. We are proud to be a campus for our city and for our community and this summer has certainly highlighted the strong 'town and gown' relationships which we value and cherish.

Le gach dea-ghuí.

**James J. Browne PhD, DSc, MRIA, C.Eng**  
Uachtarán – President

## Appointments

### Internal Appointments

**Professor Siobhán Mullally** has been appointed as Established Professor of Human Rights Law and Director of the Irish Centre for Human Rights based in the University. She will take up her post in September.

Professor Mullally comes to Galway from UCC where she held the position of Vice-Head of the College of Business & Law. She is also a Commissioner of the Irish Human Rights & Equality Commission and a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague. Professor Mullally has worked internationally in the UK, USA, Australia, India and Pakistan. As President and member of the Council of Europe anti-trafficking body (GRETA), she has been rapporteur for several country reports, including Hungary, France, Italy, UK and Sweden. Professor Mullally is the Irish member of the Odysseus European network of experts on Asylum and Migration Law.



### External Appointments



**Professor Noel Lowndes** (Biochemistry) and **Emeritus Professor Paul Crowther** (Philosophy) were elected as Members of the Royal Irish Academy in May. The RIA is Ireland's leading body of experts in the sciences and humanities, and membership is awarded to persons who have attained distinction by their unique contributions to education and research.

**Professor Donncha O'Connell** (Law) has been appointed by the Government to the Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland chaired by Kathleen O'Toole, the Chief of the Seattle Police Department. Professor O'Connell, who recently completed a four-year term as Head of the School of Law, is also a Commissioner (part-time) of the Law Reform Commission.

**Dr Dagmar Stengel** (Botany and Plant Science) was recently appointed to the Scientific Committee of the EU Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking. Dr Stengel will provide expert advice to the group as they invest €3.7 billion in a public-private partnership to develop new, sustainable biorefining technologies.

**Professor John J. Carey** (Medicine) is the new President of the International Society for Clinical Densitometry, the leading membership organisation for professionals working to assess, monitor and treat skeletal health. The first Irish person to hold the position, Professor Carey is focusing his term on ensuring the quality of clinical care for people with osteoporosis.

Is í **Michelle Ní Chróinín** (Oifig Margaíochta agus Cumarsáide) Cathaoirleach Gníomhach Bhord TG4, tar éis do Shiún Ní Raghallaigh éirí as an bpost go sealadach. Is as Gaeltacht Mhúscraí i gCorcaigh ó dhúchas do Michelle, agus tá fiche bliain caite aici ag plé leis an gcumarsáid agus leis na meáin Ghaeilge agus Bhéarla.

Our Academic Secretary, **Caroline Loughnane**, has been appointed as a Director on the Board of Galway 2020. The Galway 2020 team welcomed the strategic development, marketing and partnership building skills she will bring to the role.



## Our Highest Honour

This year, the University conferred honorary degrees on four distinguished figures in recognition of their life's work in improving the world around us. The journalist and critic, Fintan O'Toole, the engineer and environmentalist, Kristina Johnson, the businessman and philanthropist, John MacNamara, and the engineer and educationalist, Jane Grimson, received the University's highest honours at a special ceremony in June.

**Fintan O'Toole** is a columnist with The Irish Times and winner of the 2017 European Press Prize for commentary. He is also Leonard L. Milberg visiting lecturer in Irish Letters at Princeton University. He has been drama critic for publications in Dublin and New York, and literary advisor to the Abbey Theatre. He contributes regularly to the New York Review of Books and The Guardian.

**Dr Kristina Johnson:** Dr Kristina Johnson is the former Under Secretary of the United States Department of Energy. An engineering graduate of Stanford University, she is currently the CEO of Cube Hydro Partners. She

has held a number of distinguished posts at Johns Hopkins University, Duke University, University of Colorado and Trinity College Dublin.

**John MacNamara** has served four terms as Chair of Galway University Foundation. Under his leadership, significant philanthropic funds have been raised for the University's capital development plan, which has seen the campus transformed in recent years. He worked for Bank of Ireland for many years, rising to the role of General Manager West with responsibility for 81 branches over 10 counties.

**Professor Jane Grimson** was the first woman to graduate with a degree in Engineering from Trinity College Dublin, and she has served as a lecturer, Dean of Engineering, Pro-Dean of Research and Vice Provost at that University since then. Professor Grimson has championed the recruitment, retention and promotion of women in engineering and in academia. She chaired the Gender Equality Task Force at NUI Galway and is currently a member of the Advisory Committee on Gender Equality here.



## Man Booker Prize

Congratulations to English lecturer, Mike McCormack, whose novel *Solar Bones* has been longlisted for the world-renowned Man Booker Prize. *Solar Bones* is a single-sentence novel initially published by Tramp Press and subsequently picked up by Canongate. It was awarded the Goldsmiths prize last year, and on the Man Booker Prize longlist Mike joins such notable authors as Sebastian Barry, Zadie Smith and Arundhati Roy. We will all be keeping our fingers crossed on Wednesday 13 September when the shortlist is announced. In the meantime, *Solar Bones* is available in all good book shops in Galway!

## Competing for Conferences

Yet again, our campus has beaten off tough competition to secure a major international conference for Galway. NUI Galway won out over other universities, including Oxford University, to host the 11th European Solid Mechanics Conference 2021 (ESMC2021). It will attract 1,000 delegates from Europe and abroad and will be the largest engineering or science conference ever held here. Solid mechanics is an area of study critical to aircraft, automobiles, buildings, bridges and medical implants and devices, and an important field of study for our researchers, particularly in Engineering.



## On the Up and Up!

The University celebrated more good news from international ranking agencies, continuing our upward trajectory in recent years.

The **QS World University Rankings 2017/2018** placed NUI Galway in 243rd place, which represents an increase of six places this past year. This marks the fifth consecutive year the University has improved its position, and significantly it places us in the Top 1% of universities worldwide according to QS. Commenting on this milestone, President Jim Browne praised the ambition and commitment of staff and students to the institution: "Our University is truly global and, while no ranking can measure the full value of a university, this news is testament to our growing reputation worldwide."

The University's strength in research was recently recognised in the **U-Multirank 2017**, an EU Commission-led initiative that looks at several performance areas. NUI Galway was given four A grades in the area of research impact. Professor Lokesh Joshi, Vice-President for Research, welcomed the announcement and stated the impact of the University's research was far reaching, impactful and deserving of recognition.

## Medical Breakthroughs

**Diabetic Kidney Disease:** European regulators have approved the first human clinical trial of a novel cell therapy for diabetic kidney disease developed by part of the NEPHSTROM project. The project is coordinated by NUI Galway researchers and includes partners from across Europe. The five-year mortality rate for the condition is 39% – and the experts hope that this new treatment will have a significant impact on patient outcomes.

**Implant Infections:** A study led by NUI Galway scientists from the Regenerative, Modular and Developmental Engineering Laboratory (REMODEL) and the CÚRAM Centre for Medical Devices has developed a new type of implantable device to provide localised drug treatment and prevent infection. It has already proven effective against two types of major device infection bacteria. Lead author of the paper, Dr Dimitrios Zeugolis, described the significance of the discovery: "Although localised drug treatment via an implanted scaffold has shown promise, the ideal scaffold cross-linking and drug combination had not been found – until now."

**Huntington's Disease:** Newly-published research from Professor Robert Lahue and his team at the Centre for Chromosome Biology is showing early promise in the treatment of Huntington's Disease, an inherited neurodegenerative condition. The researchers have been targeting an enzyme called HDAC3, which is thought to alter important biochemical mechanisms in the brain of Huntington's disease patients and thereby accelerate disease progression. The work, which is a collaboration with scientists at the University of Barcelona, was published in Scientific Reports.



## Ireland's Favourite New Building!

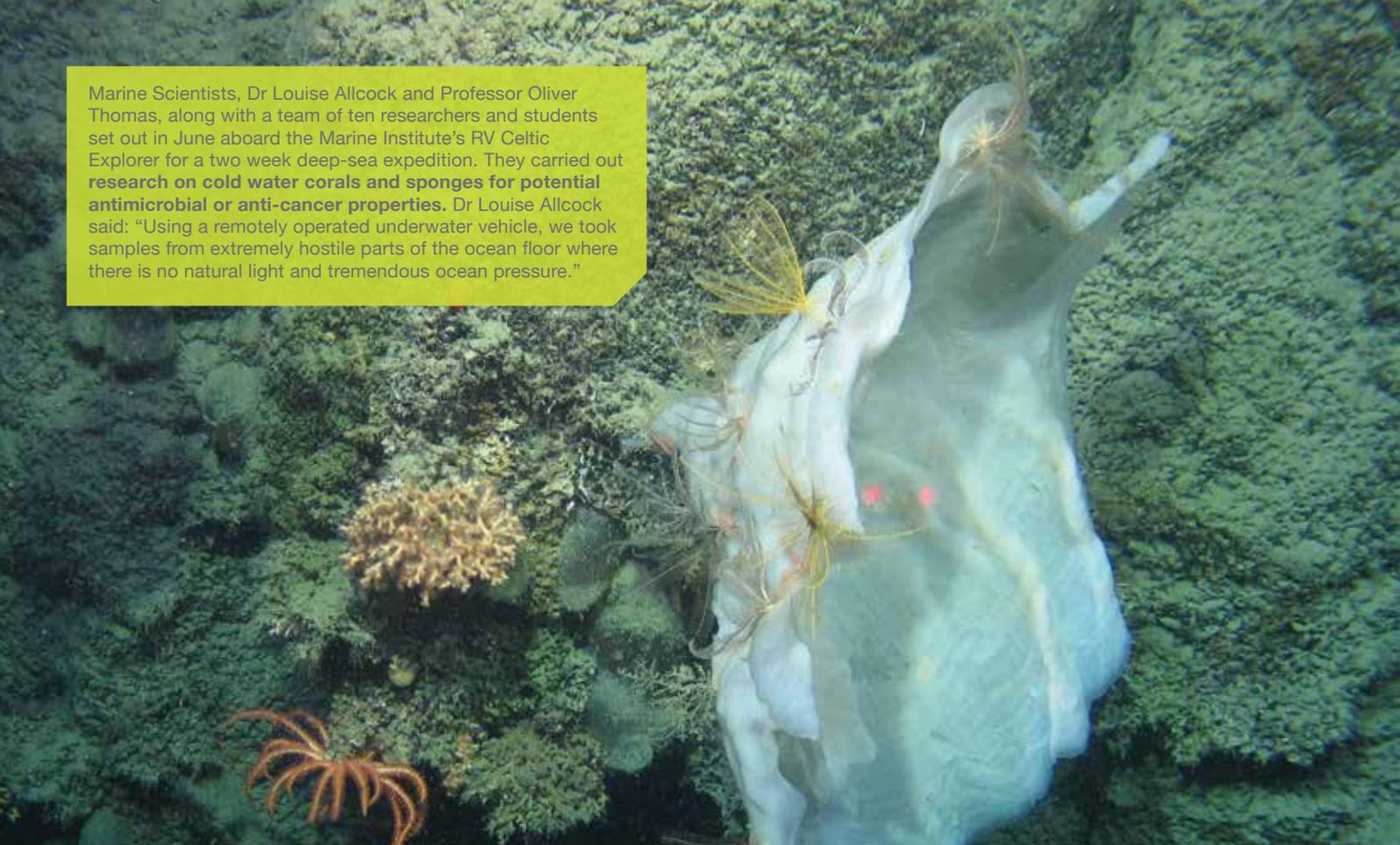
In June, the O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance was announced as the Public's Choice at the Irish Architecture Awards 2017. The awards are run by the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland, and the Centre competed with a shortlist of 60 buildings of all shapes, sizes and uses from across the country. The new Drama Centre is one of the oldest buildings on campus and was once a bleach mill for the local textile industry. It was sensitively reimaged by Taylor Architects and Richard Murphy Architects, preserving many of the original features, while incorporating modern teaching and performance spaces. Speaking about the award, Vice-President for Capital Projects, Keith Warnock, said: "The 'Public Vote' award adds to the growing appreciation of the physical infrastructure at NUI Galway and reaffirms our confidence in the programme of campus development we have undertaken over the last decade."

## Recalling Amundsen

A unique exhibition on the polar explorer Roald Amundsen opened on campus in June to celebrate World Oceans Day. Titled, 'Cold Recall', it highlighted the Norwegian explorer's expeditions through the Northwest Passage and to the South Pole. It used his original lantern slides to create a pictorial account of the voyages, showing just how pioneering – and perilous – they were. The exhibition continued on display in the O'Donoghue Centre during this year's SeaFest, and in the photo, Norwegian Ambassador to Ireland, Her Excellency Else Berit Eikeland, is describing one of Amundsen's images to Minister of State, Seán Kyne; President Browne; and Dr Paul Connolly of the Marine Institute.



Marine Scientists, Dr Louise Allcock and Professor Oliver Thomas, along with a team of ten researchers and students set out in June aboard the Marine Institute's RV Celtic Explorer for a two week deep-sea expedition. They carried out **research on cold water corals and sponges for potential antimicrobial or anti-cancer properties**. Dr Louise Allcock said: "Using a remotely operated underwater vehicle, we took samples from extremely hostile parts of the ocean floor where there is no natural light and tremendous ocean pressure."



## RESEARCH IN ACTION

From deep sea to high tech, our research community has been making the news across Ireland and the world. Here is a taste of what they have discovered.

Following recent international ransomware attack concerns, Dr Michael Madden (Information Technology) is leading a **national research initiative in cybersecurity** in Ireland. This initiative, S4 (Scientific Solutions for Secure Society), aims to improve Ireland's resilience to threats and contribute to growth in the cybersecurity industry. The economic impact of cyber threats is projected to reach €1 billion by 2020. The S4 initiative is a collaboration between NUI Galway and five other Irish institutions.

Researchers in NUI Galway and Queen's University Belfast conducted a study that **shows obesity may have broad economic implications**. The study published in the journal *Economics and Human Biology* showed that children whose mother was obese were more likely to be marked as below average in reading and in maths compared to others. The study notes that the potential for a mother's weight to influence teachers' assessments could have long term ramifications for education outcomes and deserves further research.

An international team led by Professor Colin O'Dowd (Physics) has conclusively resolved a **long-standing dispute on how surfactants increase the cooling effect of clouds**. The

study, funded by the European Commission and Environmental Protection Agency and published in *Nature*, shows that surfactants can significantly enhance cloud formation, increasing the cooling effect of clouds. This hypothesis was confirmed under natural environmental conditions and was hosted at our Climate and Air pollution Research Facility at Mace Head in Carna, Co. Galway.

During the **recent gorse fire in the Cloosh Valley** in Connemara, the newly deployed 'Citizen Science Air Pollution' monitoring network recorded pollution at 20 times the normal level. The network is a joint venture between the Institute of Physics, the EPA and second-level students at selected schools. Principal Scientist on the project, Dr Liz Coleman (Physics) believes the initiative helps improve information about pollution, as well as critically engaging the next generation of citizens in air pollution and environmental respect.

Dr Mark Healy (Engineering and Informatics) has led a study that raises serious questions about **the application of wastewater treatment plant sludge to land**. Currently up to 80% of Irish wastewater treatment sludge is applied as fertiliser to agricultural land. The study, which is funded by the Environmental Protection Agency,

highlights the risks associated with contaminants, metals and surface runoff. This practice is not permitted in some other European countries, and Dr Healy believes it will have implications on policy in Ireland.

A major study concerning **children and young people in foster care** was launched by researchers in the UNESCO Youth and Family Research Centre. The report is based on the experiences of foster carers, families of origin and young people who were in long-term care between 2008 and 2013. Dr Carmel Devaney and Professor Caroline McGregor hope that the study will affect better outcomes for children in care and promote best practice.

Young people are happier and healthier than their counterparts a decade ago, according to a **major new study into the wellbeing of adolescents** across Europe and North America. The study, which is part of a collaboration with the World Health Organisation, was co-authored by Dr Saoirse Nic Gabhainn, Dr Michal Molcho and Dr Colette Kelly from the Health Promotion Research Centre. The research has been running for 16 years in over 40 countries and shows some significant improvements in how young people report their own health and well-being.



Westway Health, a University spin-out led by Dr Ruairí Friel (pictured here), has developed a **product to tackle antibiotic-resistant bacteria**, an area the World Health Organisation has said is worrying. Although it is marketed towards the dairy sector, the novel antimicrobial technology has a range of applications, including human health and environmental sterilisation. The company was set up to commercialise a breakthrough developed in the School of Natural Sciences by Professor Vincent O'Flaherty and Dr Paul Mc Cay over ten years of research. The company has €2.5 million in EU funding and their innovative approach and product is sure to change the landscape of treating bovine mastitis.



In April, staff in Shannon College published **research regarding food tourism and hotels in Connemara**. Fáilte Ireland commissioned the research project, entitled 'The contribution of food tourism to hotel turnover along the Wild Atlantic Way.' The research highlights the importance of the tourism industry to the Irish economy along with the unique cuisine located along the Atlantic coast. Pictured above presenting the report to John Mulcahy, Head of Food Tourism, Hospitality Education & Standards at Fáilte Ireland are Dr Finian O'Driscoll, Kate O'Connell and Dr Sean T. Ruane.



Dr Tom Doyle from the Ryan Institute and MaREI Centre, recently led a ground-breaking study, which is the **first in the world to track detailed movements of European Sea Bass**. Dr Doyle worked closely with UCC and Cork Harbour Angling Hub to find that the sea bass in Cork Harbour were highly resident, a newfound behaviour not known before. The study, which was published in Scientific Reports, has implications for sea bass conservation efforts and behaviour. Dr Doyle received international media coverage this summer for his advice on **treating jellyfish stings**. The research, which recommended using vinegar and hot water, was shared by the BBC, The Guardian and the Times UK, among others.



The world's largest Disability Law Summer School convened in June with the theme 'Psychosocial Disabilities'. The five-day event attracted participants from 50 countries to explore successful strategies to protect the rights and improve lives of people with psychosocial disabilities around the world, and included keynote addresses from UN Rapporteurs on the topic.

# SUMMER ON CAMPUS

When the students are away the conference delegates play! Summer saw a feast of events, from international conferences to music festivals, across campus.

The Moore Institute held a multidisciplinary conference entitled, **'Reception, Reputation and Circulation in the Early Modern World, 1500-1800' (RECIRC)**. Talks covered a range of diverse topics from bible-inspired embroidery to digital approaches in the humanities. The conference, generated by the RECIRC project, is funded by the European Research Council (ERC) and led by Principal Investigator, Professor Marie-Louise Coolahan, and a team of researchers at the School of Humanities.

The Irish Centre for Human Rights held a conference on the legal liability and responsibility of Irish businesses operating abroad. Entitled, **'Exploring litigation as a business and human rights remedy,'** the conference examined opportunities, challenges and barriers in litigation in Irish courts against companies implicated in human rights abuses. Attendees included United Nations experts, legal practitioners, academics and advocates.

Over 150 experts on climate change, agriculture and food security converged in Galway for the International Conference **'Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security – Where is the cutting edge?'** The global research programme partnered with the Plant and AgriBiosciences Research Centre to discuss how climate-smart agriculture can ensure global food security and increase sustainability in food production.

This summer the University welcomed the **Largest International Sponge Conference in the world** to Galway! The five day event brought scientists together to present findings on sea sponges, an ancient group of animals with the possibility to provide medical breakthroughs in the areas of disease and infection. Professor Lokesh Joshi (Vice-President for Research) expressed the strength of the University as a site for the conference, given the investment in marine research and the strides our researchers have made.

**The 7th annual International Symposium on Service Learning (ISSL)** drew crowds from South Africa, Egypt, Vietnam, Ireland, UK, Germany and the USA. The three day conference discussed the role of higher education within society through service learning. Service learning is a teaching approach that connects student learning to the needs of the community. The University's Community Knowledge Initiative, directed by Lorraine McIlrath, has enabled 2,000 students to impact our community and society.

The consequences and threats of violent extremism in youths are seen on an almost weekly basis. The UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre's **8th Biennial International Family Support Conference** posed questions regarding the decline of empathy, care and social solidarity and its connection to the rise in youth

radicalisation. The conference, **'Rediscovering Empathy; Values, Relationships and Practice in a Changing World,'** touched on themes of emotional intelligence, social justice and the need for empathy education in schools.

Thomas Moore's Oriental epic poem, *Lalla Rookh*, recently saw **the 200th anniversary of its publication**. Lecturer Dr Justin Tonra (Humanities) organised a symposium around a special limited-edition commemorative broadside letterpress print to mark the occasion. Prominent Moore scholars from Ireland and abroad attended and the commemorative prints were donated to civic, public and cultural heritage institutions around Ireland.

May saws the HRB-Trials Methodology Research Network and the School of Nursing and Midwifery host the **12th Annual Cochrane Conference in Áras Moyola**. Over 100 delegates from across the country attended the conference on the challenges of evidence based healthcare.

The Discipline of Geography hosted a symposium in June on **'Extreme Weather Events: Physical and Social Impacts'**. Delegates discussed research opportunities in the science and impacts of climate change, a growing area of expertise in our research community.



Minister of State for Food, Forestry, and Horticulture, Andrew Doyle, paid a visit to our Engineering Building to launch the Wood Properties for Ireland programme, or 'WoodProps' for short. Its aim is to **support the value and market-reach of the Irish timber industry** by characterising the strength and properties of our timber for European regulatory authorities. Pictured with Minister Doyle (right) in one of our on-campus test labs are PhD student, Dr Conan O'Ceallaigh, and Dr Annette Harte, Vice-Dean of the College of Engineering and Informatics.



Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Michael Creed (left), was joined by Dr Amaya Vega and Dr Stephen Hynes (SEMRU) and Marine Institute CEO, Dr Peter Heffernan, at the launch of a report on 'Ireland's Ocean Economy'. Results from the report show that in 2016, the direct economic value of Ireland's ocean economy was €1.8 billion, which represents a 20% increase on 2014 levels. The launch took place during **SeaFest, an annual festival celebrating all things marine**. Our campus hosted many popular events during the festival, including conferences, a polar exhibition and a marine trade show.



In July, the University partnered with the Moycullen branch of Comhaltas to host this year's **Connacht Fleadh Cheoil**. The three-day event saw over 1,300 of the best musicians and dancers from across the province, competing in a range of instruments, styles and age categories. Chomh maith leis an gceol, bhí comórtais sa Chomhrá Gaeilge ar siúl in Árás na Gaeilge ina raibh scoth na gcainteoirí óga le cloisteáil agus iad ag aithris dánta agus scéalta Gaeilge. The University is working with Connacht Comhaltas on a bid to host the national Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann in 2020.



## Human Rights Lecture

Judge Siofra O'Leary of the European Court of Human Rights delivered a lecture marking the end of the academic year and bidding farewell to final year Law students. Entitled 'A Tale of Two Cities: the Protection of Fundamental Rights in Strasbourg and Luxembourg', the lecture was chaired by Ms Justice Iseult O'Malley of the Irish Supreme Court.



## Pensions in Europe

Dr Emer Mulligan (Business) hosted an event on pensions and tax as part of the FairTax research project. The event saw experts from the Netherlands and Ireland brought together to compare the two pension systems, and a lively debate ensued.



## Hands-on Health

Linda Ní Chianáin (Nursing and Midwifery) led an innovative simulation that engaged undergraduate students in developing inter-professional skills in clinical practice. Staff from Speech and Language, Occupational Therapy, Nursing and Medicine developed simulated scenarios for eight undergraduate students to participate in.



## Hotel Leadership

Shannon College of Hotel Management has paired with Conor Kenny & Associates, a leading hotel training and professional development firm, to launch Ireland's first University awarded Certificate Course in Hotel Leadership. The course provides hotel managers and senior hotel staff with a practical understanding of leadership in the hotel and hospitality industry today. It is the only University awarded Certificate programme, exclusively for hoteliers, developed and delivered in Ireland. The course saw its first graduates in March.

## Best of the West

The University's unique location was put to good use in May, when 80 students took part in the week-long Botany and Plant Science field courses. Led by Dr Dara Stanley (Natural Sciences), students explored the distinctive habitats of the Burren and Connemara and met representatives from the National Parks and Wildlife Service, the National Biodiversity Data Centre, and the EU award-winning Burren Programme. Photo credit: Cesare Morciano



## New Courses

**Masters/Postgraduate Nursing degree in Children's Palliative and Complex Care:** The first of its kind in Ireland, this course will train specialised nurses who have the skills to care for children and adolescents with complex, life-limiting and terminal conditions.

**MSc in International Accounting and Analytics:** NUI Galway has announced an innovative collaboration with KPMG on this new Masters programme. It is the first of its kind in Ireland and the UK to offer practical, hands-on modules in SAP and audit analytics, and is aimed at prospective and early to mid-career accountants.



*Pictured with KPMG Audit Director, Laurence May, are Dr Geraldine Robbins and Professor Breda Sweeney (Accountancy and Finance).*

**BA in Child, Youth and Family: Policy and Practice:** This full-time four year degree includes an eight month work placement. It is designed for students who know that their career lies either in practice with children, youth and families or in implementing and shaping public policy.

**BA in Community, Youth and Family Studies:** This course is offered part-time and using blended learning methods, to develop understanding, knowledge and skills relevant to Community, Youth and Family work, in terms of both practice and policy.



*Pictured with Fr Peter McVerry at the launch of two new programmes at the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre are (l-r) Professor Caroline McGregor, Dr Carmel Devaney and the Centre's Director, Professor Pat Dolan.*

## Research Funding

**Enterprise Ireland** awarded funding to two NUI Galway research projects. Dr Michael Madden (Information Technology) received €4.7 million to lead the ROCSAFE programme, which is developing robotics to investigate high-risk crime scenes. Meanwhile, Dr Conor O'Byrne (Microbiology) received €3.4 million for his Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Network, which researches bacteria and cereal diseases.

The **Horizon 2020 programme** awarded €10.5 million to the marine energy programme, MaRINET2. The Centre for Marine and Renewable Energy in Ireland (MaREI) is an integral part of this project and will offer our one-of-a-kind test facilities for technology developers in the field of ocean energy.

The **Atlantic Area InterReg Programme** awarded €3 million to four projects led by our researchers:

- Dr Anne Marie Power (Zoology) for her research into Sustainable Fishing
- Dr Ger O'Connor (Physics) for his work on Biomedical Devices
- Dr Pau Farràs (Chemistry) for his research into Sustainable Fuels
- Dr Stephen Hynes (SEMRU) for his study of the Marine Economy

The **Health Research Board** will fund three new health research projects to the tune of €1.8 million. Dr Martin O'Donnell and Professor Seán Dineen (Medicine) have secured 'Definitive Interventions and Feasibility Awards' for their respective research into cardiac care and type 1 diabetes. Professor Éamon O'Shea (Economics), who is researching dementia care, received an 'Applied Partnership Award'.

The **Health Research Board** and **Irish Research Council's novel 'PPI Ignite' initiative** has awarded €350,000 to Professor Seán Dineen (Medicine) to lead an initiative that is actively developing capacity in Public and Patient Involvement (PPI).



## Is there anybody out there?

Emeritus Professor of Zoology, Wallace Arthur, is just back from SciFoo – an invitation-only gathering of 250 scientists from across the world, held at Google's HQ in California. Professor Arthur led a session on the evolution of life on exoplanets, a main theme of his new book *Life through Time and Space*. With participants from NASA, ESA, *Nature*, *Scientific American* and a host of leading universities, they engaged in intense scientific discussion, and finally estimated the proximity of alien life to be within 50 light-years (albeit with a wide margin of error!). He is joined in the picture by Dr Anil Bharath, Imperial College London.

## GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

### ENERGISE for Sustainable Energy

June saw experts in the field of sustainable energy gathering at the NUI Building on Merrion Square for a two-day workshop hosted by the ENERGISE research team, led by Dr Frances Fahy (Geography). ENERGISE is a European network funded through Horizon 2020 that seeks to achieve a greater scientific understanding of the varied social influences on energy consumption. Among those pictured at the workshop are NUI Galway participants Dr Frances Fahy, Dr Gary Goggins and Dr Eimear Heaslip.



### Parlez-vous Rugby?

Ruadhán Cooke and Dr Éamon Ó Cofaigh (French) recently piloted a language learning initiative with a number of Connacht Rugby players. The 12-week bespoke course included a training programme on campus that was facilitated by the French Embassy in Ireland and Alliance Française. As a result, we are now the only Irish university accredited as an examination centre for the internationally recognised Diplôme d'études en langue française, or DELF. Pictured are students and Connacht Rugby players John Cooney, Darragh Leader and Craig Ronaldson with their Language Assistant, Jeanne Petitjean.



### Mayo Clinic Partnership

The CÚRAM Centre for Research in Medical Devices recently announced a partnership and postdoctoral fellow programme with the world-renowned Mayo Clinic in the USA. The international collaboration will provide support for ground-breaking research on the relationship between blood clots and strokes. Scientific Director of CÚRAM, Professor Abhay Pandit, is looking forward to this unique collaboration "driving significant improvements in outcomes for stroke patients in the future."

### Preparing for a Pandemic

The Pandemic Risk and Emergency Management group (PANDEM) recently published its final report outlining the risks of pandemic across Europe. The report, which took input from countries across Europe, was coordinated by Professor Máire Connolly (Medicine). From Zika to Ebola, the rapid spread of viruses has become an urgent global issue. The research concluded that the risk of emergence of a pandemic is greater now than ever before, and it makes important recommendations on priorities for future research and innovations to enhance the capacity of EU Member States to respond to the next pandemic.

### Palme Académique

In June, President Jim Browne received the Ordre des Palmes Académiques, an award given by the French government to honour distinguished figures in culture and education. At a special ceremony in the Résidence de France in Dublin, Dr Browne received the award in recognition of both NUI Galway's myriad links with France and his own academic work with French researchers and industry in manufacturing technology. President Browne is joining a high calibre of recipients throughout history, including scientists, artists, musicians, royalty, and most recently, two of our colleagues: Dr Sylvie Lannegrand (French) and Professor JC Desplat (Irish Centre for High End Computing).





## Focus on Film

### Screen Seminars

NUI Galway researchers hosted two events during this year's Galway Film Fleadh to explore pressing issues in the creative arts and media. Staff from the J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics and the Huston School of Film & Digital Media hosted a public event to discuss gender representation in Ireland's audiovisual industry. The event highlighted the influence of gender stereotyping on female participation and leadership in the media. Meanwhile, staff from the Whitaker Institute and the School of Geography and Archaeology, including Dr Pat Collins (pictured here), hosted an international seminar focused on 'Screen Industries on the Periphery'. Filmmakers from across northern Europe shared their experiences of working in film, TV and digital media.

### Science on Screen

Three films produced in partnership with the University are putting our life-changing research on the big screen. In April, the Huston School of Film & Digital Media and the Blood Centre Network Ireland launched **Clinical Trials - A Patient's Perspective**, which shows the cutting edge treatments being trialled by our researchers through the eyes of a patient in Galway. In July, at the Galway Film Fleadh, two films featured the ground-breaking work of scientists in CÚRAM. **Feats of Modest Valour** highlighted their work on a new medical device to help with the treatment of Parkinson's, while **Mending Legends** explored a new type of tendon implant – the world's first 3D cell-assembled tendon prototype.

### Sexual Consent in Schools

**Lucy's House Party**, a short film directed by Dr Charlotte McIvor (Drama, Theatre and Performance) and featuring our students premiered in May. The film addresses issues of sexual assault and the negotiation of sexual consent, and was co-produced with Galway Rape Crisis Centre, and supported by The Manuela Riedo Foundation Ireland. The short film will be presented as part of a sexual violence prevention initiative aimed at Transition Year students in over 120 secondary schools across Ireland.

## Remembering Michel

During the Cúirt Festival in April, the University paid tribute to Adjunct Professor and honorary graduate, Michel Déon. In the presence of the French Ambassador, M. Jean-Pierre Thébault, friends and peers of the late great author gathered on campus for the naming of the University's Chair of French in his honour. Born in Paris in 1919, Déon spent over 40 years in Tynagh, Co. Galway, where he wrote many of his award-winning novels and essays.



## Trump 'Politics'

A new study by staff in Business Information Systems shows how political actors are now eager to catch Twitter users' attention in the wake of President Trump's election. The analysis carried out by Dr Trevor Clohessy, Colin Callinan, Dr Tom Acton, Dr Eoin Whelan and Dr Murray Scott shows that social media not only produces word-of-mouth effects but also influences other online users' informational choices. In this sense, Twitter users are conceived as power shareholders who control information flow through their interaction with mainstream media.

## New Books

*Poland in the Irish Nationalist Imagination, 1772-1922: Anti-Colonialism within Europe*, a new monograph by Dr Róisín Healy (History) was launched by the Irish ambassador to Poland, Dr Gerard Keown, at his residence in Warsaw in May. The book analyses Irish expressions of solidarity with the Poles as victims of oppression by their neighbours between the partitions of Poland and the establishment of independent states in Ireland and Poland.

*Disability Law and Policy: An Analysis of the UN Convention*, edited by Dr Charles O'Mahony (Law) and Professor Gerard Quinn (Centre for Disability Law and Policy) undertakes a multidisciplinary examination of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

*Harmful Algal Blooms* is an eBook that introduces secondary school students to the consequences of marine pollution. Written by Dr Robin Raine (Earth and Ocean Sciences) as part of an EU-funded project Sea Change, the eBook aims to raise awareness of the ocean's influence on us and our influence on the ocean.

## AN TEANGA BHEO



## Réiviú na Bliana

Ba é Iar-Cheannasaí TG4 agus Cathaoirleach Bhord Fhoras na Gaeilge, Pól Ó Gallchóir, a sheol eagrán 2017 de *An Réiviú*, an ríomhíris bhliantúil a chuireann mic léinn an MA sa Léann Teanga in eagar. Tá deich n-alt in eagrán na bliana ar an iliomad ábhar. Tá an tUasal Ó Gallchóir le feiceáil anseo i measc na mac léinn, agus in éineacht leis an Dr Dorothy Ní Uigín (Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge) a stiúirann an obair. Léigh an iris ar: [leannteanganreiviui.com](http://leannteanganreiviui.com)



## Bata is Bóthar

Bhronn Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill 'bata Pharnell' ar an bhfile agus iar-léachtóir Gaeilge, Ailbhe Ní Ghearbhuigh, le linn Fhéile Idirnáisiúnta na Litríochta i mí Bealtaine. Bronntar an bata, a chruthaigh Charles Stewart Parnell, ar scríbhneoirí mar aitheantas ar a sárlitríocht. Tá Ailbhe tar éis filleadh ar an iardheisceart anois agus post nua glactha aici i gColáiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh. Guímid gach rath uirthi ó dheas!

## Cartlann Mhic Giollarnáth

Seoladh leagan digiteach de chartlann luachmhar Ghaeilge in Ionad an Acadaimh, Carna, ina bhfuil 54 lámhscríbhinn ón tréimhse 1925-1950 ar fáil go poiblí den chéad uair. Ba é Seán Mac Giollarnáth a scríobh na cáipéisí le linn dó a bheith ag freastal ar phobal Chonamara mar bhreitheamh cúirte dúiche. Rinne foireann an Acadaimh agus na Leabharlainne iad a dhigitiú chun cur lenár dtuiscint ar phobal na Gaeltachta ag an am.

## SPOTLIGHT ON BUILDINGS & ESTATES

### A Chairde,

Earlier this year staff in Buildings & Estates were invited to participate in a brainstorming session to review the way we operate, interact and collaborate internally, with the wider university and beyond. We identified a number of projects to work on in the coming months.

We became the communications group and one of our suggestions was to present our services and ourselves to you in this edition of *Ollscéala* so we hope you enjoy reading about us.

Le dea-mhéin,

*Karen Dooley, Patrick Faherty, Eithne O'Connell,  
Noel O'Connor, Esme Norton and Martina Thornton*



### Introducing Buildings & Estates

The Buildings & Estates team manages an estate of 100 hectares, 100+ buildings, 10 remote sites, and a built area of 215,000 m<sup>2</sup>. Our team comprises over 100 staff, including administrators, engineers, attendants, carpenters, cleaners, electricians, gardeners, mail service staff, painters, plumbers, security, sports attendants and stewards. The team delivers services to the University community every day on a greatly expanded campus with ever-tightening resources. Here's a recent photo of some of the team taken on the date of Ronnie Lally and Gerry Ryan's retirement.

As our recent capital programme draws to a conclusion, the emphasis changes to regenerating our existing buildings. Throughout this process, we are guided by the University's vision of creating a sustainable and universally accessible campus, where resources and facilities are managed as effectively as possible.

Think of your typical day at work - How does Buildings & Estates support what you do? On your arrival you will find beautiful and well maintained **grounds**, a **parking space** (perhaps followed by the **Shuttle Bus**), a place to park your **bicycle**, **access** to your building and your office, **signage** in your building and on your office door, a **clean** office with **furniture**, **light** and **heat** (during the heating season), the **venue** you booked is set up for your meeting, your **mail** has been collected/delivered and so on - you may not realise it but Buildings & Estates provide a wide variety of services to staff, students and visitors on a daily basis.

### Our Services include:

Security Office Moves  
 Cleaning Plumbing  
 Insurance  
 Carpentry Lifts  
 Pest control Cothabháil  
 Bainistíocht Imeachtaí  
 Electrical Recycling  
 Cosc Dóiteáin Mail Room Bookings  
 Páirceáil Services  
 Sports Facilities  
 Master Landscaping  
 Planning Comharthaíocht  
 Transportation Heating



### Buildings & Estates Contacts



All room booking and events queries to:  
**space@nuigalway.ie**

All other queries to our Helpdesk:  
**buildingsandestates@nuigalway.ie**



#### Do you have an emergency?

In the event of a medical, fire or Garda emergency prioritise the call to Emergency Services on **999/112**

If it is a local building emergency (e.g. leak, electrical, plumbing), the Security Office or Buildings & Estates Helpdesk are available at the following numbers:

University Security Office,  
telephone **(091) 493333**, available 24/7

Buildings & Estates Helpdesk,  
telephone **(091) 492134** (during office hours)



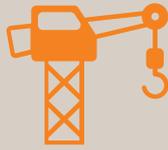
Tá seirbhís trí Ghaeilge ar fáil ó Fhoirgnimh & Eastáit

**Our building programme:**

**Recently finished:** O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance (Ireland's favourite new building – RIAI Public Choice Award winner 2017)

**Coming soon:** Human Biology Building

**In progress:** Student Accommodation Phase 1



**Buildings & Estates staff are working on a wide variety of projects including:**

- a new room booking system
- office refurbishments for staff moving office
- summer maintenance programme in teaching rooms
- providing a ramp at an Bhiallann to ensure compliance with the Disability Act 2005 and Part M Building Regulations 2010
- traffic calming, pedestrian crossing and barriers at the Sports Centre
- upgrading of LED lighting in Bailey Allen Hall, Arts/Science Building and IT Building
- installation of solar panels in Arts Millennium Building



**President's Awards for Support Service Excellence – three-in-a-row for Buildings & Estates:**

- 2014: Karen Dooley (individual award)
- 2015: Security Team (team award)
- 2016: Events Team (team award)



**Our goal is to help you find your way around our beautiful campus**

- Coming soon: Watch out for our Wayfinding project, which will see the campus divided into four zones with specific entry points and colour codes to make navigating the campus easier
- You can find the most up-to-date campus maps at [www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/maps](http://www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/maps)



**Have you seen our new Travel Plan 2017-2020?**

It commits to promoting more sustainable travel choices. View it now at [www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/travel-plan](http://www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/travel-plan)

- increase staff and student active travel and public transport use
- reduce staff and student car use
- improve the health and wellbeing of staff and students
- reduce the impact of University travel on the city's road network
- support the University's Green Flag aspirations



**Planning an event on campus?**

For any event from a small meeting to a large student induction make sure you review the new Event Management policy at [www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/policies-procedures](http://www.nuigalway.ie/buildings/policies-procedures)



**Recycling on Campus**

- The recycling rate on campus is 51%. But did you know that 80% of the waste you put into the general waste bins could have been recycled (paper, cardboard, textiles, glass, metal and plastic)?
- Did you know, if you throw your nearly empty coffee/tea cup in the recycling bin then it contaminates the entire bin? You must empty your cup of liquid before you dispose of it.



**An Post**

An Post introduced new postage rates in April 2017. They reflect the real cost of the mail service and ensure continuity of daily nationwide collections and deliveries.

The new domestic stamp rate is €1.00 for C5 and €1.65 for A4.

Please use the C5 where possible and do not register mail unless absolutely required



- Is é Téatar Uí Fhlaitheartaigh an t-ionad teagaisc is mó a úsáideadh ar an gcampus le cúig bliana anuas
- Every year we survey 85 teaching venues for two weeks in Semester 1 and Semester 2 from 9am-6pm, Monday to Friday. During that period last year, we counted almost 240,000 students attending lectures, tutorials and seminars.



Thanks for all your lovely compliments about the Campus landscape this year. The combined team of management, grounds staff and landscape contractors really appreciated your comments.

**Did you know:**

- the average computer uses 43% of its total energy on standby
- leaving your PC monitor on all night wastes enough energy to microwave six dinners
- lighting an average office overnight wastes enough energy to heat water for 1,000 cups of tea
- leaving a typical TV on standby for one hour uses the same amount of energy to boil one full kettle



## Parnell Fellowship

Professor Dáibhí Ó Cróinín (History) has been awarded the prestigious Parnell Fellowship in Irish Studies at Cambridge University for the year 2017-2018. Speaking about his Fellowship appointment, Professor Dáibhí Ó Cróinín, said: "This is a very gratifying recognition of a lifetime's work in Irish Studies and honour for myself, for History in Galway, and for the University as a whole."

## Women in Business

Galway businesswoman and graduate, Sandra Divilly, has won a scholarship of over €13,000 to support her in taking the Executive MBA programme at NUI Galway. The scholarship is offered in conjunction with the 30% Club, and Sandra is the first ever recipient. The 30% Club seeks to achieve better gender balance throughout businesses in Ireland, and they were impressed with the number and calibre of applications. We look forward to welcoming Sandra to the Executive MBA in September.



## US-Bound

Dr Inga Reich (Ecology) was among the recipients of the Royal Irish Academy Charlemont Grant Awards, which were presented at a ceremony in Dublin recently by RIA President, Professor Mary E. Daly. Dr Reich's research specialises in the study of rare slugs, and as part of the grant she will travel to Oregon State University in the United States to continue her work.

## Career Programme Shines

The Career Development Centre was chosen for the AHECS Employability Award. Their innovative career readiness programme helps prepare students with disabilities and mental health challenges for the world of work. Staff at the Career Development Centre partnered with the University's Disability Support Service and Student Counselling to provide students with CV, interview and disclosure skills.



## Bringing Science to the Masses

Congratulations to Dr Jessamyn Fairfield (Physics) who has been honoured with the Mary Somerville Medal from the Institute of Physics for her innovative science engagement. From soapboxes to stand-up, Dr Fairfield is passionate about bringing science to the public. Some of her ventures include a programme aimed at explaining science through comedy, an Arctic expedition that brought scientists and artists together and her frequent appearance on public radio programming.

## Boyle Higgins Medal

Professor Henry Curran (Chemistry) has been awarded the 2017 Boyle Higgins Gold Medal Award for his work on efficient energy systems, combustion and fuels. This prestigious award is given to a chemist with ties to Ireland who has made a significant contribution to the field. Professor Curran works on a number of internationally collaborative projects with some of the world's best known companies, including Shell, Rolls Royce, Siemens and Renault.



## Introducing Anonymous Marking

From this September onwards, a policy of anonymous marking of exams will be rolled out, following a campaign by the Students' Union. The move, which is welcomed by the Vice-President for Student Experience, Dr Pat Morgan, will prevent potential bias in exam marking and will see the following changes to policy:

- Exam papers will be marked with the student ID as an identifier, rather than the students' names.
- Exam papers will have a flap under which students will write their names, to be opened in the event where there are issues identifying the student
- Continuous assessment, course work and laboratory practicals will be marked as normal, i.e. anonymous marking will not apply.



## Ronnie and Gerry have left the Building!

In June, staff gathered to bid farewell to two dedicated colleagues: Ronnie Lally, Supervisor, Mechanical Services, and Gerry Ryan, Supervisor, Electrical Services. Ronnie had 43 years' service and Gerry had 42, marking an extraordinary commitment to our University. We would like to thank them both for their years of work and wish them a relaxing and rewarding retirement! Gerry and Ronnie are pictured (centre) surrounded by friends and colleagues: Dean Pearce, John Gibney, Anne Marie Forde, Noel O'Connor and Michael Curran.

## Wedding Bells

We would like to congratulate two popular staff members who tied the knot in recent months.

### Blossoming Romance

From groundsman to groom! Congratulations to Tony Richardson (Buildings and Estates) who tied the knot with Ger Newell this summer. Keen to get away from it all on their honeymoon, rumour has it that Mr and Mrs Richardson bumped into some very senior colleagues – and the Galway Bay FM broadcaster – on their trip to San Francisco!



### One Fab Day

With a green, white and gold bouquet and stunning lace dress, Johanna Walsh (International Affairs Office) was picture perfect for her St Patrick's Day marriage to Stephen Shine. They got hitched in the Chapel of St Columbanus on campus in a marriage officiated by our own Fr Barry.



## 1,000 e-Theses Uploaded

In April, ARAN marked a milestone when the 1,000th PhD e-thesis was uploaded online. Dr Alex Wan's dissertation, under the supervision of Professor Mark Johnson (Ryan Institute), dealt with Irish macroalgae and farmed Atlantic salmon. ARAN has proven to be a vital resource in the collecting of open access scholarly publications from the University. Pictured to mark the occasion were (l-r) Trish Finnan (Library); Dr Wan; Dean of Graduate Studies, Professor Lucy Byrnes; and Professor Johnson.



## Are You Smart with Expenses?

Since July, staff have been able to submit their expenses electronically, using photos or scans to upload receipts. The new system is a welcome change as it enables staff to make expense claims on the go, without the risk of losing the forms and receipts, and without wasting paper. From 1 October 2017, the Expenses team pictured here will no longer be processing paper expense claims and they will be returned to the sender. So make sure you're up to speed, by visiting: [www.nuigalway.ie/smartexpenses](http://www.nuigalway.ie/smartexpenses)





## Stepping Out in Shannon

Staff and students in Shannon College strutted their stuff for a charity dancing fundraiser organised by the College charity committee and Year 4 Event Management class. Proceeds from the Strictly Come Dancing event went to NOVAS, a charity that works with single adults, families and children who are disadvantaged and at risk of homelessness.



## Learning for Life

There was great interest in the Information Evening recently organised by the Centre for Adult Learning and Professional Development. The event gave adult learners a chance to meet with representatives from over 40 part-time programmes. According to the Centre's Director, Nuala McGuinn, "Our wide range of courses offer flexibility and a range of supports to all students with a variety of learning and lifestyle needs."



## ALIVE in Sligo

St Angela's College, Sligo, presented the 2017 President's Award for Student Volunteering in May. College President, Dr Anne Taheny, is pictured here with Louise Smyth, one of the many participating students. The Sligo students gave an average of 34 hours this year equating to over €13,000 of in-kind time to social, environmental, health and education programmes.



## Best Socs in Ireland!

We always knew we had the best Student Societies – but nobody expected they would win an unprecedented SEVEN awards at this year's BICS National Awards. Our students beat off competition from institutions across the country to win awards in a wide range of categories. Congratulations to our Medical Society, Climate Change & Food Safety, Sláinte Society, Dramsoc, Paediatric Society, Philosophy Society and the 'Best Fresher', Daniel Emmet Leahy!



## Ten More Years to Flirt!

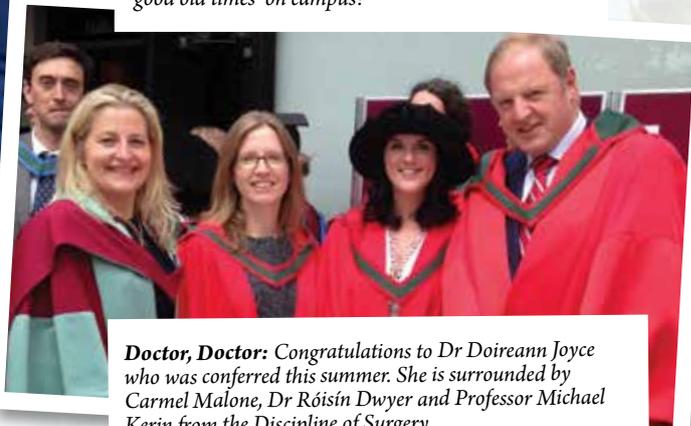
The Broadcasting Authority of Ireland has renewed the contract for Galway's Student Station, Flirt FM, which is based on campus. The renewed licence will see the popular station staying on air for another ten years. Flirt FM gives students a voice, and a fantastic opportunity to develop media skills. Pictured at the contract signing were: Flirt FM Station Manager, Paula Healy; Director of Student Services, John Hannon; Flirt FM Director, Bernadette O'Sullivan; BAI Chair, Pauric Travers; and BAI Chief Executive Michael O'Keefe.

## The View from Around Campus

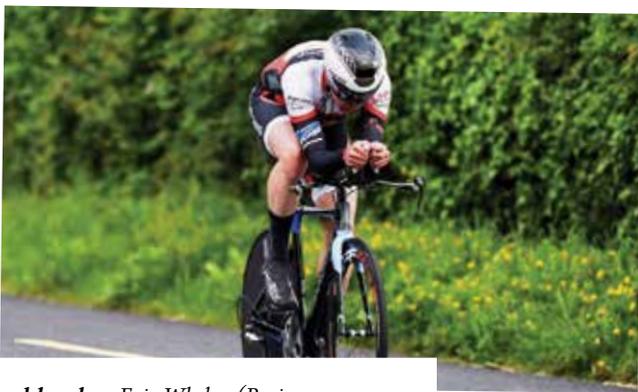
**BOC Award:** Martin Sweeney and Katarzyna Gniado won this year's BOC Postgraduate award for their work in Chemistry, as presented by Andreas Bieringer (BOC Gases).



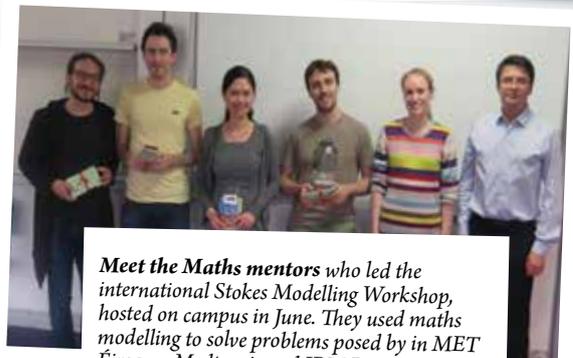
**Tech Get-together:** Patrick Hogan (right) sent in this fab photo from the 30-year reunion of Technical Staff he organised earlier this year. Pictured (l-r) are: Pádraic Thornton, Tess Mahoney, Mai Kyne, Séamus Collier, Eileen Hogan, Philip Henderson, John Goode and Jim Cotter. They all enjoyed reminiscing over the 'good old times' on campus!



**Doctor, Doctor:** Congratulations to Dr Doireann Joyce who was conferred this summer. She is surrounded by Carmel Malone, Dr Róisín Dwyer and Professor Michael Kerin from the Discipline of Surgery.



**Record-breaker:** Eoin Whelan (Business Information Systems) set a new Irish record for the 10-Mile Time Trial in the Men's Masters cycling! Clocking an average speed of 52.1 km/hr he rode the 10 miles in 18 minutes and 39 seconds.



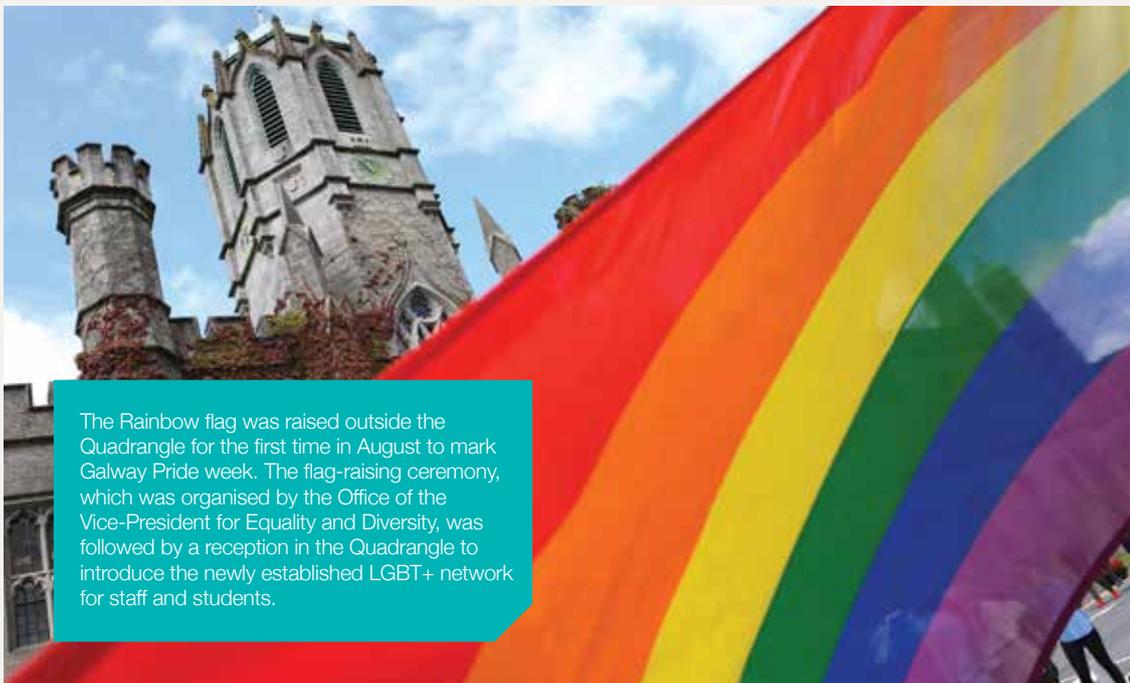
**Meet the Maths mentors** who led the international Stokes Modelling Workshop, hosted on campus in June. They used maths modelling to solve problems posed by in MET Éireann, Medtronic and IBM Research. Thanks to Dr Niall Madden (Mathematics) for the photo!



**Tourism and TripAdvisor:** Congratulations to Eileen Kennedy (Marketing and Communications Office) who won best paper at the THRIC tourism and hospitality conference in Sligo. It was co-authored by Dr Ann Torres (Marketing).



**All Blacks:** Pictured here is the talented Staff Choir and their choir director, Michel Durham, after their performance in the Limerick Choral Festival 2017.



The Rainbow flag was raised outside the Quadrangle for the first time in August to mark Galway Pride week. The flag-raising ceremony, which was organised by the Office of the Vice-President for Equality and Diversity, was followed by a reception in the Quadrangle to introduce the newly established LGBT+ network for staff and students.

# Ollscoil Éireann Gaillimh

## Desktop Diary

September 2017							October 2017							November 2017						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3							1			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
							30	31												

## Upcoming Events

### Research and Innovation Symposium Monday, 4 September

Staff, researchers, students and research collaborators are invited to this symposium, which will focus on preparing for FP9, protecting excellence and Research Integrity, and empowering early career researchers.

The symposium will conclude with an announcement of the winners of the 2017 President's Awards for Research Excellence, the Ryan Award for Innovation and the Allergan Innovation Award.

### Culture Night 2017, Friday, 22 September

This feast of culture kicks off with a lunchtime event that will bring music, drama and art to the Quadrangle building.

### Architecture at the Edge 29 Sept - 1 Oct

This weekend celebration of architecture will include a free recital by the Galway Ensemble in Residence, ConTempo Quartet, in the foyer of the new Human Biology building.



### Double Take

This cardboard model of the Aula Maxima was built (and demolished!) on Eyre Square by the citizens of Galway as part of The People Build project in the Galway International Arts Festival. It was just one of this year's productions that had a strong link to the University. During the festival, the campus hosted two art exhibitions, a circus performance, a new puppet show by Branar, a short film by Enda Walsh, and many of the insightful and inspiring First Thought talk series.

Staff from our Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance were heavily involved in the festival, with Professor Patrick Lonergan, Dr Miriam Houghton and Dr Ian Walsh all hosting post-show

talks with actors and directors. Comhghairdeas freisin le Marianne Ní Chinnéide a bhí ina comhstíúthóir ar an dráma *Dún na mBan Trí Thine*, a cuireadh ar an stáitse den chéad uair sa Taibhdhearc mar chuid den fhéile.

### Tag-of-War Photo Competition

Staff are invited to take part in this online photography competition by capturing your favourite parts of our lovely campus, buildings or grounds. Take a snap on your camera phone and then post it to social media using either #NUIGalwayNorth or #NUIGalwaySouth, depending on where you took it. The best photos on Twitter and Instagram will win some great prizes.

Visit [www.tintup.com/t/tag-o-war](http://www.tintup.com/t/tag-o-war) to see the entries so far!

