

Nótaí Taighde

Research Notes

Vol./Iml. 1, No./Uimh. 4

CUNY IIAS

November/Samhain 2004

Up coming Institute events

We will be hosting the following lectures in the coming weeks:

“The Great Irish Famine: a historical account of famine immigration” by Prof. M. Mulrooney on Wed. November 3rd at 7pm in CUNY Graduate Center, 365 5th Ave. Room C202.

"Irish Studies, Digital Humanities and the fluid text" The Thomas MacGreevy Archive. A lecture with Prof. Susan Schreibman of University of Maryland on advantages and strategies to digitization on Wed. November 10th at 7pm in Queens College, President's Conf. room #1 Rosenthal Library.

Film Series of Movies directed by the New Irish featuring “2X4” directed by Jimmy Smallhorne on Wed. November 17th at 7pm in Baruch College, Bernie West Theatre, 9th Floor 17 Lexington Ave.

“Matthias O’Conway 1766-1842: Ireland’s contribution to Spanish Teaching in the United States” by Dr. David Barnwell of The Linguistic Institute of Ireland on Wed. December 1st at 7pm in Lehman College, Atrium, 2nd Floor , Lehman Library

Tour and Lectures in Ireland

We are organizing a tour and lectures in Ireland focused on the Great Irish Famine from Sunday 24th April to Saturday 30th April 2005. (NYCDOE Spring Recess) \$1,500 includes 6 nights B+B at Markree Castle Hotel In-state graduate tuition (3 credits). Lectures on the famine will be held in the hotel and excursions will be organized to places of interest including Strokestown Famine Museum, Ulster-American Folk Park,

Turlough House Country Life Museum, famine graveyards and workhouses. Deadline for reserving a place: 15th Dec 2004. Prof. Martin Burke will be leading the group assisted by Elaine Ní Bhraonáin.

Maureen Murphy’s lecture

On Wednesday October 27th we hosted a lecture by Prof. Maureen Murphy entitled The Great Irish Famine Curriculum. Prof. Murphy was the project director for the curriculum development. In her lecture she explained different aspects of the project and its use in the State and also gave an insight into Ireland before, during and after the Famine.

ACIS Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference

Many of our paths crossed a week ago at Princeton University where the annual ACIS Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference was held. Mary McGlynn of Baruch College and Eric Falci of Graduate Center were CUNY presenters in the schedule. There was an wide offering themes linking Ireland and the New World in the schedule. In addition to Prof. McGlynn’s paper which focused on “Contemporary Irish constructions of Latin America,” other papers touched on Ireland/Jamaica comparisons, Irish-American attitudes on Irish wartime neutrality, Irish-American literature, Yeats in America, American tourism in Ireland, and Film and Irish America. The two-day conference ended with a banquet and céilí featuring music by Irish and Irish-American artists.

People in the News

The Evening with Billy Collins and Frank McCourt at Graduate Center organized by the Lehman College Foundation was a great success. Over \$20,000 were raised for The Billy Collins Scholarship. Also in the

newspapers this past month was the news of Billy Collins’s latest award, the Mark Twain Award for humorous poetry. This was one of the honors that The Poetry Foundation in Chicago awarded October 6, 2004 related to their recent Lilly endowment.

Catherine McKenna has agreed to serve as acting chair of the CUNY Institute for Irish-American Studies Advisory Board. Prof. McKenna has been an advisory board since its inception in 2000.

Grant Opportunities

The Fall ACIS Newsletter posted a Call for Proposals related to conferences and symposia in Irish Studies. The amount of support is indicated as \$500 and it is expected that six awards will be made. Requests should be directed to ACIS President John Harrington at harrij2@rpi.edu .

The IACI/NUI Visiting Fellowship in Irish Studies provides researchers with a \$13,000 stipend, transportation costs, office space at the National University of Ireland-Galway, and Visiting Professor status. The deadline for the next grant cycle is **December 31, 2004**. See <http://www.iaci-usa.org/fellowship.html> .

Celtic Scholars Needed

Dr. Seamus Blake announced on his radio program October 23rd that he is seeking the assistance of fellow scholars in the bibliographic reporting of Celtic books and articles for the MLA International Bibliography. While Dr. Blake has been responsible for material published in Irish, he is seeking scholars to aid with publications in other Celtic languages. For more information, listen to his October 23, 2004 program (<http://www.wfuv.org>) or contact him at seamusblake@wfuv.org .

Institute Grant Watch

The Institute is anxiously waiting on the results and feedback of several grant applications. We expect to hear the results of the NEH grant entitled "Publishing in Irish America Project" in December. If successful, this grant would permit the Institute and Lehman Library to lead the way with preserving 2,000 brittle books published by Irish-American presses between 1820-1922. In addition to our own holdings, volumes at Boston College, College of the Holy Cross, and Iona College would be preserved.

In the past month, we have also submitted a pre-proposal for the US

Department of Education for funding to support developing a distance education model to provide in-service training to teachers using state mandated human rights curricula. Many states have adopted the Great Famine as part of such curricula and therefore we would like to provide support to New York State teacher as well as teachers nationally using such curricula.

We also submitted a CUNY Faculty Development Grant Proposal to hold a symposium related to the digitization of languages other than English. We have invited representatives of other digitization projects including

University College Cork (Irish), University of Pittsburgh (Chinese), and Cornell University (Icelandic). Barbra Buckner Higginbotham of Brooklyn College will also speak. Save the date of Friday, February 25, 2005 (Lehman College).

Announcement

The 7th Annual Grian Conference will be held from March 4-6, 2005 at Glucksman Ireland House at New York University. The theme this year is "Ireland and Race: Recent events in Ireland." One page abstracts can be sent to Ireland.grian@nyu.edu by **December 1, 2004**.

News Summary for Researchers of Irish America

There was quite a bit news in the press this past month related to **immigration and Irish America**. It was reported in the Irish Echo 9/29 (p. 5) that the Irish government has substantially increased its aid to immigration centers including several here in NYC. News also in the Irish Echo (10/6, p. 7) reported on the opening of 2006 round of Schumer visa applications starting Nov. 5, 2005. This year only 280 applicants were informed of their eligibility, the lowest in three years. The Schumer visas, or Diversity Visa Lottery, provide one with the much sought after green card.

A two awards were noted in the past few weeks. Boston-born **Irish traditional musician Joe Derrane** was awarded one of the 2004 National Endowment of the Arts' National Heritage Fellowships on September 29th at the Library of Congress. He is an accomplished button accordion player recognized internationally for his talent and skill (Irish Echo, 10/6, pp. 26-27). **Adrian Flannelly, a well-know radio personality** in Irish New York, was awarded the *New York Post* Liberty Medal for Freedom October 7th at Gracie Mansion. Through his radio program, he has helped thousands of immigrants as well as alerting others to their needs. (Irish Voice 10/13, p. 8).

NOVA aired a new documentary entitled *The Most Dangerous Woman in America* telling the story of Mary Mallon or **Typhoid Mary** on October 12th. The documentary is based on the work of Prof. Judith Walzer Leavitt of the University of Wisconsin. For more information, see <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/typhoid/> (*Irish America* Magazine, Oct./Nov. 2004, pp. 22-23).

Recent Acquisitions

The CUNY IIAS Archives has acquired three copies of the New York State *Great Irish Famine Curriculum*. We have placed one copy on reserve at the Lehman College Library. There are two other copies at the Institute. Please contact Elaine Ní Bhraonáin if you would like to borrow a copy.

Nótaí Taighde/Research Notes is an in-house monthly publication for CUNY faculty, staff, administrators, and research students. Please send items for inclusion by the 25th of the month to cunyiiias@lehman.cuny.edu

November

2004

Mí na Samhna

Sunday <i>Dé Domhnaigh</i>	Monday <i>Dé Luain</i>	Tuesday <i>Dé Mairt</i>	Wednesday <i>Dé Céadaoin</i>	Thursday <i>Déardaoin</i>	Friday <i>Dé hAoine</i>	Saturday <i>Dé Sathairn</i>
	1	2	3 Grad Center Prof Mulrooney Famine Immigration 7PM Room C202	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Queens College Prof. Schreibman Digital Irish Studies 7PM Conf. Room 1 Rosenthal Library	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Baruch College 7pm Prof. McGlynn Film Series: "2X4" Bernie West Theatre 17 Lexington Ave	18	19	20
21	22	23 Lehman College Irish Language Conversation Circle 7PM Carman Café	24	25 CUNY Closed	26 CUNY Closed	27 CUNY Closed
28 CUNY Closed	29	30	1 Lehman College Dr. Barnwell Matthias O'Conway 7PM Atrium 2 nd Floor Library	December Dates to Remember Dec 1 – Lecture by Dr. Barnwell on the Irish and Spanish language teaching in the US. Dec 14 – Irish Language Conversation Circle 7PM at Lehman C. Dec 15 – Deadline for Spring Recess Famine Tour and Lectures Registration (3 Credit Graduate Course)		

CUNY INSTITUTE FOR IRISH-AMERICAN STUDIES

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