Peter Gray, Burns Visiting Scholar

Peter Gray, senior lecturer in history at the University of Southampton, has been named the Burns Visiting Scholar for 2004. Originally from Belfast, Northern Ireland, he was educated there before receiving his B.A. (1987) and Ph.D. (1992) from the University of Cambridge. He was a Junior Fellow at the Institute of Irish Studies, Queen’s University Belfast (1991–1992), and a British Academy Research Fellow at Downing College, Cambridge (1993–1996), before joining the history department at Southampton as a lecturer in 1996. He is currently the director of the Erasmus Electronic Publishing Initiative Project to digitize the British Parliamentary papers relating to Ireland, 1801–1922. His research specializes in the history of Anglo-Irish relations 1800–1870, especially the Great Famine of 1845–1851, and the politics of poverty and land in the nineteenth century. Professor Gray is currently working on a history of the origins and implementation of the 1838 Irish Poor Law and also has interests in comparative imperialism (particularly nineteenth-century Ireland and India), and in contemporary Northern Ireland. The Burns Library’s collection of Irish political pamphlets and pamphlets relating to the Irish famine and the O’Neill Library’s nineteenth-century Irish newspaper collection will be particularly helpful to his current research.

Library and Music Center Acquisitions

Over the past several months the John J. Burns Library of Rare Books and Special Collections, the Thomas P. O’Neill, Jr. Library, and the Irish Music Center have added a number of important documents and collections to the University’s Irish holdings. In the Burns Library, these include a 1959 George Bernard Shaw manuscript that is the playwright’s handwritten responses to nine typed questions concerning music in England, the influence of radio on musical appreciation, government assistance to the music world by the Arts Council, the quality of instrumental playing, the quality of contemporary musical criticism, patronage of music in wartime, government aid for composers and performers, film music, and British conductors. This is an important addition not only to the recently acquired Shaw Collection but also to the Irish music archive.

Other acquisitions by the Burns Library include A Collection of Books and Pamphlets Relating to Irish Home Rule, c. 1886–1912. This collection of some 207 items, among them many original pamphlets both for and against Home Rule in Ireland, also includes some post-Home Rule material up to 1960. The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland Collection: Reports of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge held at the Orange Hall, Sandy Row, Belfast consists of a long run of the Proceedings between 1921 and 1972, printed in Dublin and Belfast by Healy and Jordan. Grand Royal Arch Purple Chapter of Ireland: Reports of Proceedings, held in the Orange Halls at Clifton Street and Sandy Row, Belfast is composed of twenty-four issues of the Proceedings between 1933 and 1971, and complements another collection, the Orange Order—Mid Ulster: Reports of the Grand Orange Lodge, County Tyrone, 1908–1972.

Recent additions to the Thomas P. O’Neill, Jr. Library include: the Belfast Evening Telegraph on microfilm, years 1968–1975, and also Ireland: Politics and Society through the Press, 1760–1922. New units of the newspaper collection include microfilm runs of the Cork Constitution, United Ireland, Flag of Ireland, Statesman and Patriot, Patriot, Dublin Evening Post, Sports, Cork Free Press, Irishman, Limerick Reporter, Tipperary Vindicator, and the Kerry Sentinel. Also added were collections from numerous cabinet papers from the Public Records Office of Great Britain, many of which address Anglo-Irish relations during the Second World War. The Irish Enlightenment and Counter-Enlightenment, a six-volume work that includes authors such as John Toland, Jonathan Swift, and William King, offers contemporary scholars insight into the theological, philosophical, and political debates of the period. The eight-volume set, Michael Davitt, Collected Writings, 1868–1906, includes pamphlets, speeches, and articles ranging from 1885 through 1904. James Joyce: The Trials of Ulysses is a visual account of the creation of Joyce’s epic novel and includes coverage of Joyce’s trials as a writer, his struggle in writing Ulysses, and his determination to have it made available to a wide audience of readers. Finally, the purchase Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century Irish Women’s Writing contains ninety titles and includes poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and drama by such authors as Ethna Carbery, Maria Edgeworth, Alice Stopford Green, Alice and W.H. Milligan, Katharine Tynan, and Katherine Cecil Thurston, among many others.

The Irish Music Center (Burns Library) and Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann/North America are delighted to announce a joint project documenting the history of Irish music. The center also features major collections related to composer Thomas Moore and the renowned Irish tenor, John McCormack.
Lauren Onkey, associate professor of English at Ball State University, has been chosen as the recipient of the annual summer research fellowship in Irish studies. The fellowship provides housing, office space, and a travel grant during the summer at Boston College. It was established to enable scholars to conduct research in the Boston area, especially in the University’s Burns Library, with its Special Irish Collection, and in the O’Neill Library. Applications were received from all over North America, Ireland, and Europe.

Dr. Onkey has published scholarly articles on a wide range of subjects, including Irish music, Irish theater, James Joyce, and Irish America’s racial discourses. Her current book project, entitled *Celtic Soul Brothers: Ireland and Racial Discourse*, analyzes the long history of fictional and real relationships between the Irish and African-Americans since the mid-nineteenth century. The periodicals collections and the John Boyle O’Reilly papers at the Burns Library will be particularly important to her research.
Dr. Niall Ó Ciosáin to deliver Martha Fox Lecture

Building on our ties with NUI Galway, Boston College will host Dr. Niall Ó Ciosáin as the featured speaker in the Martha Fox Lecture Series. The series, endowed by a 1999 gift from Wakefield, Massachusetts, schoolteacher Martha Fox, has allowed NUI Galway to maintain connections with its American alumni and to share the work of the University’s Centre for Irish Programs with academic institutions in Boston, Chicago, and New York. We in the Irish Studies Program are proud that Dr. Louis de Paor, director of the Centre for Irish Studies, recommended Boston College for this prestigious event.

Dr. Ó Ciosáin, distinguished lecturer in the Department of History at NUI Galway, will speak on “Print and the Irish Language.” Over the last four centuries, the spoken language of the majority of people in Ireland changed from Irish to English. This was one of the most fundamental cultural changes of the period, but it is also one of the least understood. Printing had a crucial role in this transformation. With the achievement of universal education and mass literacy, the language of printing became the spoken language. It is usually taken for granted that English was the only language of print in Ireland, but there was also printing in Irish, from the Protestant Reformation of the sixteenth century to the language revival of the twentieth. This lecture will trace the culture of print in Irish and explore its complex relationship with the wider questions of language and cultural change.

Dr. Ó Ciosáin has published Print and Popular Culture in Ireland, 1750–1850 (Basingstoke, England: Palgrave, Macmillan, 1997) and a number of articles on popular literature, printing, and language shift in Ireland.

Connolly House, March 25, 7:00 p.m.

Fellowships For Students

ADELE DALSIMER FELLOWSHIP

Once again, Boston College will award the Adele Dalsimer Graduate Research/Dissertation Fellowship in memory of the cofounder of the Irish Studies program. Professor Dalsimer was especially committed to graduate students working in all disciplines of Irish Studies. This one-year fellowship is offered to a student who embodies Professor Dalsimer’s vision, energy, and commitment, and it is hoped that the successful candidates will perpetuate her legacy in their professional careers. The fellowship is primarily intended to enable Boston College Ph.D. candidates in Irish Studies, who have achieved ABD status, to complete their dissertations. The successful candidate will have demonstrated a commitment to Irish Studies through active participation in program events and activities. Students wishing to be considered should contact Marjorie Howes, codirector, Irish Studies. Application deadline is May 15, 2004. Award date is August 1, 2004.

MAEVE O’REILLY FINLEY FELLOWSHIP

Boston College alumna Maeve O’Reilly Finley was a long-time friend of Irish Studies, and established this fellowship in 1986 to support her alma mater and the Irish Studies Program. The fellowship is awarded every year to a graduating Boston College senior who demonstrates outstanding achievement in Irish Studies.

Fellowships, continued on page 6
IRISH STUDIES
COURSES SPRING 2004

INTRODUCTION TO MODERN IRISH II
Students consolidate the language skills and knowledge mastered in EN 093 and expand the grammatical, lexical, syntactical base previously established, in addition to furthering their cultural knowledge of Ireland and the Irish language. Short movies in Irish and segments from TG4 are also incorporated.
Breen Ó Conchubhair.

IRISH LITERATURE SURVEY, TWENTIETH CENTURY
This course provides an introduction to twentieth-century Ireland’s literature and culture. Early in the semester we will read key literary figures, including Hyde, Yeats, Synge, and Joyce. Students will then quickly turn their attention to post-Revel authors. Throughout the semester, the class will discuss significant social, political, and cultural developments, e.g. cultural nationalism and the formation of identity, the importance of the “Gaelic” language, women’s role in postindependent Ireland, the urban/rural divide, Northern Ireland, immigration, and the Irish diaspora.
James Smith.

DRAMA: IRISH/HARLEM RENAISSANCE
The course will examine two cases of ethnic renaissance in English-language theater and culture, the Irish dramatic movement of Yeats, Gregory, Synge, and the Fays; and the dramatic wing of the Harlem Renaissance, initiated by DuBois. Problems to be explored will include the attempt to create an inclusive group identity, the excorisma negative stage and media images from the dominant culture, the conscious rewriting of historical episodes, and the place of dialect and rural folk material in dramas written for urban audiences.
Philip Ó Leary.

IRISH POETRY THROUGH THE AGES
Employing several theoretical approaches, this course explores the features and nature of twentieth-century and contemporary Irish language poetry. Does writing in a minority language limit the scope of poetic imagination or thematic range? What strategies do writers employ to mediate a two-thousand-year literary tradition when addressing contemporary issues? What distinguishes poetry in the Irish language from ‘Anglo-Irish’ poetry written in English? How do issues of translation influence Irish language poetry?
Breen Ó Conchubhair.

MODERN IRISH DRAMA
A critical and historical study of Irish drama from the end of the nineteenth century to the present. We will start with the plays written for the Abbey Theatre by Yeats, Lady Gregory, and Synge. We will then consider the work of Shaw, O’Casey, and Beckett and move to current Irish dramatists such as Friel, McGuinness, and McPherson. While we will consider Irish drama in its sociopolitical context, our principal focus will be the theatrical dimension of the plays in performance.
Andrew Sofer.

IRISH AMERICAN ATLANTIC
This course investigates a trans-Atlantic cultural history, focusing on the traffic in literary forms, popular cultures, social formations, ideas, and people between Ireland and North America. The material examined here will enable us to bring together several fields of study, including Irish Studies, American Studies, and studies of globalization, migration, and diaspora. We will concentrate on literary and cultural materials from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.
Marjorie Howes.

TWENTIETH CENTURY IRISH FICTION (GRADUATE SEMINAR)
In this graduate seminar, students read a selection of Irish novels so as to discuss, identify, and better understand complex cultural phenomena that become manifest in the aftermath of the colonial experience. The underlying premise suggests that Irish novelists participate in debates concerning national identity and, in the process, anticipate the evolution of a postnational society. Paying particular attention to issues of gender, place, and literary authority, the seminar seeks to establish how Irish fiction represents the inevitable heterogeneity related to the postcolonial condition.
James Smith.

INTRODUCTION TO CELTIC MUSIC
Celtic music, one of the main economic engines of the current world music sound, is examined from a musical and a cultural perspective. MU 331 will look specifically at the music of the “Celtic Fringe” (Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Britain, Galicia, Cornwall, and the Isle of Man) as found in “traditional” settings as well as in its roles in the modern musical landscape and in the formation of national identity and the maintenance of cultural identity.
Ann Morrison Spinney.

FAMINE/SOCIAL CRISIS
This course will explore the historical relationships between social, economic, and political systems and the maintenance of subsistence in peasant society. An interdisciplinary and comparative approach will be utilized to permit the exploration of famine experience in Europe, Asia, and Africa, 1845–present. Peter Gray, Burns Visiting Professor.

GREAT HUNGER
This course will place the Great Irish Famine of 1845–1851 in its social, economic, and political context. We will explore both the ecology and sociology of famine in Ireland and attempt to place Irish experience in a wider comparative perspective. Particular subjects of inquiry will include the relationship between “globalization” and food security, trans-Atlantic ecological exchange, demographic and political interactions, and the Irish diaspora.
Kevin Ó Neill.

IRELAND BEFORE THE FAMINE
The course will focus on the social and economic determinants of Irish political history during the early penal era, the Age of Revolution, the struggle for Catholic emancipation and the mid-century crisis. Themes explored will include economic development, sectarianism, republicanism, colonialism, and women’s studies.
Kevin Ó Neill.

THE POLITICS OF NORTHERN IRELAND, 1920–PRESENT
This course seeks to trace the political development of Northern Ireland from its creation in 1920 to the present, examining in particular the political parties, organizations, and movements that have shaped the political landscape of Northern Ireland. The focus of this course will be on the “Troubles,” 1968–present, with special attention given to the 1998 Good Friday Agreement.

IRISH DANCING
World-renowned Irish dance instructor and choreographer Michael Smith will offer Irish dance classes focusing on the traditional cèilí dances of Ireland. Emphasis on the basic steps needed to execute cèilí dances and demonstration of couple dancing will be the primary concentration of this class.
Michael Smith.

TRADITIONAL IRISH FIDDLE
A study of traditional Irish fiddle music incorporating styles, technique, bowings, fingerings, and ornamentation. Learn to read and play the airs and dance music of Ireland along with the music of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Ireland, that of the ancient Bardic harpers and court musicians. Séamus Connolly & Laurel Martin.

TIN WHISTLE
Learn to read and play the airs and dance music of Ireland. Classes are taught at beginner and intermediate levels by Jimmy Noonan, a well-known, respected Irish tin whistle and flute player and teacher.
Jimmy Noonan.
Fellowships, continued from page 4

and has been accepted into a graduate program at an Irish university, or to a Boston College graduate student who wishes to do academic research in Ireland. Students wishing to be considered should submit a resume, transcript, a short essay (three to five pages) describing plan of study, and two letters of reference from Boston College faculty to Marjorie Howes, codirector, Irish Studies. Application deadline is May 10, 2004.

Edward Leavay Collection

In October of 2003, Edward Leavay donated over 200 book titles, many of which are rare first editions, to Irish Studies at Boston College. His generous gift will benefit undergraduate and graduate students doing research in Irish history and literature, who will have access to this remarkable collection in Connolly House.


IRISH STUDIES

SPRING CALENDAR 2004

January 20
Breen Ó Conchubhair, Irish Studies, Burns Library, Boston College
Irish Language Fiction and the Early Free State
Respondent: Tomás Ó Cathasaigh, Department of Celtic Languages and Literatures, Harvard University
Connolly House, 4:00 p.m.

February 17
Thomas E. Hachey, director, Center for Irish Programs, Boston College
Respondent: Peter Gray, Department of History, University of Southampton, Burns Library Scholar 2004
Connolly House, 4:00 p.m.

February 19
Film screening. Filmmaker Barrie Dowdall discusses his award-winning documentary, Ned Kelly.
Devlin Hall 008, 6:30 p.m.

March 25
Dr. Niall Ó Ciosáin, Department of History, NUI Galway
Print and the Irish Language, Martha Fox Lecture
Connolly House, 7:00 p.m.

March 30
Garret Fitzgerald, chancellor, National University of Ireland
Catholicism, the Gaelic Revival, and the New State, 1922–1949
Respondent: James Smith, Department of English, Irish Studies, Boston College
Connolly House, 4:00 p.m.

April 5
Derek Attridge, University of York
Body, Pen, and Ink: How Joyce Wrote Ulysses
Burns Library, Irish Room, 4:00 p.m.

April 6
Mary E. Daly, Department of History, University College, Dublin
What’s in a Name? Saorstat Éireann, Éire, Ireland, Republic of Ireland and the Assertion of Status in Independent Ireland
Respondent: Richard Kearney, Charles Seelig Professor of Philosophy, Boston College
Connolly House, 4:00 p.m.

April 13
Paige Reynolds, Department of English, College of the Holy Cross
Acting Out: The Dublin Drama League’s Critique of Free State Culture
Respondent: Andrew Sofer, Department of English, Boston College
Connolly House, 4:00 p.m.

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PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

ANTHONY DALY

MEAGHAN DWYER


CATHERINE M. EAGAN


THOMAS E. HACHEY

KELLY J. S. McGOVERN

BREEN Ó CONCHUBHAR


PHILIP Ó LEARY

JAMES SMITH


GARY GEARY
James Smith
Stranger Than Fiction Chooses *Ned Kelly*

Boston College will host the American premiere of *Ned Kelly*, the winner of The Irish Film Institute’s innovative series of international documentary films, Stranger Than Fiction. Chosen by an audience poll at the Irish Film Centre, *Ned Kelly* re-examines this nineteenth-century Australian outlaw and folk hero from an Irish perspective. Kelly, the son of Tipperary emigrants and the Robin Hood of Australia, has become an icon since his death on the gallows at the age of 24. There is little agreement on whether he was a martyred hero, a failed revolutionary, or merely a criminal. In 1906 he was the subject of what is alleged to be the first feature film, *The Kelly Gang*, and since then he has been portrayed in every known medium from the printed word to big-budget feature films. Barrie Dowdall’s fascinating documentary draws from a mixture of archive film, dramatized reenactments, input from experts and family members, as well as clips from the latest Ned Kelly film featuring Heath Ledger. Filmmaker Barrie Dowdall will attend the screening and discuss his film with the audience.

Devlin Hall 008, February 19, 6:30 p.m.