

Autumn '22

AHSS Newsletter



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Dean's Welcome

Welcome to the AHSS Autumn Faculty Newsletter

Dear Colleagues,

I am delighted to share the latest edition of the Faculty Newsletter with you, documenting such sustained excellence across our disciplines.

The newsletter details a rich mix of engagements and achievements. Our staff, for example, have been recognised for their leadership in curriculum development, teaching excellence and research scholarship. Examples of these endeavours include our curriculum development with An Garda Síochána, our faculty members being shortlisted for regional teaching excellence awards and the wide range of individual funding successes documented throughout this newsletter.

Our sense of civic engagement remains very strong through our impactful research but also in our connections to local and national networks. Examples of this community engagement include our support of the integration of displaced persons from the Ukraine into Limerick and the launch of the Irish Travellers' Access to Justice Report.

It is also exciting to see our research scholarship continuing to flourish with funding successes in diverse areas such as the Arts and Data Literacy, Political Parties and Climate Change and the legal recognition of LGBTQI+ parent families in Ireland, to name just a few.

Our internationalisation agenda is being actively pursued, including our Indonesian ISPhD programme and the initiative to support female judges from Afghanistan to return to education in Ireland.

I remain deeply impressed by the continued dynamism that is evident in the pursuit of knowledge and cultural exchanges in the Faculty, particularly in relation to the hosting of wonderful events. These engagements consist of workshops, seminars, concerts, festivals, cultural exchanges and more. Examples include the UL Creative Writing Festival, the Annual North-South Criminology Conference and the IASIL Conference on Intersectional Irelands, amongst others.

Our students also continue to impress across a range of pursuits, including launching the Ogham Stone literary journal, performances in music and dance productions and success in scholarship awards.

Though only a snapshot in time, this Newsletter, I believe, evidences the exceptional quality of our staff and students. I am extremely grateful to all who contributed to it, and especially to Oonagh Grace and Cillian Foley who worked so hard to put it together.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a productive and successful semester.

Warm regards,

Dr. Sandra Joyce
Executive Dean (Interim), Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences



Dr. Sandra Joyce
Interim Executive Dean, Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences



Lumen - The Music of Mícheál Ó Súilleabháin

The National Symphony Orchestra, in association with the University of Limerick and in collaboration with the family of the late Prof. Mícheál Ó Súilleabháin, proudly paid tribute to Mícheál Ó Súilleabháin with *Lumen: A Celebration of the Light* in Dublin and Limerick in September. Guest soloists include Iarla Ó Lionáird, Mel Mercier, Mike McGoldrick and an ensemble of UL & UCC students, honouring Mícheál's lasting legacy at both institutions.

The National Concert Hall honoured Mícheál with its 2022 Lifetime Achievement Award. Mícheál was the Founding Director of the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance at the University of Limerick.

Faculty office staff appointments



Úna McInerney joined AHSS as Faculty Manager at the end of August. She joins us from her previous role as UL Programme Manager for the PPI Ignite Network, where she worked with national and local partners to develop capacity for public and patient involvement (PPI) in health and social care research in Ireland.



Rina Carr has been appointed to the new role of Strategic Development Manager in the Faculty. Key areas of responsibility within this role include staff development, curriculum development initiatives, strategic engagement and overview of key stakeholder funding relationships and the development of clear and transparent key performance indicators around Faculty activities.



New Cultural Partnership between UL and Silkroad

The launch of the new cultural partnership between UL and Silkroad, the global musical ensemble founded by cellist and cultural ambassador Yo-Yo Ma took place recently at Harvard University in Boston, US, with a series of workshops exploring the stories and songs of Irish railroad workers, followed by a performance featuring artists from Silkroad and UL.

The artistic and educational collaboration will provide UL students with the unique opportunity to participate in the creation of a new theatre work exploring the history, cultures, and music of the immigrant communities who built the American Transcontinental Railroad. The resulting piece will be a crucial component of The American Railroad, Silkroad's multi-year concert, educational, and commissioning series led by Artistic Director Rhiannon Giddens, the Grammy-award winning musician who is artist-in-residence at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance at UL. For more, see silkroad.org.

AHSS academics publish undergraduate Sociology textbook

A team of UL lecturers led by Dr. Martin J. Power (Dept. of Sociology) have just published a new textbook called *Understanding Irish Society: Critical Sociological Perspectives*. Published by Norton Books, the book will be bundled with their best-selling textbook *Terrible Magnificent Sociology* by Lisa Wade. The book features the work of Dr. Martin Power, Prof. Eoin Devereux, Dr. James Carr, Dr. Aileen Dillane, Dr. Majka Ryan, Dr. Denis Maher and Dr. Sindy Joyce.

The book includes a wide range of activities to promote critical thinking amongst first year students. *Understanding Irish Society* shows how Ireland has rapidly transformed from an underdeveloped, repressed and dependent society to one of the most globalised and increasingly secular societies in the world. While the book acknowledges that many of the changes in Irish Society are to be welcomed, they are not without their tensions or costs. Irish Society has become more diverse and liberal but deeply entrenched inequalities persist. This new book will be used in undergraduate teaching at UL and in several other Irish universities.



An Garda Síochána Graduation: BA Applied Policing

A celebratory event for An Garda Síochána graduates from the BA in Applied Policing programme was held on the University of Limerick campus on the 16th September. The event was held in the Kemmy Business School and was for the 1,835 Garda who graduated from UL in-absentia due to the COVID-19 pandemic. UL Provost and Deputy President Prof. Shane Kilcommins welcomed representatives from the Garda College and graduates from the BA in Applied Policing.

The purpose of the event was to acknowledge their academic achievement having successfully completed their studies during the pandemic. Chief Superintendent Pat Murray, Superintendent Aidan Minnock and Superintendent Brian Murphy from Templemore Garda College were among those who attended the ceremony, together with Associate Vice President Student Engagement, Dr Patrick Ryan, Interim Executive Dean, Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (AHSS) Dr. Sandra Joyce and colleagues from the AHSS faculty.

Dr. Alan Cusack Contributes to Major National Review of Risk Custody Practices within An Garda Síochána

Dr. Alan Cusack (School of Law) was appointed to conduct a national review of An Garda Síochána's risk assessment practices with a particular focus on designing a revised Risk Assessment Form - C.84(A).

This review was commissioned pursuant to the Government's report, A Policing Service for our Future (2018).

The completion of this review addresses an important recommendation raised by the Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland (The Future of Policing in Ireland, 2018). At the time of writing, the findings from this review have been presented to the Strategic Human Rights Advisory Committee and they are expected to inform the design of new risk assessment protocols for all members of An Garda Síochána nationwide.

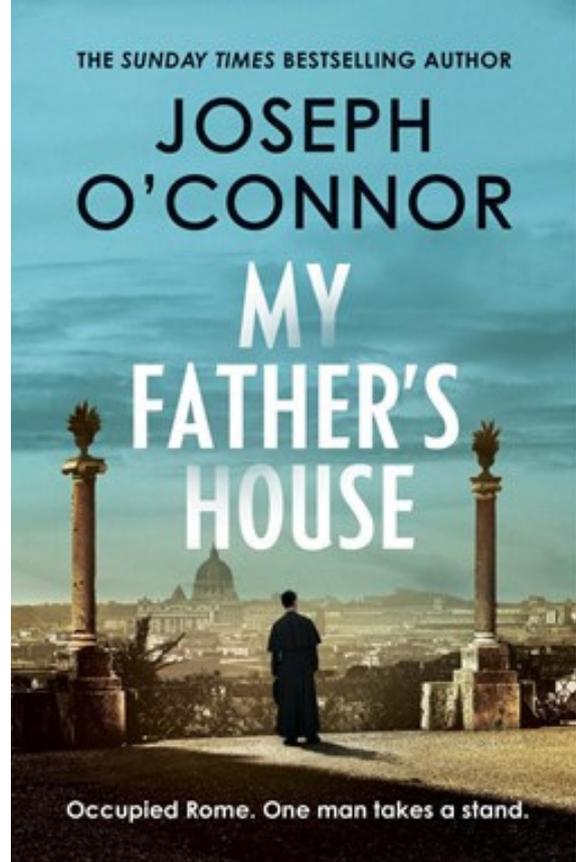


Dr. Conor Little: Article publication in Party Politics Journal

Dr. Conor Little (Dept. of Politics and Public Administration) in collaboration with Dr. Caroline Close and Thomas Legein in Université libre de Bruxelles, has published a new article in the Party Politics journal on the relationship between party organisation and election candidates' attitudes to representation.

The project uses data from the Political Party Database project (PPDB), a cross-national data collection project on how political parties are resourced and organised.

Dr. Conor Little's participation in the PPDB project was supported by the AHSS Research Fund, and research assistance was provided by Shane Reynolds (PhD student, Dept of Politics and Public Administration).

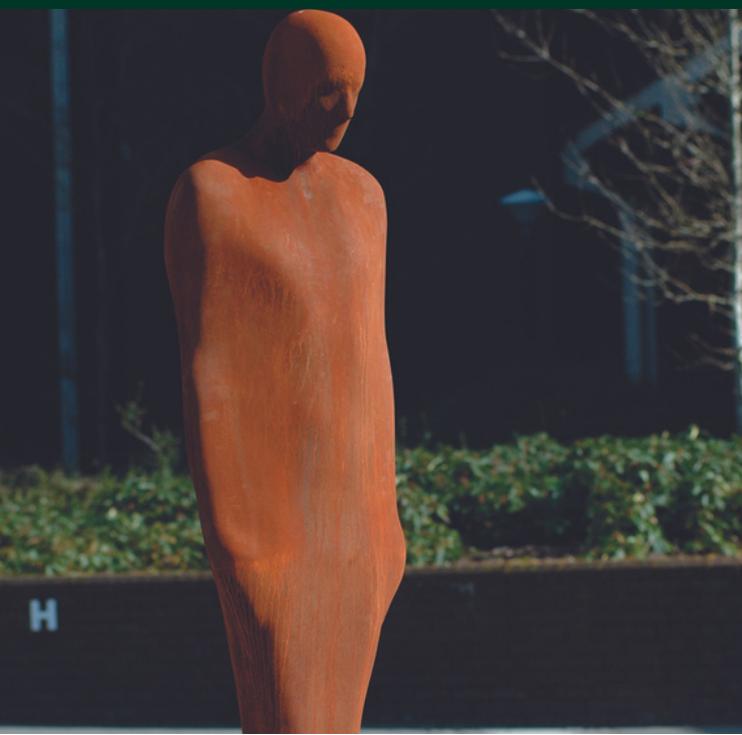


New Book: My Father's House

Prof. Joseph O'Connor's (School of English, Irish, and Communication) new book "My Father's House" is available to pre-order now.

The book is set in Nazi-occupied Rome in 1943 and details the story of An Irish priest, Fr. Hugh O'Flaherty who dedicates himself to helping those escaping from the Nazis. Here Hugh brings together an unlikely band of friends to hide the vulnerable under the noses of the enemy.

Based on an extraordinary true story, "My Father's House" is a powerful literary thriller from a master of historical fiction.





The American Ireland Funds AWB Vincent Literary Award to Prof. Joseph O'Connor

The Ireland Funds has presented Prof. Joseph O'Connor (School of English, Irish, and Communication) with The American Ireland Funds AWB Vincent Literary Award at a ceremony in Killarney as part of The Ireland Funds Worldwide Conference on the 16th June 2022, in recognition of his contribution to literature in Ireland. Previous winners of the award have included Seamus Heaney, Mary Lavin, Brian Friel, John Banville, Edna O'Brien and Eavan Boland, among others. The award also carries a monetary prize of \$25,000. Prof. Joseph O'Connor's internationally bestselling and critically acclaimed novels include 'Star of the Sea', 'Redemption Falls', 'Ghost Light' and 'Shadowplay'. A Sunday Times number one bestselling writer, he is the author of 21 books in addition to stage plays, film scripts, non-fiction works, poems and radio diaries. His work has been published in 40 languages.

Two AHSS faculty shortlisted for the Regional Teaching Excellence Award

Dr. Eleanor Giraud, (Irish World Academy of Music and Dance) and Dr. Florence Le Baron-Earle, (School of Modern Languages and Applied Linguistics), were shortlisted for this year's Regional Teaching Excellence Award. The Regional Teaching Excellence Award is a collaborative process between UL, MIC and TUS, which aims to showcase and champion outstanding practice in Higher Education teaching from across the Region.

The candidates were acknowledged for their "passion and dedication for their teaching and for student learning, and their admirable work and effort particularly considering the ongoing challenges. Both shortlisted candidates demonstrated strengths in various areas and there was excellent consideration for broader support of students and of UDL and Diversity & Inclusion across all the portfolios"





Blas International Summer School of Irish Traditional Music and Dance

The Blas International Summer School of Irish Traditional Music and Dance took place from the 20th of June to the 1st of July 2022, at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance.

Following on from the success of their 2021 virtual programme, this year saw the highly anticipated return of face-to-face tuition with the traditional two-week course programme. Blas, directed by Pamela Cotter, has firmly established itself as one of Ireland's most prestigious university accredited summer schools, drawing students from all over the world to spend two weeks gaining access to the expertise of some of Ireland's finest artists, which in previous years included Dónal Lunny, John Carty, Siobhán Peoples, Kevin Crawford, Louise Mulcahy, Karan Casey, Jim Higgins, Ryan Molloy, Colin Dunne, and Ciara Sexton, to name but a few.

In addition to expert tuition and masterclasses, the two-week programme includes a range of activities such as lectures and public seminars, Irish language classes, daily lunchtime concerts featuring Blas tutors, evening concerts, nightly sessions, céilithe, field trips, and above all, the unique opportunity to share tunes with some of Ireland's leading traditional musicians.



25th Anniversary for the Centre for Irish-German Studies

The Centre for Irish-German Studies celebrated its 25th year in existence with an Anniversary Conference, entitled “1997-2022: Reflecting – Connecting – Transforming - In Honour of Prof. Joachim Fischer”, which took place on the 22nd and 23rd September 2022 on campus and online.

The centre was established in September 1997 and encourages and supports research dealing with all aspects of Irish-German relations. The term ‘German’ in the Centre’s name is to be understood in a linguistic rather than a geographical sense.

As part of the anniversary celebrations a brochure has been produced entitled “The first 25 years – 1997-2022”, available [here](#).

IEEE International Professional Communication (ProComm) Conference

Dr. Darina Slattery (School of English, Irish and Communication), President of the IEEE Professional Communication Society, led the ProComm opening awards ceremony, which took place after a two-day meeting of ProComm board members. The annual ProComm conference attracts academics and industry practitioners from the fields of technical and professional communication, e-learning, and user experience (UX).

This year, the conference was held at UL from 17th - 20th July and was the first in-person conference since 2019, as the last two conferences were held online due to the pandemic. Attendance figures were high: 120 people attended the conference in-person and 51 attended in hybrid (live, online format). Attendees came from North America, Europe, and Asia. Dr. Slattery also presented a paper at the conference. Conference proceedings will be posted in IEEE Xplore.



Annual North-South Criminology Conference

The Centre for Crime, Justice and Victim Studies (CCJVS) hosted the Annual North-South Criminology conference on Friday, 16th September 2022. The conference theme was 'The Crime Experience Post Pandemic: Experiences and Practices'. The conference also featured a poster competition for PhD candidates. The North-South Criminology conference was organised by Dr. Susan Leahy (School of Law), Director of the CCJVS, and marks the first of a series of events celebrating the 25th anniversary of the centre.

History faculty speak at Heritage Week 2022

Members of the History Department were invited to speak at National Heritage Week (13th-21st August 2022). Kerry Historical and Archaeological Society invited Dr. Ciara Breathnach, Associate Professor in History, to present on the work of the Congested Districts Board between 1891 and 1923. When the Congested District Board (CDB) was established in 1891, the West of Ireland was suffering from varying degrees of relative and absolute poverty. As a result of its endeavours several households earned much needed cash incomes, which in turn had a profound impact on social life. An early example of a non-governmental organisation, it focused attention on household incomes and the improvement of living standards through agriculture, fisheries and cottage industries. This was its first in-person event since 2019.

Clonmel Library invited Dr. Rachel Murphy to run a workshop helping people to get started with tracing their family history. Using live demos, Rachel's talk entitled 'Exploring Your Past' introduced participants to some of the key online sources that can be used to start your own genealogical research.





UL Creative Writing Festival 2022

A highlight of early summer for all readers and book lovers, the UL Creative Writing Festival returned this year. The event took place from the 20th-22nd of May 2022, and featured a stellar line-up of international, award-winning writers including Roddy Doyle, Kit deWaal, Kevin Barry, Danielle McLaughlin, Dr. Donal Ryan, Joseph O'Connor, Louise Kennedy, Sebastian Barry, Sarah Moore Fitzgerald, poets Emily Cullen, Kayssie Kandiwa, Sean Hewitt, Rachael Hegarty, Jane Clarke to name a few. This year's Festival also included the launch of the 2022 edition of UL's literary journal *The Ogham Stone* and readings from our unique "Creative Writers In he Community" module, led by Prof. Eoin Devereux.

UL CREATIVE WRITING PRESENTS

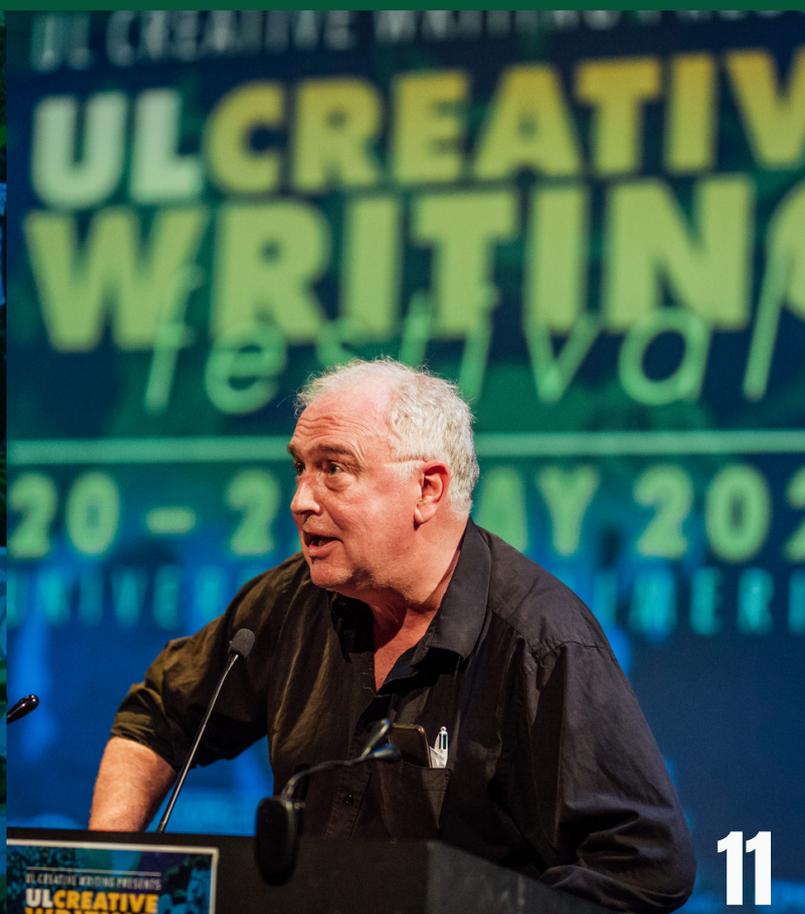
ULCREATIVE WRITING festival

20 - 22 MAY 2022
UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK

RODDY DOYLE • KIT DEWAAL
DONAL RYAN • LOUISE KENNEDY
SEBASTIAN BARRY • LISA MCINERNEY
KEVIN BARRY • DANIELLE MCLAUGHLIN
JOSEPH O'CONNOR • KAYSSIE KANDIWA
SARAH MOORE FITZGERALD • SEAN HEWITT
RACHAEL HEGARTY • EMILY CULLEN
CHIAMAKA ENYI-AMADI • JANE CLARKE
EOIN DEVEREUX • SHEILA KILLIAN

CREATIVE WRITERS IN THE COMMUNITY
OGHAM STONE LITERARY JOURNAL
PROSE POETRY TIPS TALKS
BOOK SIGNINGS GLUCKSMAN LIBRARY
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS TOUR
GETTING TO GRIPS WITH GOOD WRITING

ALL READINGS TAKE PLACE IN THE IRISH WORLD ACADEMY OF MUSIC AND DANCE, UL, NORTH CAMPUS FOR FULL PROGRAMME AND BOOKING VISIT UCH.IE
WEEKEND TICKETS: €35 CONCESSIONS: €20 (PLUS BOOKING FEE)



Illicit Network Conference

The Research Evidence into Policy, Programmes & Practice (REPPP) project team (School of Law) hosted a very successful 'Illicit Network Conference' (30th June-1st July). The prestigious line-up of Keynote speakers included: Prof. Dr. Edward Kleemans (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, the Netherlands), Dr David C Pyrooz (University of Colorado Boulder, US), and Prof Maura Conway (DCU, Ireland).

Colleagues interested in understanding illicit networks (including organised crime, cybercrime, trafficking, environmental crime) and social network analysis can find more information [here](#).



CPERN Conference

The Critical Political Economy Research Network of the European Sociological Association (CPERN) held their mid-term conference at the University of Limerick on the 22nd-23rd of July 2022. There were over 70 paper givers from Ireland, the UK, Europe, South America and East Asia. The new journal Global Political Economy was also launched at the conference. A

successful PhD training day was held the day before the conference. That was sponsored by the journal Capital & Class. As a member of CPERN's executive and as Managing Editor of Capital & Class, Prof. Owen Worth (Department of Politics & Public Admin) was the local representation. Thanks also to Elaine Berry for organising the event.





Aonad na Gaeilge-celebrating 21 years

A special event took place in September to mark 21 years of Aonad na Gaeilge, the Irish Language Centre at University of Limerick. As the University marks its fiftieth anniversary this year, the organisers were very lucky to have Liam Ó Dochartaigh, a stalwart in the history of the University - and Thomond College/NIHE - present to give a wonderfully rousing interview on his life and fond memories of UL. RIAN, a series of 21 short videos was also launched as part of the event. RIAN, meaning to leave a mark or trace, celebrates innovation and impact in teaching and learning, language support, research, and community engagement at Aonad na Gaeilge 2001-2022, and the growing support of University of Limerick for the Irish language. RIAN captures stories of some of those, who through their interactions with Aonad na Gaeilge, chose new directions in personal or professional lives – for example a change of occupation, becoming new speakers of Irish, deciding to raise children through Irish and so on. It also documents stories of well-being, growing confidence and belonging to a vibrant language community.

RIAN was produced by Dr. Deirdre Ní Loingsigh, Stiúrthóir na Gaeilge and Ciara Considine, Oifigeach Margaíochta and Riarthóir Feidhmiúcháin in conjunction with Crude Media. The RIAN series (21 videos) will be released from September 15 – December 15 on the [Aonad na Gaeilge Vimeo channel](#) and social media as part of the UL50 programme of events. The project is funded by HEA Special Provision for the Support of the Irish Language 2021.

Remembering Jim Kemmy

Prof. Eoin Devereux's (Dept. of Sociology) lecture on the life, labour and legacy of Limerick socialist and historian Jim Kemmy attracted a capacity audience at City Hall on September 23rd.



The audience heard Prof. Devereux from UL's Centre for the Study of Popular Music and Popular Culture examine Kemmy's formative influences, his activism in politics and trade unionism as well as his pioneering role as a local historian. He stressed Kemmy's radicalism, describing Kemmy's life-long socialism as being progressive and pragmatic. Prof. Devereux commented that as an editor, writer and curator, Jim Kemmy also devoted considerable stamina to promote an interest in Limerick's complex history.



Dr. Helen Phelan: IRC COALESCE Award

Prof. Helen Phelan's (Irish World Academy of Music & Dance) project has been selected as one of 21 research projects to receive a total investment of €4.9 million under the Collaborative Alliances for Societal Challenges (COALESCE) programme, the Irish Research Council has announced.

COALESCE brings together researchers from the arts and the sciences and Prof Phelan will work with Professor of Biomedical Statistics, Ailish Hannigan on a participatory project titled "The arts, data literacy and diversity (ADD)" exploring how the arts can be used to develop data literacy. This research will develop a project that shares songs and data, in partnership with communities from different cultural backgrounds and will combine the arts and statistics to explore the impact of musical sharing on how data is understood and interpreted. The project addresses the UN sustainable development goal of reducing inequality, as many people are excluded from the new world of data by language, poverty, lack of education, and discrimination.

Funding Award: Political Parties and Climate Change, Positions, Polarisation and Policy Relevance

Dr. Conor Little (Dept. of Politics & Public Administration) has been awarded funding as a partner on the project Political Parties and Climate Change: Positions, Polarisation and Policy Relevance (PARTYCLIM). The PI is Dr. Fay Farstad (CICERO Centre for Climate Research, Oslo) and the project will involve partners from the University of York, the University of California Santa Barbara, the University of Tasmania, and CICERO, Oslo.

It aims to address the lack of systematic and comparative data on political parties' climate change positions and to provide a comprehensive analysis of the role of political parties in climate politics.





The Virtual Exchange Project “Yes Lab (Youth Entrepreneurship for Society)”

Marta Fortes Saez, Associate Teacher , (School of Modern Languages and Applied Linguistics) received AHSS research funding to establish her project entitled the The Virtual Exchange Project “Yes Lab (Youth Entrepreneurship for Society)”. The aim of the project was to foster 21st century competencies (linguistic, intercultural, digital and teamwork) while developing social entrepreneurship. This project took place between business students learning Spanish in the University of Limerick and business students learning English in the University of Valencia, Spain. Students contacted real entrepreneurs from local companies based in Ireland and in Spain, asking questions related to the process of becoming an entrepreneur and the steps for identifying a need in the market in order to start a new business. The information collected was used to create a joint product or social initiative that they presented in the language classroom through Digital Storytelling.

Dr. Ger Coffey: Paper presentation-Annual International Conference on Law

In July 2022, Dr Ger Coffey (School of Law), member of the Centre for Crime, Justice, and Victim Studies, presented a paper entitled ‘Assessing the Contours of the Entrapment Defence in the Criminal Law’ at the Annual International Conference on Law organised by the Athens Institute for Education and Research (ATINER), Athens, Greece. The paper evaluated the common law procedural entrapment defence in comparative perspective with reference to seminal jurisprudence from major common law jurisdictions, and relevant ECtHR jurisprudence, which provided an interpretative analysis on evidential and procedural issues raised with the defence. The conference provided a unique opportunity to meet, hear and learn from distinguished experts, legal professionals, and academics from around the world. The exchange of ideas and constructively critical feedback on the hypothesis presented greatly informed the paper that will be published by Professor David Frenkel (Ed.), *Anthology of Law* (2022).





IASIL Conference on Intersectional Irelands

The 52nd annual conference of the International Association for the Study of Irish Literatures was hosted by the University of Limerick on July 20th-25th. Intersectional Irelands was the theme chosen by organisers Dr Tina O'Toole and Dr Sorcha de Brún (School of English, Irish, and Communication) for this year's conference, and keynote speakers included first-class scholars and writers. IASIL22 brought over 300 international delegates to campus, providing an opportunity to highlight the advantages of UL as a research destination for scholars, and Limerick as an excellent host city for literary events. True to its intersectional foundations, financial support came from the Faculty of Arts, Humanities, and Social Science, UL Arts Office, Aonad na Gaeilge, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion, the Glucksman Library, UL Foundation, UL50, the Centre for Irish-German Studies, UL Global, Ormston House, Limerick City and County Council, the Belltable Arts Hub, Narrative 4 and Wired FM. As the society's first in-person conference since 2019, IASIL22 elicited palpable excitement among international Irish studies delegates; delegations from Canada, Japan, Brazil, Mexico, Hong Kong, Germany, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, the USA, and Spain were in attendance, with Irish and UK departments well represented. IASIL22 began with a thought-provoking keynote by Professor Patricia Palmer, PI of the MACMORRIS IRC Laureate project at Maynooth University. Keynotes were also delivered by Professors Fiona McCann (on care in contemporary literature), Zélie Asava (on Black representations in Irish cinema), and Ríona Ní Fhrighil (on human rights in Irish language literature).

Highlights of the conference included Holy Show Productions' Alphabet of Birds at the Belltable, the spoken word evening with Sarah Clancy, Prof. Eoin Devereux, and Felispeaks at Dolan's, and the Irish Language Writers' Event at the Glucksman Library with Louis de Paor, Celia de Fréine, and Ciara Ní É. The conference concluded with a world-class showcase of UL writers & musicians at King John's Castle, which included internationally-renowned writers Lia Mills and Dr. Donal Ryan. Although intersectionality has long been a feature of Humanities scholarship, the uniqueness of IASIL22 was the range of research topics covered, from early modern studies to medical humanities, to global warming and sustainability. Conference organisers, with the support of the organising committee (Dr. Aileen Dillane, Dr. Jack Fennell, Dr. Tara Giddens, Dr. Michael Kelly, Dr. Christina Morin, and Dr. Tracy McAvinue), were hugely impressed by the wholehearted support of so many colleagues and departments in the university, not to mention the welcome given to the conference by city-based venues and heritage organisations.



Indonesian AHSS ISPhD students

In 2021, 19 academics from universities across Indonesia arrived in UL to undertake a two-month bridging programme, funded by the Indonesian Ministry of Education. The programme was jointly designed and delivered by UL academics in the Graduate School, TESOL/Linguistics and the ULLC and involved upskilling in general and academic English, research skills development, intercultural training, the development of a PhD proposal and the matching of the students with potential supervisors.

On their return to Indonesia, the group applied for government funded scholarships for PhD study in relation to their proposed research projects and all were successful, with 10 members of the group opting to return to UL to start their PhD research in September 2022. Of these, 7 will be entering the AHSS Faculty. The 7 due to start PhD research in AHSS will be entering the ISPhD programme. This will be the second cohort into this programme which was set up originally for PhD applicants from Algeria in 2019.

With a view to building on the new partnerships UL/AHSS is building with universities in Indonesia, in early July 2022 Dr. Angela Farrell, ADI-AHSS, and Michelle Daly, Associate teacher in TESOL/Linguistics visited the country and met with representatives from nine institutions, as well as with former PhD and MA students.

One of these is Rizki Amalia who is joining the Faculty from UPNVJ (Universitas Pembangunan National Veteran Jakarta). On the back of this visit to UPNVJ, vice rectors Dr. Prasetyo Hadi and Dr. Ria Maria Theresa from UPNVJ visited UL in September and met with representatives from UL Global, the various faculties and Provost Professor Shane Killcommins to discuss further collaboration between our two institutions going forward.



Supporting female judges from Afghanistan to return to education

On 1st September 2022, UL Provost, Prof. Shane Kilcommins together with Executive-Dean, AHSS (Interim) Dr. Sandra Joyce, Course Director of the LLM in Human Rights in Criminal Justice, Dr. Ger Coffey (School of Law) and Assistant Dean International AHSS, Dr. Angela Farrell welcomed a group of six, female judges from Afghanistan to the UL campus to mark their enrolment on the LLM programme. The judges were forced to flee Afghanistan when the Taliban took control of the country just over a year ago and have recently been resettled in Ireland.

Over the past three months, they have been preparing for entry to the LLM programme on a specially designed bridging programme. This has been delivered by teachers Zoe Lawlor and Elizabeth Shannon from the University of Limerick Language Centre, in conjunction with ISPhD students Kamilia Mebarki and Sarah Smail.

Integration of displaced persons from the Ukraine

Several community-based initiatives have also been developed by UL faculty and support staff to facilitate the integration of displaced persons from the Ukraine into Limerick and Ireland. This has included the delivery of English classes from the UL Access Campus site in Roxboro to more than five hundred displaced Ukrainian citizens who are currently residing in hotels and student villages in the city, organised by Andrea LaTouche Student Community Liaison Officer UL, in cooperation with Donal O'Leary Co-ordinator of Access Campus, Dr Angela Farrell AHSS ADI, Michelle Daly Associate Teacher of TESOL/Linguistics and Zoe Lawlor ULLC teacher.

Alongside this community-based initiative, an intensive academic English bridging programme has been delivered to new entrants to UL from the Ukraine to facilitate their entry into various degree programmes.

This has been taught by graduates from the MA TESOL programme and students on the International Structured PhD Programme. These endeavours have been overseen and funded by the UL Humanitarian Response Committee, which was established and led by Prof Mairead Moriarty, former VPGCE. Further activities have been organised via the UL support group for Ukraine led by Prof. Gisela Holfter (Modern Languages and Applied Linguistics).



AHSS Doctorate Awards 2022

In August 2022, the students from the Faculty of AHSS received their parchments. Congratulations to all students who graduated and well done to the 4 PhD students who were awarded their doctorates:

Ibrahim Al Saab – Supervisor Prof. Liam Murray

Mandalyn Glass- Supervisor Prof. Máiréad Moriarty

Lauren Preston – Supervisors Prof. Sarah Moore/Prof. Margaret Harper

John Costello – Supervisors Dr. Bernadette Connaughton/Dr. Brid Quinn

AHSS Postgraduate research conference 2022

The annual AHSS Postgraduate Research Conference took place on campus recently. The event was well attended by postgraduate students from UL, MIC and TUS, some of whom presented a paper or poster. AHSS were delighted to be able to award prizes to the winning students. Poster Presentation 1st prize went to Katie Fitzpatrick (Irish World Academy of Music & Dance), 'Comparing individual in-person music therapy and online group music therapy for people living with chronic pain', supervisors: Dr. Hilary Moss/Prof. Dominic Harmon, 2nd Prize went to Aoife Munroe (pictured) (MIC). 'Autistic Girls' Experiences of Mainstream Education: Situating the Study in Literature', supervisors: Dr. Laura Ambrose/Dr. Michele Dunleavy. Paper Presentation Joint 1st Prize went to Ciara Moloney (MIC) 'She's got gaps. I've got gaps': a neurodiversity reading of Rocky (1976), supervisor: David Clare and Clíodhna Condon (EIC, UL), 'Were the Tudor family eligible to inherit the throne of England?', supervisor: Dr. Carrie Griffin





Postgraduate Researcher profile:
Katie Fitzpatrick
Irish World Academy of Music & Dance

Katie Fitzpatrick is a fourth year, PhD candidate at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance (IWAMD). Katie began studying a BA in Music and English at University College Cork (UCC) in 2009. It was there she became captivated by the ways music can be used as a tool for positive change. Following this curiosity, she went on from UCC to do the MA in Community Music in UL in 2012. She completed some research on the similarities and differences in community music and music therapy, which piqued her interest in further study in the latter. However not feeling quite up to more formal education yet, she instead worked as a community musician, music educator, and arts fundraiser for a few years. In 2018, she decided to return to UL to complete the two year MA in Music Therapy which would enable her to work as a professional music therapist.

It was through her independent placement and research on the music therapy course that the basis for her PhD inquiry was formed. During the MA she had the opportunity to set up a short-term music therapy service as part of an outpatient pain clinic. She had the experience of meeting patients and professionals who shared their expertise about chronic pain, how it's managed, and what it's like to live with. Katie was inspired by the stories she heard on placement. She was also struck by the impact music could have on people's ability to cope and manage pain yet how little research there was in the area.

After a six month break from study and some time to begin working as a music therapist, she decided to embark on a PhD. Her research looks at the use of music therapy in the chronic pain experience. Her main interest is in music therapy as an intervention that can potentially address not only the physical, but also the psychosocial impact of the complex condition.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion



AHSS 'Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Outreach Fund'

In Spring 2022, an AHSS 'Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Outreach Fund' was made available to support the delivery of outreach/ community engagement initiatives that engage with groups or communities that are under-represented in the work of the Faculty with reference to the 13 grounds of equality/ protected characteristics recognised in UL's Equality and Human Rights Strategy. Three projects were funded under the AHSS EDI Outreach Fund in Spring 2022. A showcase event will be held in the Autumn 2022 semester to highlight the activities undertaken.

AHSS EDI World Café

An engaging AHSS Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) world café was held on campus in May 2022, organised by Dr. Lydia Bracken, ADEDI and Susan Mulcahy, PA to the Dean, and facilitated by Dr. Chris McInerney, Department of Politics and Public Administration. The world café provided a platform for AHSS staff to discuss EDI challenges and priorities in the Faculty.

The discussions will inform the work of the AHSS Athena SWAN EDI Committee for the coming year to ensure that the Faculty's Bronze Athena SWAN award action plan remains responsive to the expanded Athena SWAN Ireland Charter.



Inaugural class graduate with Certificate in Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The inaugural class taking the Graduate Certificate in Equality, Diversity and Inclusion graduated this August during the Summer conferring ceremonies. The Graduates included AHSS Faculty Office staff member Oonagh Grace.

The Graduate Certificate/Diploma in Equality, Diversity and Inclusion is designed for learners who wish to develop an interdisciplinary understanding of equality, diversity and inclusion and to explore strategies for change. The programmes provide learners with the knowledge and understanding needed to deal effectively with issues of equality, diversity and inclusion at all levels of Irish society, the community and the workplace.

Further information on both the Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma in Equality, Diversity and Inclusions can be found [here](#).

IRC Research Spotlight: LGBTI+ Parent Families in Ireland: Legal Recognition of Parent-Child Relationships

Dr. Lydia Bracken's (EDI) Irish Research Council funded New Foundations project, LGBTI+ Parent Families in Ireland: Legal Recognition of Parent-Child Relationships featured on the Irish Research Council #LoveIrishResearch Blog in June 2022.

The blog post describes the background to the research project, which was conducted in collaboration with LGBT Ireland; outlines the main findings and outputs from the research project; and explains how the research connects with Dr Bracken's other research in the field. The Blog post is titled "The legal obstacles facing LGBTQI+ parent families and why we need to recognise diverse family relationships in Ireland" and can be read [here](#)





AHSS Researchers launch the Irish Travellers' Access to Justice (ITAJ).

The Irish Travellers' Access to Justice (ITAJ) [report by the research team at University of Limerick](#) was officially launched in June.

Funded by the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission and the Irish Research Council under the COALESCE programme, the research documents for the first time Travellers' perceptions and experiences of the criminal justice process in Ireland – particularly with the judiciary and An Garda Síochána. The report is the culmination of an 18-month long project that Chief Commissioner of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Sinead Gibney has said is a 'landmark study' in both its conduct and findings.

The report utilised a mixed methodology, including a survey, interviews and focus groups. During the course of conducting the research, the UL researchers spoke with one in every 100 Travellers in Ireland from 25 of the 26 counties. The research findings reflect a need for radical changes in the way in which criminal justice institutions engage with, perceive, and address Travellers.

The research finds that Travellers' trust in the Irish criminal justice system is extremely low and that fears of wrongful arrest, excessive use of force, wrongful conviction, disproportionately high sentences and wrongful imprisonment frame the way Travellers engage with and experience the criminal justice system. The report meticulously documents Travellers' perceptions and experiences of criminal justice institutions as suspects, victims, and those who are the accused in criminal cases.



Grace Cuny (MA Contemporary Dance) performs in 'Yes and Yes' production

This September, Irish World Academy artists-in-residence, the Liz Roche Company, performed 'Yes and Yes' in Washington and Philadelphia and MA Contemporary Dance student, Grace Cuny, performed with them. A stellar creative team worked on Yes and Yes, with film/visuals by José Miguel Jiménez, dramaturgy by Wayne Jordan, to an original score by Ray Harman, with lighting by Davison Scandrett and stage design and costumes by Katie Davenport. Danced by Sarah Cerneaux, Mufutau Yusuf, Grace Cuny, and Diarmuid Armstrong, this show was the first time the company has premiered and performed on a Washington, D.C. stage.

Yes and Yes then travelled to the John and Joan Mullen Center for the Performing Arts at Villanova University, Philadelphia and will later perform at the Project Arts Centre in Dublin and Cork Opera House.

'Yes and Yes' by Liz Roche is a co-production between Solas Nua in Washington DC and Liz Roche Company in partnership with Cork Opera House. Commissioned by Solas Nua, the production is kindly supported by Culture Ireland and the Arts Council of Ireland.



Irish Chamber Orchestra: scholarships for two MA students in Limerick

The Limerick-based, Irish Chamber Orchestra (ICO) has announced a scholarship fund for talented students on the MA Classical String Performance at University of Limerick. ICO has committed to providing 8k per annum for the next five years. These scholarships, awarded on merit, will assist with student college fees for one year. This year's scholarship fund has been awarded to two students, Jeannette Bogado from Paraguay, and Anna Mária Miklós from Hungary. This new ICO fund is in addition to the existing RTÉ Lyric FM scholarship (valued at 8k) which was established in 1999.

It also offers opportunities for the next generation of musicians to learn and engage with ICO through its MA Classical Strings Programme, a two-year programme at the University of Limerick, which aims to finesse advanced solo, chamber music and orchestral skills, as well as audition preparation and the development of all-round musicianship. Since 2015, this programme, led by ICO musicians who rehearse, teach, and perform with the students, provides wonderful opportunities to work with ICO. Irish Chamber Orchestra is resident at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance at the University of Limerick. It is funded by The Arts Council of Ireland/An Chomhairle Ealaíon.



The Ogham Stone Literary Journal

The 2022 edition of The Ogham Stone, the annual literary journal created by MA students in English and Creative Writing at UL, was launched at the UL Creative Writing Festival in June. This year's journal comes with an introduction by Prof Joseph O'Connor and features work by established authors such as Kevin Barry, Dr Emily Cullen, and Prof Eoin Devereux, as well as a range of writing from authors appearing in print for the first time.

The launch featured readings from the issue as well as the announcement of the winners of the "50 words for 50 years" competition, the winning entries of which also appear in the journal. The published journal is a beautifully designed issue focusing on the celebration of UL's 50-year anniversary. Print copies of the journal are available for sale in O'Mahony's, and the digital version can be downloaded for free in various formats from the journal's [website](#).

Student Gulfem Cevheribucak awarded Government of Ireland International Education Scholarship 2022/23

Gülfem Cevheribucak, who is undertaking a Masters by Research in the Department of Politics and Public Administration, has been awarded funding under the HEA's Government of Ireland International Education Scholarship scheme for 2022/2023. She was one of 60 awardees out of more than 4,000 applicants. Gülfem started her project on local government and sustainable urban mobility in early 2022 as part of the first cohort of students on UL's 2030 Graduate Bursaries scheme, with funding from the H2020 project Go Green Routes.



The project examines the relationship between local government autonomy and sustainable urban mobility transitions focusing on cross-national comparative case studies in Europe. It analyses the restrictions on competences and capacities of local governments to address sustainable modes of transport such as walking, cycling, e-mobility, and provision of public transport services, and it asks whether devolving powers from national to local level can facilitate sustainability transitions and provide solutions that meet the needs of citizens.

The project is supervised by Dr. Conor Little (Department of Politics & Public Administration) and Prof. Stephen Kinsella (Department of Economics/KBS).



**Wishing you a productive and
successful semester**

from the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences