

CAIS NEWSLETTER

Canadian Association for Irish Studies

Spring/Summer 2005

Newsletter Editor: Sean Farrell

From the Desk of the President

Friends, Mes amis, A chairde —

I sure hope that everyone is doing well, and gearing up for a good summer. I wanted to make a few quick notes to update folks about the elections, *Canadian Journal of Irish Studies / Revue canadienne d'études irlandaises*, and our upcoming conference in Maynooth.

Well, two rounds of nominations for the executive have come and gone. As I reported last time, Patricia O'Leary was nominated as a member-at-large during the first round, and was acclaimed. Since we had gotten no nominations for the second spot as member-at-large, or for President or Secretary-Treasurer, the deadline for nominations was extended to 5 January 2005. During that second round, we got a nomination for Kel Morin-Parsons for member-at-large. Based in Ottawa, Kel works full-time for the Aid to Scholarly Publications Programme and is also active in Ottawa's Irish community, having served on the board of Tara Players. We're tickled to have her as part of the executive.

Unfortunately, we received no nominations for President or for Secretary-Treasurer. The best solution we could come up with was for me to serve as another year as President; Danine Farquharson has also agreed to serve for another year as Secretary-Treasurer. At the AGM in Maynooth, we'll strike another nominations committee and trust that they will find some good nominees for these posts.

Speaking of Maynooth, Jason King is doing a great job getting that event organised. The deadline for paper submissions is 15 April 2005, so potential presenters, sharpen up those abstracts! We are also hoping to have good graduate student participation, and really want to encourage younger scholars to come present their work. We really hope to be able to offer some financial help to students (although we can't promise anything just yet!).

By now, everyone should have received the special issue of *Canadian Journal of Irish Studies* devoted to the 19th century (if you didn't, just drop me an email at jerry.white@ualberta.ca or give me a call at 780.492.0121). Julia Wright did great work as guest-editor on that issue, and we are really grateful to her for that. The journal has two more special issues coming up, one edited by the Culture of the Cities project and one on Irish-Canadian perspectives edited by Jason King and Kevin James. After that, we will resume general issues.

Well, that's about it. We really are looking forward to seeing folks in Maynooth, and hope to hear from you on feedback for the journal, Irish activities that could be included in the newsletter, and all matters Hibernian.

CAIS 2005 Maynooth

Registration forms are available on the CAIS website. If you want a paper copy post-office mailed to you, please contact Danine at

efarquha@uwaterloo.ca

**DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION:
MAY 1st**

**Special Funding for the
Maynooth Conference: The
Ireland Fund Scholars**

Because of a most generous grant from the Ireland Fund of Canada, CAIS will be able to offer \$1250 scholarships to six graduate students from Canadian universities presenting papers at the Conference. Those selected for the scholarships will be designated "Ireland Fund Scholars" and identified as such in the programme. Graduate students should indicate their interest in the scholarships when they submit their abstracts to the conference. More information can be obtained from CAIS President Jerry White at jerry.white@ualberta.ca or 780.492.0121.

Stay tuned to www.irishstudies.ca for more conference details!

Halifax 2004

The Fall/Winter Newsletter failed to include a report on the CAIS conference held in Halifax in 2004. Entitled, "The Languages of Ireland," the conference featured a wide array of literary, linguistic and historical papers and was by any standard, a smashing success. This was due in large part to the hard work and vision of Pádraig O'Siadhail.

There are two possible explanations for this serious omission: 1) in his haste to wind up his old job in upstate New York and move half way across the continent, the newsletter editor forgot; or 2) the material was erased by overzealous U.S. customs officials eager to employ the various provisions of the Patriot Act to keep America safe. Please select whatever reason makes you feel better.

The 2004 conference will remain in many of our minds as exciting, thought-provoking, amazing fun and wonderfully organized. The CAIS executive extends their heartiest congratulations and thanks to Pádraig.

(Note: To any actual U.S. customs officials who may be reading this note, the above material is meant as a joke and is not designed to discredit the dedicated women and men who do so much to protect this country.)

Sex and the CAIS City?

Since there is no way I can top the actual story itself, this is a reprint from the *Globe and Mail* - Wednesday, January 26, 2005.

Peter Mansbridge in your bedroom?

No...well, maybe

FREDERICTON -- Sex, romance and passion are on the agenda today at the federal Liberals' winter retreat, where MPs are divided by issues of same-sex marriage and ballistic missile defence.

Liberal caucus chairman and New Brunswick MP Andy Savoy wanted to add a little more excitement to the week's agenda for the spouses. In addition to a walking tour of the frigid capital and a tour of the art gallery, he went out and found two former Liberal association presidents -- a couple of lovely, grey-haired ladies -- who practise the ancient Chinese art of feng shui.

So while the MPs debate and berate Prime Minister Paul Martin today on his view of gay marriage, the women -- **Ann Brennan**, 65, and Dawn Lockwood, 75, as well as their friend and fellow Liberal, 72-year-old **Patricia O'Leary-Coughlan** -- will conduct a two-hour seminar for the Grit spouses on how to bring more passion and promise into their lives and the politicians in their lives.

Called "From the bedrooms to the boardrooms," the Liberal ladies will be telling the political spouses that moving

your couch or, better yet, your bed to face the right direction can make a difference in the success of your political career.

Feng shui is all about balance and energy and symbols. For example, do not, they say, have your bed facing the door. That symbolizes death in that your feet are going out the door.

For her part, Ms. Lockwood will ask the spouses to visualize their bedrooms and then explain which way to place their beds for the maximum benefit of passion and rest based on the year of their birth. She will also note that having a picture of another woman in the room is a no-no. "It's another woman in your bedroom . . . it's symbolic [that] she could come between you."

Ms. Brennan also advises to get rid of the television, saying you don't want to be "fighting all those Iraqi wars in your bedroom at night." ("I don't want Peter Mansbridge in my bedroom," Ms. Brennan added. "Well, maybe I do.") Ms. Lockwood said that the television could cause "infidelity." Red is the colour of passion and should be in anyone's bedroom, although Ms. Lockwood says she has opted for "pale pink" since she's now 75 and her husband is 80. As well, the southwest corner of the room is the most romantic and should be dressed up with soft lights and crystals.

The Liberal women are entertaining, but they are also committed environmentalists who believe that finding balance in life is the key to happiness and success. And that's what they want to impart to the political partners. Clutter is a dirty word to them, and they argue that politics is a demanding business and they want to help the political spouse find some balance.

Balance and politics...good luck with that one!

News from the Centre for Canadian Irish Studies

Founded in 2002 with the support of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation and Concordia University, the Centre for Canadian Irish Studies now offers two multi-disciplinary programs in Canadian Irish Studies, a Minor and a Certificate. The endowed Chair in Canadian Irish Studies is based at Concordia, and is held by Michael Kenneally who also serves as Director of the Centre. Over the past several years, a wide range of courses were offered in various departments. These included the departments of English, History, Geography, Theology, Economics, Classics, Modern Languages and Literatures, Art History, Political Science, as well as the Simone de Beauvoir Institute.

For the coming academic year, courses will include Contemporary Irish Literature, James Joyce, The Making of the Irish Landscape, Celtic Christianity, the Politics of Irish Nationalism and History of Ireland. Introduction to Irish Studies, which is being taught in the current session, will be offered again this fall. Introduction to Irish Film will be offered for the first time in the Winter 2006 session, as will a graduate course titled Irish Identities in Canadian Novels and Life Writings.

In addition to coordinating courses from several departments, the Centre offers more than \$15,000 annually in scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students, and sponsors a public lecture series. Some of the distinguished speakers included Dr. Garrett FitzGerald, former Prime Minister of Ireland; Henry Glassie, folklorist (Indiana University), Liam Harte (University of Manchester); Brian Graham (University of Ulster at Coleraine), and Booker nominated Irish novelist Colm Tóibín.

In the summer of 2004, the Centre organized IRELAND ON THE ST. LAWRENCE which comprised academic courses, public

lectures, a film series, a guided tour to Grosse Île and a musical concert that demonstrated the close bonds between Irish and Quebecois music. The courses were Exile, Literature and Irish Writing, The Long-Term Impact of the Irish Famine; Irish and Quebecois Music: Influences and Developments and The Irish in Nineteenth-Century Montreal. The lectures were given by Kevin Whelan (Director, Keough Institute for Irish Studies, University of Notre Dame); Desi Wilkinson (University of Limerick); Lorrie Blair, Rhona Richman Kenneally, Michael Kenneally, and Patricia Thornton (faculty members at Concordia University). The concert was coordinated by renowned Irish musician Desi Wilkinson, who also taught the course on Irish and Quebecois music. Ireland on the St. Lawrence was generously funded by Historica, Canadian National, the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation, the Montreal International Celtic Festival, Parks Canada and Concordia University.

In Fall 2004, the O'Brien Visiting Scholar in Irish Studies was inaugurated with the arrival of Dr. Yvonne Whelan (University of Ulster) who taught two geography courses: Dublin Through Space and Time and Interrogating Cultural Landscapes of Ireland. While at Concordia, Dr. Whelan gave a public lecture titled Carving the Past in Space and Stone: Commemorating Ireland's Pasts.

For Fall 2005, the O'Brien Visiting Scholar, Dr. Sean Farrell (Northern Illinois University) will teach courses in the History Department entitled *The Making of the Irish Diaspora* and *The History of Northern Ireland*. In the future, the O'Brien Visiting Scholar will be based in alternate years in the English and History Departments.

If you would like more information on the activities of the Centre or the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation, visit our website at <http://artsandscience.concordia.ca/irish> or phone 514 848-8711.

Summer Schools

The Synge Summer School makes a welcome return this summer, under the directorship of Dr Anthony Roche (University College Dublin). The week-long series of events includes lectures by Declan Kiberd, Anne Fogarty, Robert Tracey, Adrian Frazier, Mary C King, Paul Murphy, and Melissa Sihra. There will also be readings by Marina Carr and Brendan Kenneally. The summer school's website includes further information, with details on accommodation, registration, and photographs of the area in which the school takes place.

The Synge Summer School

26 June - 2 July

Wicklow

<http://www.wicklow.ie/syngesummerschool/>

Brian Rainey sends his greetings from sunny, cold and snowy Regina, and a message about the O'Neill Summer School, a new venture. Interested parties should visit the organisers' website found below:

The O'Neill Summer School

<http://www.oneillsummerschool.com/>

Shane's Castle, Co. Antrim

June 15-18, 2005

The Ninth Annual Trieste Joyce School

26 June - 2 July 2005

University of Trieste

Trieste Joyce School, Dipartimento di Letterature Straniere, Comparatistica e Studi Culturali, Università di Trieste, Androna Campo Marzio, 10 - 34123 Trieste

Director: Renzo S. Crivelli

Vice Director: John McCourt

Email: mccourt@units.it

Fax: --39040 5584382

www.univ.trieste.it/nirdange/school/index.html

Set in beautiful Trieste, the conference will feature an incredible array of speakers, afternoon seminars including a special

"Making Manuscripts Speak" seminar on genetic approaches to Joyce (led by Geert Lernout and Michael Groden) plus a busy social program. Finally, a variety of full and partial scholarships are available for students. Interested parties should check the website for further information.

The UCD International Summer School will take place this year from June 29th to July 15. Interested parties should contact:

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IASIL NEWS

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Books on Traveller life and literature have just been launched at the University of Limerick.

<http://www.ul.ie/~library/publications.html>

CONFERENCES

– more than thirty Irish Studies conference for 2005/2006

<http://www.iasil.org/newsletter/confs.html>

NEW COURSE

Queen's University, Belfast has launched a new MA in Irish Theatre and Culture

<http://www.iasil.org/links/centres.html>

NEW LINKS

The links section has recently been added to. Included are more theatre links, links for Irish language resources, and information about the TRASNA project, an online bibliography of Irish literature in translation from earliest times to the present.

<http://www.iasil.org/links/>

Membership forms for 2005 -
<http://www.iasil.org/membership/>
Irish Studies Jobs, publication opportunities,
and more news -
<http://www.iasil.org/newsletter/>

Proceedings of IASIL 2003 (Debrecen) and IASIL 2000 (Bath) now available to purchase
<http://www.iasil.org/newsletter/pub.html>

Call for Papers

We invite papers on any aspect of English and American culture, literature, politics and society of the Long Eighteenth Century (1660-1800) for the 2006/2 issue of the Hungarian Journal of English and American Studies. Especially welcome will be papers which are relevant to the following: the institution of literature, theories of translation, Hungarian translation and reception, new directions in narrative forms, gender and the literary marketplace, politics and narrative, theories of the novel, Anglo-Irish literature in the eighteenth century, the Scottish Enlightenment, arguments in verse, verse and epic narrative. Conforming to the latest MLA style with inside references keyed to the Works Cited section, a hard and a soft copy of the contributions should be sent to the guest editors by 30 October 2005. In accordance with the policy of the journal, the papers will be read by two referees to decide about their acceptance for publication. An abstract of the contribution should be sent to the guest editors by 30 June 2005. Authors would be informed about the acceptance of their offer within a month. HJEAS is more than happy to send out requests for review copies of relevant books published in 2004, 2005 or 2006. We need these data: author, title, publisher, publisher's address. We will forward such requests to the editor. Final deadline for requests: 30 April 2006. Final deadline for submitting reviews: 30 June 2006.

Guest editors:
Gabriella Hartvig (hartvig@btk.pte.hu)
Gabriella Vöo" (gabriell@btk.pte.hu)

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**IRISH RESEARCH COUNCIL FOR
THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL
SCIENCES PROJECT GRANTS**

**THE THOMAS MOORE HYPERMEDIA
ARCHIVE**

Positions available (2) for Doctoral
Researchers at the National University of
Ireland, Galway (2005-2008)

This project is funded by the Irish Research
Council for the Humanities and Social
Sciences. It is seeking to recruit two
researchers, each to undertake research
leading to the award of a PhD degree under
the supervision of the Project Director.
Assigned research tasks must begin in
September 2005, and be completed by
September 2008.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED

A minimum of a Second Class Honours,
Grade 1 primary degree (3.75 GPA) in a
relevant field. A Master's degree or other
postgraduate qualification is desirable.
Proven expertise in at least two of the
following areas is desirable for both
positions:

Bibliographical studies
Critical editing
Romanticism
Nineteenth-century Irish culture
Use of electronic mark-up languages
Digitisation of texts
Web-authoring and design

Some musical knowledge would also be an
advantage in the case of Doctoral
Researcher 1.

FUNDING

Each doctoral researcher will be provided
with a stipend of €12,700 annually for three
years, subject to terms and conditions. PhD
tuition fees for three years will be paid by
the project. Research facilities will be
provided by the Centre for the Study of
Human Settlement and Historical Change,
NUI, Galway.

Doctoral researchers will be expected to
participate in and contribute to the activities
of the Centre during the course of their
funding.

APPLICATION

To apply for one of the positions, please
send an academic CV detailing your
qualifications to the Project Director before
1 April 2005, including the names of two
academic referees. An interview may form
part of the assessment process. For further
information or discussion contact the Project
Director:

Dr Sean Ryder
Department of English
National University of Ireland, Galway
Tel. +353-(0)91-493009
email sean.ryder@nuigalway.ie

PLEASE CONTACT US...

If you have any news about the people, ideas
and projects that make the Irish Studies
community in Canada and abroad, please
contact the newsletter editor at:

Sfarrell@niu.edu

Thanks again, and I'll see you in Maynooth!