Local News

Irish Network Boston continues to grow

In November 2010 members of the Irish community gathered at Faneuil Hall to celebrate the successful launch of Irish Network Boston. In the ensuing two and a half years the organization has grown in size and reputation. With close to 300 members, regular gatherings and events, and a diverse Board made up of people from across the Irish community, Irish Network Boston continues to deliver real value and opportunities for its members.

At the launch in 2010, Irish Network Boston (INB) was following the example of Irish Network NYC, an initiative backed by the Irish government. IN NYC was founded in 2006 and sought to create an inclusive network open to anyone of Irish descent or who had an interest in Irish affairs. INB built on this impulse to connect the Irish diaspora in the Boston area and combined it with a drive to create links between those interested in connecting through business affairs, cultural and academic events, and in social settings. Membership in the network became a way to connect professionally, engage socially, and participate actively in the Irish community. Dr Bob Mauro, Board Chair and Director of the Irish Institute at Boston College, confirms this, "Irish Network Boston is the only networking organization for those with an interest in the Irish community that connects the academic, business, cultural, professional, and social worlds in one organization". Mauro adds, "with the continued support of the Museum of Science, the Innovate the Irish government through Makers & Entrepreneurs Business Consul General Lonergan, Irish Breakfast at the Harvard Club, Irish Network Boston can continue and monthly gatherings and so to act as multifaceted platform for the Irish community."

Over the past year, INB has engaged with academia—remains committed to providing great value to its members and groups and opportunities for its members throughout Massa- chusetts. Dave Greaney, President of Synergy Investments, who needs and continually evolve in mission reach stepped down as Board Chair ways to support their work. The organization supported the Mauro assuming leadership, at their annual St. Patrick's Day Boston-Northwest Ireland Gold. Bridges conference at the Seaport Hotel. Vice-Chair of INB, Sean Moyinihan, says that it is important to support this kind of event because it reflects our commitment to supporting the diaspora and to creating opportunities for people in Boston and Ireland. This commitment underlay many recent INB events including a symposium on Frederick Douglass and Daniel O'Connell, the launch of the Wild Geese Net- work of Irish Scientists at the Moakley Courthouse. With the support of strong and enthusiastic members and dynamic Board leadership, INB is set to continue to grow and community involvement in the coming years. Check them out online at: www.irishnetworkboston.org.