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# IRISH STUDIES

## Professor Dermot Keogh Named Burns Visiting Scholar for Academic Year 2011-2012



Professor Dermot Keogh, Burns Visiting Scholar, academic year 2011-2012.

The Center for Irish Programs is pleased to welcome Professor Dermot Keogh as the Burns Visiting Scholar for the academic year 2011-2012. Keogh is Professor of History and Emeritus Jean Monnet Professor of European Integration Studies, School of History, University College Cork, Ireland.

Professor Keogh has received numerous awards over the course of his career, dating from his Irish government Doctoral Scholarship 1976-79 to the

present. He has been the recipient of many fellowships, including a Fulbright and a Woodrow Wilson, and in 2002 was elected a member of the Royal Irish Academy. From 2007-2010, he served as Principal Investigator on the project “Ireland and European Integration, 1947-1973.” In 2008, Professor Keogh was awarded the Olenin Medal by the National Library of Russia “for great services to the National Library of Russia.”

He is the author of twelve monographs, in addition to being editor or co-editor of twenty-three other books; a contributor to scholarly journals; and academic adviser to, and participant in, TV history programs in Ireland, England, France, Spain, and the United States. Additionally, he served as Historical Adviser on “Seven Ages—The Story of the Irish State,” a seven-part documentary series made by Seán Ó Mordha for RTÉ One Television, February-March 2000.

Professor Keogh’s special areas of study include general history of twentieth century Ireland; Irish diplomatic history; Irish political history; Vatican diplomacy; Church-state relations in Ireland, Europe, and Latin America; history of the making of the Irish Constitution; minorities in Irish society; the Church and the Irish diaspora; the history of the Irish trade union movement; international relations; decision-making and the European Union; and the history of European integration.

At Boston College, Keogh will offer courses on *Church and State in Twentieth Century Ireland* and *Ireland and Europe in the Twentieth Century*.

## Public Lectures

**Nicholas Allen**

**Burns Library Visiting Scholar, Spring 2011**

Tuesday, March 1, Professor Nicholas Allen presented a public lecture titled *Jack Yeats and the Picture of Ireland*. The lecture, which was followed by a reception, was held at the Burns Library.

**Patsy McGarry**

**Religious Affairs Correspondent, *The Irish Times***

Thursday, March 24, *Boston Globe* columnist Kevin Cullen introduced Patsy McGarry, whose public presentation was titled *Child Sexual Abuse and the Catholic Church: An Irish Disease and/or Global Phenomenon*. The lecture was held at Devlin Hall. It was jointly sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, the Institute for the Liberal Arts, the English Department, and the Center's Irish Studies Program.

**Angela Bourke**

**Author of *The Burning of Bridget Cleary* and *Maeve Brennan: Homesick at The New Yorker***

Thursday, April 7, author Angela Bourke discussed her research with a class on "Irish Material Culture," an undergraduate course taught by Kevin O'Neill, History Department, and Vera Kreilkamp, English Department. The course was organized in anticipation of the McMullen Museum's Spring 2012 exhibition "Rural Ireland: The Inside Story."

**Bloomsday-in-April**

Saturday, April 16, English Professor Joseph Nugent hosted a celebration of the new *Finnegans Wake* as Danis Rose, editor, launched his revised edition of Joyce's great work here at Connolly House.

The celebration of James Joyce continued the following day with a public lecture given by Professor Nugent, introducing some of the exciting technological work currently being done on *Ulysses*. A full afternoon of entertainment included the dramatization of scenes presented by the "Here Comes Everybody Players," a series of introductory workshops, live music and songs, a documentary depiction of Dublin in 1904, and an all-day relay reading of Joyce's work with authentic Bloomsian food.

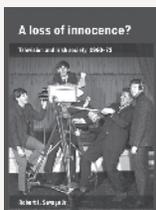
**Professor Lenny Cassuto, Fordham University**

Tuesday, April 19, Professor Cassuto gave a public lecture at Connolly House titled *Baseball and the Business of American Innocence*.

**Irish Senator David Norris**

Monday, May 2, Senator Norris, a professor of literature at Trinity College Dublin and distinguished Joyce scholar, gave a public reading and performance of *Ulysses*.

## Faculty Publications and Professional Participation



Professor Rob Savage was recently honored by the American Conference for Irish Studies (ACIS) with the 2010 James S. Donnelly, Sr. Prize for Best Book in History and Social Sciences for *A Loss of Innocence? Television and Irish Society, 1960-72* (Manchester, 2010).

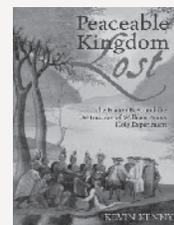
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Thomas E. Hachey, University Professor of History, was a featured guest on Tommy Graham's *The History Show* on Dublin's RTE, Radio 1, **Wednesday, June 22nd**. They discussed Hachey's most recent book, *Turning Points in Twentieth Century Irish History* (Irish Academic Press, 2011), to which a dozen prominent Irish academics contributed individual essays.



Professor Kevin Kenny's book *Peaceable Kingdom Lost: The Paxton Boys and the Destruction of William Penn's Holy Experiment* (Oxford University Press, 2009) was published in a new paperback edition in Spring 2011.



## Student Fellowships

The Adele Dalsimer Fellowship for 2011 has been awarded to Michelle Cowan, a Ph.D. student in history at Boston College.

The Maeve O'Reilly Finley Fellowship for 2011 has been awarded to Keavy Gilbert '11, who will pursue her post-graduate studies at Queens University Belfast this fall.

The Mary Kate Lane and Gus O'Connor Fellowship awarded its inaugural fellowship to Kelly Sullivan. Kelly is a Ph.D. candidate in English literature, with an emphasis on Irish Studies.

## Gaelic Roots Series

This September, an in-depth look at the music of accordionist and composer Joe Derrane, presented by widely published music writer Earle Hitchner and Berklee College Professor/multi-instrumentalist John McGann, featured contributions by McGann and Séamus Connolly in the first event of this fall's Gaelic Roots Music, Song, Dance, Workshop, and Lecture Series. Under the direction of Boston College's Sullivan Artist-in-Residence Séamus Connolly, the fall series will also feature the distinguished musician Monsignor Charlie Coen on concertina and flute; an exciting duo performance by two "Cherish the Ladies" musicians, Gráinne Murphy and Kathleen Boyle; and a celebratory program of holiday and solstice music by harpist and singer Áine Minogue.

The fall season will also introduce a new performance venue for the Gaelic Roots series, again sponsored by the Boston College Center for Irish Programs and featuring music from Ireland, Scotland, Cape Breton, Appalachia, and other Gaelic-related traditions. With the exception of the Joe Derrane presentation, all of the Gaelic Roots fall events will take place at 2101 Commonwealth Avenue on the Brighton campus of Boston College. The Brighton campus is readily accessible by public transportation and offers convenient free parking for Gaelic Roots events.

## NOTICE TO QUALIFIED STUDENTS

Applications are invited for the Rev. William B. Neenan, S.J., Visiting Fellowship to be held at Boston College-Ireland during 2012. The Fellowship is named to honor the work of Fr. Neenan, who came to Boston College in 1979 as the first Thomas I. Gasson Professor. He served as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1980 to 1987 before assuming the role of academic vice president and dean of faculties. It was during his tenure that the University was establishing itself among the nation's top institutions of higher education. Since 1998, he has served as vice president and special assistant to the president. The Fellowship is open to any scholar working in the field of Irish Studies and requires a period of time in which to conduct research in Dublin. It can be held at any time during 2012, but must be held for a minimum of two months during the course of the year. The holder of the Fellowship will be awarded a stipend of €5000, and have access to the Boston College-Ireland building that provides an office and administrative support during time spent in Ireland. The 2011 recipient of the Fellowship was Professor Tim McMahon from Marquette University.

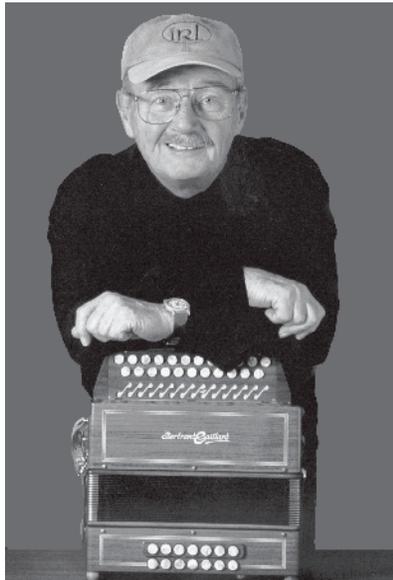
The closing date for the Fellowship is **November 25, 2011**. To apply, please send your curriculum vitae plus an explanation of the research you wish to undertake in Ireland together with details of proposed publications to Professor Mike Cronin, [croninmr@bc.edu](mailto:croninmr@bc.edu).

Application to the following fellowships may be submitted no later than **March 1, 2012**:

- The Maeve O'Reilly Finley Fellowship for Graduate Study in Ireland
- The Adele Dalsimer Fellowship for Outstanding Boston College Doctoral Students in Irish Studies

Please see the Irish Studies website for eligibility criteria and application information.

# GAELIC ROOTS FALL 2011 SCHEDULE



## September 22

*The Genius and Growing Impact of Joe Derrane*

Gasson Hall Irish Room  
7:00-9:00 p.m.  
Chestnut Hill Campus  
Boston College

Since his historic comeback in 1994, Boston-born button accordionist and composer Joe Derrane has released seven celebrated albums, received a National Heritage Fellowship (2004), and was the subject of “A Concert for the Ages,” an all-star tribute (Nov. 13, 2010). Now 81 years old, this living legend of Irish music was the special guest of distinguished *Wall Street Journal* and *Irish Echo* music writer Earle Hitchner and Berklee College of Music Professor of Strings John McGann, an award-winning guitarist and mandolinist and a frequent Derrane collaborator. This combined lecture/concert featured presentations by Hitchner and McGann about Derrane’s recent music and ex-

panding influence, commentary from Derrane himself, a live performance of some Derrane tunes and others by McGann with Boston College Gaelic Roots founder and fiddler Séamus Connolly, and never-before-seen film footage of *A Concert for the Ages*.

## October 20

*Monsignor Charlie Coen:  
Concertina and Flute*

2101 Commonwealth Ave.  
6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Brighton Campus, Boston College



Monsignor Charlie Coen, “The Musical Priest.” A beloved cleric who makes Irish traditional music real with every note he plays and every song he sings. He is an award-winning musician and traditional Irish singer.

The southeast Galway native is an accomplished performer on concertina and flute and a revered Irish music teacher and mentor. Monsignor Coen also has drawn acclaim as an organizer and leader of Irish music concerts, sessions, and other events in his former parish in Dutchess County, New York, and beyond. His honors include being selected as Traditional Musician of the Year for 2005 by the *Irish Echo* and as an inductee into the Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Mid-Atlantic Region Hall of Fame in 2010.

## November 15

*Gráinne Murphy and Kathleen Boyle: Fiddle, Piano, and Accordion*  
2101 Commonwealth Ave.  
6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Brighton Campus, Boston College



Known to Irish music fans as the fiddle player for the popular Irish-American band “Cherish the Ladies,” Murphy grew up in the Boston area and is a former student of renowned fiddle champion Séamus Connolly. With All-Ireland honors of her own, Murphy’s first solo album, *Short Stories*, has been widely featured on the radio in both the U.S. and Ireland.

Kathleen Boyle was born into a Scottish family steeped in the traditional music of Donegal. Her grandfather, fiddler Néillidh Boyle, was the composer of the famed “Moving Cloud” reel. Boyle is a tal-



ented pianist and piano accordion player who has won All-Scotland and All-Britain titles on both instruments. She released her eagerly awaited debut solo album, *An Cailin Rua*, during the past year.

## December 8

*Áine Minogue: Music of the Winter Solstice and Christmas*  
2101 Commonwealth Ave.  
6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Brighton Campus, Boston College



concerts that evoke a particular season or major theme. For her Gaelic Roots show, she will offer music of the winter solstice and Christmas, with tunes and carols that have roots in ancient traditions of the British Isles such as “The Horn Dance” and “Hunting the Wren,” and a performance of “Oíche Ch-uain,” the Irish-language version of “Silent Night.”

A native of Tipperary, Minogue is widely recognized as a premier Irish harpist and singer who conveys the lyricism and richness of Irish music, mythology, and po-

etry. Minogue is attuned to the traditions, rituals, and celebrations associated with the ancient Celtic world, and often presents special



ALL OF THE ABOVE CONCERTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

For more on the Gaelic Roots Series, visit  
[www.bc.edu/gaelicroots](http://www.bc.edu/gaelicroots) or telephone 617-552-6396.

Courtesy of the Boston College Office of News and Public Affairs and  
The Irish Music Center of the John J. Burns Library

## Burns Library Irish Collections

Among the rich holdings in the Burns Library is the unpublished manuscript of Yeats's first play, *Love and Death*. Boston College acquired the manuscript in 1993 from Senator Michael Yeats, son of William Butler Yeats. *Love and Death*, written in 1884, is in five notebooks, some of which contain loose-leaf inserted papers. The play has never been published or performed. Yeats wrote *Love and Death* the same year that he began writing his earliest published plays: *Mosada* and *The Island of Statues*. *Love and Death* is valuable, in part, for the light it sheds on the poet's other work from this period.

As part of an initiative to make its unique holdings widely accessible for scholarship, the University Libraries published *Love and Death* in a digital edition. Publication was on July 15, 2011, and is available on the University Libraries website: <http://bc.edu/loveanddeath>.

The Libraries partnered with English Professor Marjorie Howes and graduate student Dathalinn O'Dea to create the digital edition. Howes provided scholarly guidance to both Ms. O'Dea and the project librarians. Ms. O'Dea created the transcription and critical apparatus.

Ms. O'Dea's transcription includes a full draft of the play and Yeats's partial revisions. His corrections, cancellations, and occasional spelling errors are faithfully recorded. O'Dea will continue her work with the manuscript by giving a presentation at the Yeats Summer School in Sligo, Ireland.

The digital edition will be of interest to Yeats scholars, particularly those studying the poet's juvenilia, as well as to scholars of Irish literature and to a general public eager to read some of his earliest writings.

The Burns Library's William Butler Yeats Collection is the largest collection of original Yeats manuscripts outside the National Library of Ireland. Burns Librarian Dr. Robert K. O'Neill noted that the Yeats acquisition "would not have been possible without the generosity of Brian P. Burns of Palm Beach, Florida." Dr. O'Neill also expressed his gratitude to the late Senator Michael

B. Yeats and his widow, Mrs. Grainne Yeats, for making this acquisition possible.

University Librarian Tom Wall enthusiastically recognized the contributions of the many project participants. Dr. Wall noted that this project is a perfect illustration of "his vision of the University Libraries facilitating humanities scholarship through the digitization of our unique holdings."

### Lectures, Events, and Exhibits

On Tuesday, March 1, 2011, Professor Nicholas Allen, Burns Library Visiting Scholar in Irish Studies for the Spring 2011 semester and Moore Institute Professor at National University of Ireland-Galway, presented a lecture titled *Jack Yeats and the Picture of Ireland*. The lecture was co-sponsored by the Center for Irish Programs and the Burns Library. Professor Allen is the author of *Modernism, Ireland and Civil War* (Cambridge University Press, 2009) and *George Russell and the New Ireland (Four Courts, 2003)*. He is also the editor of *That Other Island* (2007), with Eve Patten, Gerald Dawe's *The Proper Word* (2007), and *The Cities of Belfast* (2003), with Aaron Kelly.

On April 6, 2011, Linen Hall Librarian John Killen, Belfast, Northern Ireland, and George Priestly, President of the Board of Directors of the Linen Hall Library, visited Burns Library and made a brief presentation on the history and collections of the Linen Hall Library and its special relationship with BC Libraries. The Belfast Linen Hall Library, based on Franklin's Library Company of Philadelphia, is the oldest library in Belfast and the only surviving subscription library in Ireland. Its collections are known throughout the academic community, and its strengths in the history and culture of Ireland are unrivalled. In 1999, BC Libraries and Linen Hall signed a "Memorandum of Understanding" to share resources and work collaboratively. Boston College President William P. Leahy, S.J., was present in Belfast at the signing, and he, along with Massachusetts Governor Paul Cellucci, formally witnessed the agreement. John Killen has worked in the Linen Hall Library for thirty-four years and knows the collections intimately. He has written the bicentenary history of the Library, and over ten books on different aspects of its extensive and fascinating holdings, from the United Irishmen to Modern Ulster Politics. His knowledge of, and enthusiasm for, the library are unsurpassed and

his involvement in the exciting use of modern technology to exploit (in the most benign meaning of that word) these collections is already paying dividends.

On September 21, 2011, Professor Colin Barr, a prolific young scholar on the Irish Church, spoke on *Ireland's Empire: The Roman Catholic Church in the Anglo-World, 1830-1922*. The lecture was held in the Thompson Room of the Burns Library and was followed by a casual reception.

Professor Barr, a specialist in modern British, Irish, and British imperial history, holds a BA from Stonehill College in Massachusetts and an M.Phil. and Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge. His books include *Nation-Nazione: Irish Nationalism and the Italian Risorgimento*, edited with Michele Finelli and Anne O'Connor (forthcoming, 2011), *The European Culture Wars in Ireland: The Callan Schools Affair, 1868-1881* (2010), and *Paul Cullen, John Henry Newman, and the Catholic University of Ireland, 1845-65* (2003). He has published articles in a number of leading international journals, including *The English Historical Review*, *The Historical Journal*, the *Proceedings of the British Academy*, and *The Journal of Ecclesiastical History*.

Dr. Barr is also a co-editor of *The Correspondence of Paul Cullen* (Irish Manuscripts Commission), a project that recently received a major grant from the Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences. His current research project is a history of the Irish Catholic Church in the British Empire between 1830 and 1922. Before coming to Florida, Dr. Barr was a Government of Ireland Research Fellow in the Humanities and Social Sciences at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. Dr. Barr is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

### Irish Portraits Exhibit

In April 2011, the John J. Burns Library and Center for Irish Programs at Boston College, in collaboration with the Irish Arts Center of New York City, formally opened at Burns Library the exhibit *To Love Two Countries: Ireland's Greatest Generation in America*; photographs by John Minihan. In February 2010, the Irish Arts Center ([irishartscenter.org](http://irishartscenter.org)) and the Department of Foreign Affairs-Ireland commissioned the acclaimed Irish photographer John Minihan to create for its New England chapter

an original exhibit: *To Love Two Countries*. The subjects in this exhibit are real people—untouched by “celebrity”—who emigrated from Ireland to America in the early decades of the twentieth century. They stand at the end of a line receding into 400 years of Irish history. Minihan traveled to New England to photograph his subjects in their communities: at home or at church, wherever they were most comfortable. The exhibit had the distinction of being both artistically breathtaking and culturally, historically, and emotionally resonant. The exhibit remained at Burns throughout the summer of 2011.

### Acquisitions

Burns added substantially to its Northern Ireland political collection with the acquisition of 1,216 pamphlets on “The Troubles” from Linen Hall Library, Belfast. Another set of significant pamphlets on “The Troubles” was acquired from a Belfast bookseller. Burns also acquired the rare set (four parts) in three volumes of the 1810 *Bogs of Ireland*, a detailed atlas of Ireland with sixty-five maps. The Burns Library blog at <http://johnjburnslibrary.wordpress.com> contains descriptions of various items in the library's collections.

## BC-Ireland

### *Places We Play: Ireland's Sporting Heritage*



Young boys enjoy a game of road bowling in an Irish country lane in January 1955. Road bowling, particularly popular in rural Cork, is a traditional game that uses the country lanes of the county in the same way today as generations of yesteryear. Cover: *Places We Play: Ireland's Sporting Heritage*, by Professor Michael Cronin (The Collins Press, 2011).

In October 2011, *Places We Play: Ireland's Sporting Heritage*, by Professor Mike Cronin and Dr. Roisin Higgins, will be launched by Jimmy Deenihan,

Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. The book, published by Collins Press, emerges from a three-year project conducted by Boston College-Ireland and funded by the Irish government.

The project and resultant book flag how sports—their sites and heritage—have been central to the history of Ireland. And yet, sports barely rate a mention in most books purporting to explore the island's past. A majority of scholars express greater interest in the high culture of Ireland, one produced predominantly by a literary metropolitan elite, than in sporting life. Given that all social classes, in all parts of the island, have regularly participated in sports since the later decades of the nineteenth century, and given its central place in the contemporary daily narrative of the nation (there aren't many subjects that warrant a supplement in the daily and weekend newspapers), the failure of sports to penetrate the consciousness of the bulk of historians is surprising. Even sports followers are perhaps sometimes guilty of the same oversight. While most are up to date with the sporting news of the day and have their own memory bank of great players and matches, how many pause to reflect on the historical significance of the stadium, venue, or club they enter? Why is the stadium where it is? Has it always been there? Has it changed over time? What kinds of men and women have been here before? Sports have given the people of Ireland a series of leisure pursuits, and in the process of playing, a built environment and heritage have emerged. This book, and the project that accompanies it, asks you to take a moment and consider both those places where we have, and where we continue, to play.

### Aer Lingus 75th Anniversary

Aer Lingus, Ireland's national airline, celebrated its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a series of events across 2011, including commissioning a history of the company. *Doesn't Time Fly: A History of Aer Lingus*, a book written by Professor Mike Cronin, was presented to members of the airline industry, and to the president of Ireland, at a special commemorative dinner at Farmleigh in May. It was also given as a gift to everyone in the audience of the series finale of RTE's *The Late Late Show*. The book, as the *Irish Independent* wrote, "relates how from the very beginning Aer Lingus was used to promote the country and how the shamrock on the tail fin came to symbolise the country overseas." The pictures also recreate an era

in the 1950s and 1960s when flying entailed attentive service and more space for passengers.

### Public History Symposium

In October 2011, Boston College-Ireland will hold a one-day symposium on Public History in Ireland. A few years ago, Chelsea Paige Buffington wrote an important work on the whole field, *Public History—What Is It?* and stated that, "Public Historians, as opposed to academic historians, work with and for the general public. They work in archives, museums, public policy organizations, historical societies, and in media. Public Historians are devoted to practising history outside of the classroom. Historians work for local, state, and national groups including corporations and governmental institutions. The purpose of a Public Historian is to collect, preserve, and disseminate information on the past. Public Historians use such tools as photographs, oral histories, museum exhibitions, and multimedia to address a wide variety of historical issues and to present those issues to a non-academic audience." The symposium will explore how Buffington's ideas have been applied within Ireland, and discuss the contemporary state of Public History. Indeed, does Public History, as a discipline, even exist within Ireland? The area has been one that has advanced rapidly within the U.S. university system but, has found little purchase in Ireland, and where it has begun to emerge, the focus is too often elitist. The symposium will explore how history has been researched and presented in oral history projects, in the process of digitizing archives, in the media, and through museum exhibits, and speakers will include some of the key scholars in this area. Further details are available on the BC-Ireland website. <http://www.bc.edu/center/irish/dublin>

### The Irish Institute

The Irish Institute's mission is to support the Northern Irish peace process and promote reconciliation across the island of Ireland through educational seminars and study visits for public officials, business leaders, and educators. These programs create the space for a truly cross-border, cross-community conversation on issues central to Irish, Northern Ireland, and American societies. This work is made possible through a major grant administered by the U.S. Department of State.



Economic Regeneration in Urban Centers program participants with Jim Lamb of the Ireland Institute of Pittsburgh (courtesy of the Irish Institute).

During this past spring semester, the Institute hosted five professional development programs. Each program consisted of fourteen policy makers and practitioners, seven from Northern Ireland and seven from the Republic of Ireland, who visited Boston and another U.S. city over the course of a ten-day exchange.

The Philanthropy and Community Development program was the first program of the new year. This cross-disciplinary group of fourteen leaders sought to find ways in which practitioners of philanthropy and community development could better coordinate their missions in order to reach similar objectives. Plans were in place for the Institute to host a program in February, but due to the elections in the Republic, the Political Polling program was rescheduled for September.



Members of the Marine Renewable Energy program with the Ambassador of Ireland, Michael Collins; Cathy O'Connor, Irish Department of Energy; and Aidan Cassidy, Northern Ireland Bureau (courtesy of the Irish Institute).

In April, a group of scientists, engineers, business leaders, and policy makers spent ten days traveling to Boston, New Bedford (MA), Portland (ME), Annapolis (MD), and Washington, D.C., as part of the Marine Renewable Energy program. Program participants studied contemporary American research on, and development of, hydrokinetic technologies.

May was a busy month for the Institute as we delivered two ten-day programs: Emergency Management and Civil Response, and Economic Regeneration in Urban Centers. The first of these programs studied American practices and procedures in emergency management through seminars and site visits with medical and public health experts, and professional first responders in Boston. The participants in this program also had the opportunity to study the policy developments and see firsthand the reconstruction efforts in New Orleans that followed the devastation created by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The final program of the academic year saw a visit by a group of economic redevelopment professionals who examined regeneration projects throughout Boston and Pittsburgh.

## Archive Strengthens BC's Resources on "The Troubles"

Boston College is now the repository for an archive of documents that chronicle the decommissioning of Northern Ireland's paramilitary groups—widely regarded as one of the most crucial steps on the road to peace in that troubled region.

The documents are from the Independent International Commission on Decommissioning (IICD), appointed in 1997 to oversee the process of putting "beyond use" weapons used by combatants involved in the violence and aggression that marked the three decades of sectarian conflict in Northern Ireland known as "The Troubles."

Over the next decade, as the 1998 Good Friday Agreement was being implemented, the IICD worked with the Provisional Irish Republican Army, Loyalist Volunteer Force, Ulster Volunteer Force, Ulster Defense Association, and other paramilitary organizations in Northern Ireland to verify that their weapons—including rifles, machine guns, explosives, and missiles—were destroyed.



Thomas Hachey, left, and Robert O'Neill flank Aaro Suonio, left, and Tauno Nieminen, members of the International Commission on Decommissioning, who presented the Commission's papers to Boston College (photo by Gary Gilbert).

The Commission's voluminous documents from this undertaking—which include both Commission deliberations as well as a few personal notebooks kept by IICD members—will now be housed in the Special Collections of Boston College's John J. Burns Library. The decision to donate the materials was approved by Irish Minister for Justice Alan Shatter, British Secretary of State for Northern Ireland Owen Paterson, and Director of the Northern Ireland Office Hillary Jackson. The collection will be curated over time and, eventually, digitized so that the documents may be openly available, at least in part, on the Internet.

University Professor Thomas E. Hachey, Executive Director of the Center for Irish Programs at Boston College, worked closely with Sean Aylward, former Secretary General of Ireland's Department of Justice, Equality, and Law Reform, to help secure the archive.

Under Irish and British law, the archive could be inaccessible for a period of 30 years, a provision that comports with the embargo on government archives in much of the world at present. There will, however, be periodic review that may grant earlier access if approved by the appropriate Anglo-Irish authorities.

Given the controversy that would ensue over locating the archive in Dublin or Belfast, Boston College represented a logical alternative, given its ties to Ireland and Northern Ireland. They include the Center's Irish Studies faculty exchange program with Queens University Belfast; the Irish Institute's federally funded executive leadership undertakings for participants from North and South as part of the Department of State's peace and reconciliation

program; and the multiple initiatives in Northern Ireland overseen by the BC-Ireland office in Dublin.

In addition, the Burns Library is recognized as having the most diverse and comprehensive holdings relating to Northern Ireland in the Western Hemisphere. These include the Center for Irish Programs' oral history archive of Irish Republican Army and Ulster Volunteer Force participants; private papers of various Northern Irish poets and writers; the Bobby Hanvey photograph archive on "The Troubles"; the William Van Vorris papers; the William F. Stout papers; the Canon Rogers pamphlets on Northern Ireland; and the new Ulster Movement Archive.

## Rural Ireland: The Inside Story

In collaboration with Irish Programs, the McMullen Museum will present an exhibition entitled *Rural Ireland: The Inside Story* in February 2012. Inspired by new scholarship, the exhibition will reveal that contrary to earlier assumptions, artists working in Ireland during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries frequently turned to the lives of the country's rural poor for subject matter. Irish art historian Claudia Kinmonth has discovered dozens of previously unknown works, including those depicting an impoverished peasantry, that constitute an insufficiently recognized tradition of Irish genre painting warranting more investigation by social historians and scholars of literary and visual culture. The McMullen will focus on the range of social classes and Irish "things" illustrated in such images.

Covering the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth century, *Rural Ireland: The Inside Story* will offer a selection of paintings that depicts how ordinary families prepared food, arranged their homes, produced textiles, worshipped, mourned, conducted business, and entertained themselves. Included in the display of approximately fifty works will be four outstanding paintings from the National Gallery of Ireland: Frederic William Burton's *The Arran Fisherman's Drowned Child*, John George Mulvany's *A Kitchen Interior*, Aloysius O'Kelly's *Mass in a Connemara Cabin*, and Harry Jones Thaddeus's *The Wounded Poacher*. The Crawford Art Gallery is lending many examples of rural interiors from its collection, including major works by James Brenan.

Other images will come from the National Library of Ireland, the National Gallery of Scotland, the Ulster Museum, and a range of smaller private and public collections. In addition to oil paintings and watercolors, the curators have gathered a selection of objects that replicate those depicted in the works of art in the exhibition, for example, settle beds, dressers, dishes, baskets, trunks, musical instruments, and religious items. Also on display will be artifacts unearthed at an archeological dig of a Famine cabin in Roscommon and manuscripts from Boston College's Burns Library. The exhibition's goal is to contribute to the growing dialogue within both the University and the wider scholarly community about the key role of the visual arts in the study of Irish culture and history.

In anticipation of *Rural Ireland: The Inside Story*, Boston College earlier hosted a 2009 symposium of invited speakers; participants included art historian Claudia Kinmonth, cultural archeologist Charles Orser, and Peter Murray, Director of Cork City's Crawford Art Gallery. In the spring of 2011, two Irish Studies faculty members, Kevin O'Neill and Vera Kreilkamp, co-taught HS247/EN514, *Irish Material Culture, 1770-1950*, exploring a central focus of the forthcoming exhibition with Boston College students. In Spring 2012, the same instructors will offer an interdisciplinary course, *Rural Ireland: The Inside Story*, using the exhibition itself as a central text.

## Special Irish Art Exhibit to Make Its American Debut at Boston College

Beginning in November during the week of the 14th through mid-January, the Burns Library will be the venue for a special Irish art exhibit entitled *Burst the Heart Open*, sponsored by the Center for Irish Programs

and the Office of the University Librarian. The exhibit, scheduled to tour different cities in both Ireland and the United States, includes some thirty-three paintings from the collection administered by the Office of Public Works (OPW) in Dublin. People familiar with Irish art holdings will know that the OPW has, among its many remits, responsibility for a vast inventory of many thousands of Irish artworks and historical artifacts.

Supported by a generous subsidy from "Culture Ireland," nearly the full cost for the exhibit's American tour will be borne by that agency. It is the intent of "Culture Ireland" to acquaint both Irish and American audiences with a select and diverse number of works by contemporary Irish artists, like Louis Le Broquy, while also featuring a selection of paintings by a few of the iconic traditional Irish artists, such as Paul Henry, and Jack B. Yeats. In addition, a Burns Library exhibition committee under the direction of Conservator Barbara Adams Hebard will augment the thirty-three Irish paintings with a supplement of Irish works taken from the Burns's own holdings that comport with the designated theme of the exhibit.

Included among the latter are paintings by Robert George Kelly, Michael Augustin, Power O'Malley, Frank McKelvey, Miceál Ó Nualláin, Margaret Clarke, John Lavery, and Jack Butler Yeats. In addition to these in-house holdings, there will be published synopses on selected pieces displayed in illuminated glass casings that will contextualize the exhibit for attendees wishing to learn more about the artists and these particular works.

Among the paintings coming from Ireland are Brian Bourke's *James Joyce*, Patrick Collins's *Virgin River*, Grace Henry's *Study*, Paul Henry's *The Purple Sea*, Sean Mac Sweeney's *Bog Pool*, Roderic O'Connor's *Little Boat in a Harbour*, Mary Swanzy's *Irish Landscape*, Nancy Wynne-Jones' *The White Gateway*, and Jack Butler Yeats's *The Ferry, Early Morning*.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

If you would like to subscribe to a periodic listing of Irish Studies events, news, conferences, educational opportunities, and jobs

please send your request to: [irish@bc.edu](mailto:irish@bc.edu) • tel: 617-552-6396 • [www.bc.edu/irishstudies](http://www.bc.edu/irishstudies)



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## Fall 2011 Burns Lecture

Co-sponsored by the Center's Irish Studies program and Burns Library Irish Collections, the first of our two biannual Burns Lectures will be presented by Professor Dermot Keogh on Wednesday, November 16 at 4 p.m. in the Thompson Room of the Burns Library. A reception will follow.

The title for this talk is *Ireland and the Holy See in the Twentieth Century: A Special Relationship*. Among Professor Keogh's dozen monographs is his highly acclaimed 1986 Cambridge University Press book

entitled *The Vatican, the Bishops, and Irish Politics, 1919-1939*. His talk draws upon research conducted at the Vatican archives, as well as in Rome and elsewhere, over the past couple decades. It promises to be a revelatory and timely presentation.

## News Note

Dublin City University historian, Daithí Ó Corraín, who is the Irish based editor for the *Irish Literary Supplement*, joined the Boston College-Ireland board of directors in August 2011.

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## BOSTON COLLEGE CENTER FOR IRISH PROGRAMS

The Boston College Center for Irish Programs is headquartered in Connolly House on the University's main campus in Chestnut Hill. The Center includes BC's Irish Studies Program, the Irish Institute, Boston College Ireland on St. Stephen's Green in Dublin, and the Burns Library's Irish Collections.

In addition to providing administrative support and program coordination for each of these units, the Center also serves as an umbrella under which any Irish-related activities on each of the Boston College campuses may obtain resource assistance.

*Irish Studies* is edited by Joan Reilly.

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