



SECA NEWS



Research



News and Events

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

In compiling the third SECA newsletter, we have been greatly impressed by the range and diversity of events and activities that have taken place within the School in recent months, despite on-going challenges, adversities and obstacles. We are, truly, a resilient and dynamic team! The following newsletter gives an overview

of some of the exciting projects that have been undertaken by different members of the School and we would like to thank all those who have contributed to the issue. We hope that, together, these newsletters will serve as an accessible archive of School achievements and initiatives for years to come. We would

like to acknowledge the efforts and vision of Dr Dermot Burns, our first Communications Officer, in getting the ball rolling with Issues 1 and 2. Here's to many more! Finally, we would like to wish everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas!

Karen and Emily

MESSAGE FROM SEAN—HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear colleagues -- we've come to the end of what has been for all of us a very tough semester. These past weeks have been a real test of our resilience, flexibility and commitment, but I do believe we have shown these qualities in force. It's all the more impressive then to see the inspiring activities and achievements captured in this newsletter -- reminders of the remarkable energy and talent in our School. I want to thank everyone for meeting the challenges of the semester so constructively, and wish everyone a peaceful and restorative holiday break. I look forward to having positive discussions in the new year about our School vision and strategy, and having a chance to look beyond the immediate challenges of the moment. Stay safe and well!

Sean

Children's Theatre



Third year students of Drama and



Theatre and Children's Studies have had the chance to work with Branar Theatre Company for Children and Babóró Children's Theatre Festival as part of their Theatre for Children and Young People module with Marianne Kennedy. Over the course of 12 weeks they have attended workshops and events as part of Babóró, taken a private guided tour of 'Sruth na Teanga', attended 'Rothar' Branar's latest production as part of Arts in Action and worked with artists such as Marc MacLochlainn, Catherine Denning, Elaine Mears, Miquel Barcelo. The capstone project of the module is creating a programme of tiny shows, which were filmed in the O'Donoghue Centre and sent to 2nd class students of Scoil Fhursa who gave feedback from a Child's perspective on these child-centred pieces of work.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- [President Michael D Higgins](#)
- Visits RECIRC Exhibition..... 2
- 'To the Moon' Film 3
- [Speak Up Report](#)..... 3
- [TOEBI Annual Meeting](#) 3
- Upcoming [SSNCI Lecture](#) 4
- [NEW publication - Tanya Farrelly](#) 5
- [CLS INFRA Fellowships](#) 9
- And more!

- Arts in Action Programme [2021 22](#)
- Dr Sean Crosson (Huston) welcomes [Dr Brendan Tobin Marie Sklodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship](#)
- Writer in Residence [Public Reading Series](#) with the Irish Arts Council is underway!





PRESIDENT MICHAEL D HIGGINS VISITS THE RECIRC EXHIBITION

On November 1st President Higgins took time out to visit the Readers & Reputations Exhibition at the James Hardiman Library. Pictured here with Professor Marie-Louise Coolahan. The exhibition on the reception of early modern women's writing is the result of the RECIRC project.

ARTS IN ACTION 2021_22



This semester the Arts in Action programme, curated by Marianne Kennedy and technically managed by Mike O' Halloran, is delighted to have hosted and supported a sell-out series of 9 live events in the O' Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance for students, staff and supporters of NUI Galway. We are very grateful to the artists involved including Steve Cooney, Dermot Byrne, the Raines, the Contempo Quartet, Anna Mullarkey, Bru theatre, Branar theatre, Laoise O' Brien, the Far Flung Trio as well as the Tonnta Choir and the (continued [on page 5](#))



IRISH THEATRE INSTITUTE LAUNCHES SPEAK UP—A CALL FOR CHANGE REPORT



*“The lived experiences...
demonstrate an
urgent need for action.”*

Dublin, Thursday October 21, 2021. Stark findings from the Irish arts sector have emerged from the Speak Up: A Call for Change Report. Launched by Minister Catherine Martin TD, the report and key findings/recommendations were presented by research lead **Dr. Ciara L. Murphy** (pictured) and Project Consultant Olwen Dawe with Siobhán Bourke and Jane Daly, co-directors of the Irish Theatre Institute. The full report is available online at https://bit.ly/ITI_SPEAKUP_2021

While the report is alarming, it is an acknowledgement of a reality that has been hiding in plain sight, that there is a culture of harmful workplace behaviour throughout the Irish arts sector, and a worrying lack of supports to tackle this issue.

Over 1300 respondents from the arts sector were surveyed through Irish Theatre Institute’s Speak Up ACTION anonymous survey into Dignity in the Workplace. Until now, there has been no dedicated study analysing the experiences of those working in the Irish arts sector. While the project originated in the theatre sector, this survey was designed to gather information from the wider arts sector, and over 50% of respondents were from across other artforms.

What emerges from the survey data is a culture of acquiescence and acceptance that allows perpetrators to have disproportionate control and power. The majority of respondents experienced and/or witnessed some form of harmful behaviours including bullying, humiliation, harassment, sexual harassment, victimisation, sexual assault, and assault at work.

*“There is a culture of harmful workplace behaviour
throughout the Irish Arts sector.”*

To the Moon



**To the
Moon, a
film by
Tadhg**

O’Sullivan with original compositions by Amanda Feery and composer Linda Buckley, will be in Irish cinemas from November 26th and recently had it’s premiere at Cork International Film Festival.

[Watch Trailer](#)

*On 27 November, the learned society **Teachers of Old English in Britain and Ireland (TOEBI)** held its 32nd annual meeting virtually from NUI Galway.*

*Organised by **Dr Frances McCormack of English**, the meeting welcomed delegates from around the world to explore the topic of “Feeling and Sense.”*

The day of papers, workshops, and roundtables explored pedagogy, research methods and findings.

*A roundtable on the issue of precarity and inclusivity in academia (co-organised by **Dr Francisco J. Rozano-García of NUI Galway and Abigail Williams of Nottingham University**) provided a conclusion to the day.*



DR ELIZABETH TILLEY—English— will deliver the annual *Society for the Study of Nineteenth Century Ireland* lecture on January 22.

POSSESSING IRELAND: GEORGE PETRIE AND THE TRANSLATION OF LANDSCAPE

MI Moore Institute

NUI Galway OÉ Gallímh

Irish Arts Council NUI Galway Writer-in-Residence Public Reading Series 2021

Experimental Fiction
November 17th @ 7pm (online event)

Tanya Farrelly, Irish Arts Council Writer-in-Residence at NUI Galway, talks to groundbreaking authors Rob Doyle and Claire-Louise Bennett about their latest books, *Auto-bibliography* and *Checkout 19*, and why they favour experimentation over traditional narrative form.

The Irish Short Story
December 1st @ 7pm (online event), including Launch event

Mike McCormack launches three new short story collections by Arlen House: *Nobody Needs to Know* by Irish Arts Council NUI Galway Writer-in-Residence Tanya Farrelly; *Fugitive* by David Butler; and *Marching Season* by Rosemary Jenkinson. The launch will be followed by a panel discussion on the Irish short story.

Creative Non-Fiction
December 8th @ 7pm (online event)

Tanya Farrelly, Irish Arts Council Writer-in-Residence at NUI Galway, chats to writers Roisin Kiberd and Sophie White about their latest non-fiction books, *The Disconnect: A Personal Journey Through the Internet*, and *Corpsing: My Body & Other Horror Shows*. The conversation will explore womanhood, grief, mental illness, and the impact of living our lives online.

Registration: <https://linktr.ee/mooreinstitute>

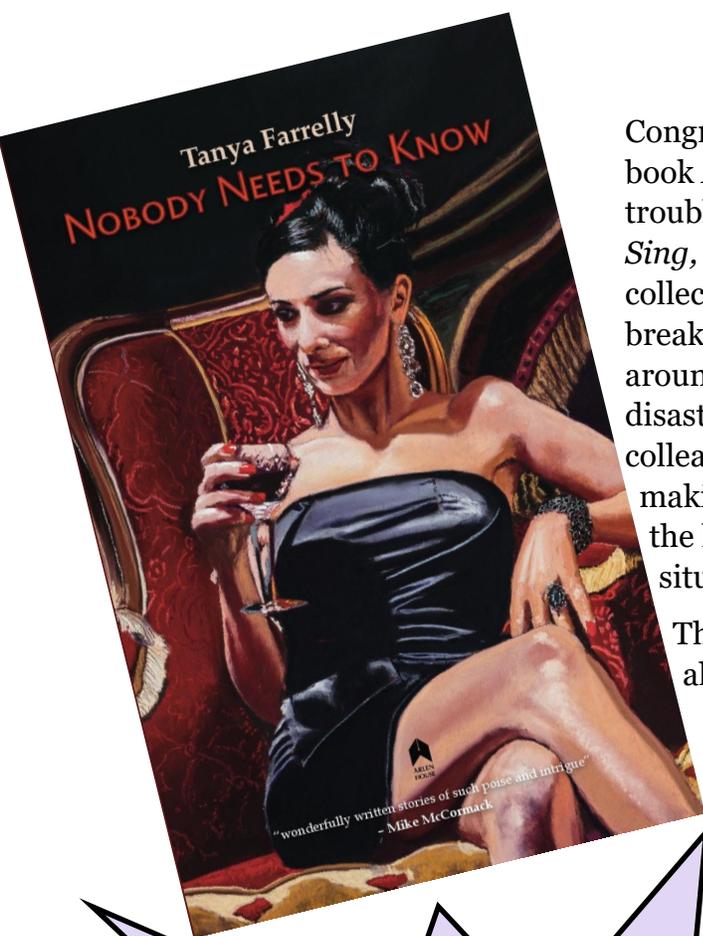
We are very proud to say that **four** of our writers were shortlisted this year in the **An Post Irish Book Awards**.

Una Mannion, MA in Writing Newcomer of the Year for 'A Crooked Tree'

Karen J. McDonnell, BA, Dip sa Ghaeilge Irish Poem of the Year for 'Driftwood'

Áine Ní Chonghaile, BA, MA, PhD sa Stair Irish Language Book of the Year for 'An Cheathrú Rua agus na hOileáin sa Naóú hAois Déag'

Deirdre Sullivan, BA, MA in Drama and Theatre Studies Short Story of the Year for 'Little Lives' from 'I Want to Know That I Will Be OK'



Congratulations to **Tanya Farrelly** on the publication of her latest book *Nobody Needs to Know*. Known for tense and often troubling stories in her award-winning debut, *When Black Dogs Sing*, Farrelly enters darker and murkier places in her second collection. In these stories, a girl witnesses her mother's breakdown following the murder of her sister while backpacking around Europe; a teenage girl befriends a homeless girl with disastrous consequences; an EFL teacher fantasizes about a colleague; a couple fear for their lives when their neighbor begins making threats. Unsettling, often disturbing, these stories follow the lives of characters who, finding themselves in fearful situations, triumph against the odds.

The book is available to purchase from Charlie Byrne's and also on www.kennys.ie

Congratulations to MA in Writing graduate **Alice Kinsella** whose new memoir of motherhood *Milk* has just been pre-empted by Picador.

[Read more here](#)



ARTS IN ACTION (Continued from page 2)

Leide Beag project team.

Art forms and genres included music; classical, electronica, choral, contemporary new music, traditional Irish and Americana, including two world premieres of newly commissioned contemporary music and choral work respectively; as well as theatre; film; and poetry.

Students are central to every aspect of this programme. There was an accompanying series of workshops that took place throughout the semester for students of Music, Children's Studies and Drama. Students across the College interned as venue staff and marketing assistants and in some instances even performed with other artists as part of the events. With this programme we also welcomed members of the public to join with our staff and students in the audience, which ensured lively debate and post-show discussions. Keep an eye on the Arts in Action Facebook page in early January for updates on what is to come for next semester. Huge thanks to Rebecca Braun and The College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Celtic Studies for making this programme possible and the administration staff of the School of English and the Creative arts for the invaluable support.

Introducing Dr Brendan Tobin - Marie Sklodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship, Huston School of Film & Digital Media



Earlier this semester, **Dr. Brendan Tobin** was awarded a three and a half

year Marie Sklodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship supervised by Dr. Seán Crosson in the Huston School of Film & Digital Media. Brendan is currently undertaking comparative research on the struggle of indigenous peoples' of the Predio Putumayo in Colombia for protection from and justice for the impacts of extractive industry activities during the rubber boom in the early 1900s and today. Brendan's research is multidisciplinary intersecting genocide, human rights, anthropology, history, social psychology and digital media studies. Its goal is to help empower indigenous peoples to tell their story in their own words using

digital storytelling and participatory documentary.

Research will result in a feature length documentary recounting the impact of the rubber trade; the resurgence of the peoples at the epicentre of the Peruvian Amazon Company's activities; their search for reconciliation with the past; and the adequacy of international law to prevent cultural genocide today.

Background

Born in Galway, Brendan holds dual Irish and Peruvian citizenship. A barrister by training, he has over 25 years' experience in the practice of environmental law, human rights and community development. For many years his work focused on national and international regulation of biodiversity conservation, access to genetic resources and the protection of traditional knowledge. Over the years work included active participation in international negotiating forums including the Convention on Biological

Diversity, the World Intellectual Property Rights Organization and the Harvard Oil Dialogues. For the past decade work has focused on questions of indigenous peoples and local communities' legal philosophies, juridiversity, and customary laws, and their role in securing environmental, biocultural and intercultural justice. Brendan earned his PhD at the Irish Centre for Human Rights, NUI Galway, on *Why Customary Law Matters*. His monograph *Indigenous People's Customary Law and Human Rights*, was published by Routledge in 2014. He has published widely on environmental law, human rights and legal pluralism.

Further information on Brendan and his research is available on the [Moore Institute website](#).

Congratulations to PhD students Edward Kearns (English), Melinda Szuts (Drama, Theatre and Performance) and Zsuzsanna Balázs (Drama, Theatre and Performance) who have successfully completed their vivas and will shortly be conferred with their Doctorates.

Modernist Studies Ireland held an online symposium entitled '**Telling the Time: Modernism and Time**' on 9 June 2021. The symposium featured a range of international speakers who explored the deeper connections between modernism and time. It concluded with a keynote lecture by W.J.T. Mitchell (University of Chicago) on the '**Iconology of Time**', a collaboration with NUI Galway Italian and the Moore Institute.



Congratulations to **Dr Elizabeth Tilley** (English) joint winner of the **Robert and Vineta Colby Scholarly Book Prize** for her monograph *The Periodical Press in Nineteenth-Century Ireland*, published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2020.

Dr Charlotte McIvor (Drama) is a team member on the Active* Consent project. On July 19th an online learning hub, created to improve sexual consent awareness, was launched by Ministers Simon Harris and Hildegard Naughton.
Active*Consent [eLearning Module](#).

Congratulations to **Dr El Putnam** (Huston School of Film & Digital Media) who received an **Agility Award** from the Arts Council to develop *Emergent*, a creative coding project that uses biometric data as performance documentation to create generative animations.

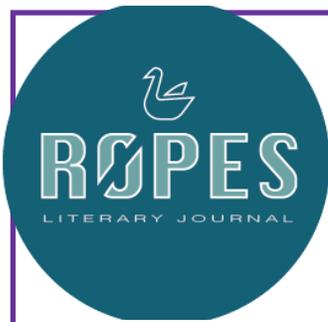
Dr Seán Crosson (Huston School of Film & Digital Media) is a Research partner on a European Research project that was recently a recipient of a funding award. "**Football And Visual Culture Under Francoism: Discourses Of Class, Gender And National Construction In Cinema, Newsreels And The Press 1939-1975**" was awarded €85,184 by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation. The project is led by Dr. Manuel Garin of Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona).
[Further information.](#)

Dr Muireann Ó Cinnéide (English) has been awarded an IRC Research Ally Prize 2021.

Congratulations!

[Research Ally Prize](#)

ROPES—MALP Publication



ROPES is back! Students of this year's MA in

Literature Publishing and have begun preparations for what will be the 30th edition of the literary journal.

This year, the team consists of all twenty students of the MA, with members hailing from India, Ohio, Portugal, Tyrone, and more! Despite these diverse origins, the team feels truly united by our shared desire to produce an edition that does the past twenty-nine years of hard work justice. Evidence of this unified motivation lies behind the creation of our new logo. The logo was designed collaboratively under the guidance of our Production and Design leader Enejda Nasaj, whose impressive knowledge of graphic design is indispensable. In homage to the city that has been such a generous and creative home to the journal, we have incorporated a simple Galway swan in the logo, which acts as an encouraging stamp on all of our online proceedings, be that the all-important email responses to submissions or the social media

posts that promote our fundraising events.

Speaking of fundraising, we were lucky enough to be able to host an event once restrictions were lifted at the end of October. Hosting a costume party at Bar NOVA



ROPES team 2021_22

allowed us to raise €340 towards production costs. Our GoFundMe page is also now live, to which anyone who wishes to support our independent, student-produced journal can donate. Such donations can be made at the following link: <https://gofund.me/f2949670>

Once production costs have been raised, all remaining proceeds - as well as proceeds from the sales of the journal itself - will deservedly go to COPE Galway.

Most importantly, our submissions window for this all-important issue is now open. Anyone who wishes to submit their poetry, prose, or nonfiction work should direct those pieces to ropeslitmag.submissions@gmail.com. Our vision for this edition is to

give a platform to all types of voices. The world, and the landscape of literature, may have shifted since the publication of the first edition of ROPES twenty-nine years ago, but the principle of the platform remains the same: we want to read anything that makes us *feel*

something.

If you'd like to receive more updates on ROPES as the team journeys on, you can do so by signing up for our monthly newsletter by visiting our website at <https://ropesliteraryjournal.mozello.com/>.

SECA Research and PhD Committee Update

Seminar Series

The **SECA Research Seminar Series** featured six speakers this semester, including a visiting fellow, PhD candidates and lecturers. Fascinating presentations were delivered by Dr Nivea Bona (Visiting Moore Institute Fellow), Dr Frances McCormack (English), Heidi Schoenenberger (Drama and Theatre, PhD Candidate), Prof Patrick Lonergan (Drama and Theatre), Fionnula Simpson (English, PhD Candidate), Dr Andrew Ó Baoill (English). The wide range of topics covered included reflections on methodologies of analysis of media from Latin America, signs of shame in *Finnegan's Wake*, engagement practices surrounding theatre performances for children and young people, productions of Lady Gregory's dramas analysed in terms of the Anthropocene, examining mental illness through the lens of bibliotherapy, and the possibilities of political action in the media as well as in academia during contemporary moments of crisis.

Due to the cyberattack I had some difficulties chairing some weeks with poor WIFI in my office and I am very grateful to Dr Andrew Ó Baoill (English), Shirley-Ann Godfrey (PhD Candidate, Drama and Theatre), Maria Tivnan (PhD Candidate, Drama and Theatre) and Dr Clíodhna Carney (English) for stepping in for me, sometimes at very short notice. It has been a joy to learn about the research conducted in the School and to get to know each other better through these presentations. The series will continue next year with six speakers already confirmed but if you are interested in chairing a session please

contact ian.walsh@nuigalway.ie.

PhD Rep

We are delighted to have a new PhD Rep Ruairí Kennedy join us to represent PhD Students' concerns at School and Research Committee meetings. We are also very thankful to Ashley Cahillane for all the work she did in this role last year.

Research Survey and Report

The Research Committee is in the process of conducting a survey to identify colleagues research areas in the school in order to see what productive research clusters might be developed across the School. These research clusters will also be developed in relation to key research areas identified in the recently launched CASSCS Strategic Plan 2021-2025 and the University Research and Innovation Plan 2022-2026. A further exciting development is a planned Annual Research Report to be compiled by the Research Committee at the end of the year and published online to showcase publications of colleagues in the School.

Dr Ian R. Walsh, Chair of SECA Research and PhD Committee.

Ceangal|Cwlwm Conference took place online 26–27 November

There were 58 speakers at the conference and over 120 people in attendance over the 2 days .

Ceangal | Cwlwm is an initiative between Scotland, Ireland and Wales bringing together those involved in theatre-making in Scottish Gaelic, Irish and Welsh.

It was established in 2019 by Theatre Gu Leòr and Marianne Kennedy of Drama and Theatre Studies, NUI Galway, who hosted a gathering of artists, academics, funders and development organisations in Glasgow (then called Ceangal/Dolen), with the aim of making connections, sharing best-practice and learning from each other, in order to strengthen the Scottish Gaelic, Irish and Welsh language theatre sectors. While the challenges faced by theatre-makers across the three nations may differ, we have many things in common, and Ceangal | Cwlwm aims to build a network where we can draw strength and inspiration from each other, where collaborations can be initiated and where innovative approaches to making work in these three minoritised languages can be explored.

This year's conference saw the announcement of a call out for six artist's commissions to the value of €2,400 each, 2 from each country. For more information on this and the conference in general please go to our new [website](#)

Crushing my rose coloured glasses: *The MALP Speaker Series*

By Clodagh O'Donnell

Publishing. A dynamic but mysterious world, even to the most avid book nerd.



Students from the MALP view editions from The Salvage Press at a recent session of the Speaker Series

undergraduate, even she found it difficult to grasp what it entailed.

However, a new leaf was overturned with the introduction of the Speaker Series, a weekly whirlwind of influential wonders who live and breathe the publishing life. Every Friday, the twenty students of the MALP are exposed to 'What is Publishing?' through an engaging pool of book publishers, past alumni, book festival organisers, educational non-fiction and fiction journal editors - the list is wonderfully endless!

Each week closes with an insight into the working world of literature, which almost feels like a secret

club rather than a college seminar due to the abundant knowledge that exudes from each guest.

Thus far in the series, what has resonated with this aspiring editor was guest speaker Ivan O'Brien, Managing Director of The O'Brien Press, and his insight into book publishing, specifically independent publishing in Ireland.

To deduce the art that is publishing seemed daunting. However, O'Brien gave an authentic idea of the journey of a book, from concept to publication, through processes such as commissioning, editorial, designing, producing, packaging and publication. By breaking my rose-coloured vision of what publishing is, O'Brien simultaneously enlightened on how much more accurate, tangible and POSSIBLE it is to be a part of this world of words.

Now, every time I'm looking through Charlie Byrne's bookstore's beautiful displays and see *A Galway Fairytale* by Caitriona Sweeney (the book whose journey O'Brien described), I can draw back the long-endured veil of its creation and instead actualise the reality that is book publishing.

The series gives a refreshing viewpoint, and thus I thank those who are a part of the valuable Speaker Series, who aim to destroy the illusion that surrounds publishing and to allow us aspiring students to take a leaf from their book, guiding us on the library of opportunities that await.

SPECIAL EDITION EIGHTEENTH CENTURY STUDIES



10

Earlier this year, **Dr Justin Tonra (English)** served as Guest Editor for a Special Issue of *Eighteenth-Century Studies* on Book History and Digital Humanities. This issue (vol. 54 no. 4) of the flagship journal in the field of eighteenth-century studies sought to address the porous boundaries between research on the long eighteenth century that uses the tools and methods of book history and digital humanities. Nine new articles are included in the issue, with authors including former Moore Institute Visiting Fellows Christopher Warren and Mikko Tolonen. In his introductory article, "[Book History and Digital Humanities in the Long Eighteenth Century](#)," Tonra describes their purview: "The nine articles in this special issue represent some of the ways in which the book and the digital are inextricably linked in field of eighteenth-century studies. Whether in their use, construction, or analysis of databases and datasets; their engagement of quantitative methods ([continued page 11](#))

The Computational Literary Studies Infrastructure (CLS INFRA) project, whose NUI Galway members are Dr Justin Tonra and Dr Ciara L. Murphy, is pleased to announce a **new funded Fellowship opportunity**. SECA colleagues are encouraged to invite collaborators with an interest in literary studies or Computational Literary Studies to apply.



CLS INFRA is a European Commission-funded project which aims to create unified and easy access to a wide range of European and national infrastructures for the Computational Literary Studies community. This includes: connecting the building of resources and infrastructure, providing training environments and networks, and promoting the theoretical considerations of these resources and infrastructures. A key part of this aim is the provision of **Transnational Access Fellowships (TNA)** which aims to provide access to a wide range of data, tools and knowledge.

The project is now inviting applications for the **first call of the TNA Fellowships** from interested parties. The Moore Institute is one of the designated hosts for TNA fellows and more information on our specific call can be found [here](#).

Scholars from **literary studies** or with an interest in **Computational Literary Studies** methods are invited to apply for a fellowship grant in one of our infrastructure providers. Successful applicants will not only obtain **free-of-charge physical access to the infrastructure**, but in the context of the overall project they will become part of the larger CLS community. By responding to one of our calls, applicants may have the opportunity to:

- Interact with experts;
- Receive advice on ongoing projects;
- Learn how to use the ecosystem of data, tools and standards;
- Assemble new literary corpora;

Profit from hands-on training and support.

Fellowships grants will cover **housing and subsistence costs as well as travel to and from the host institution**. The CLS INFRA Fellowships are funded by the European Union under the rules of transnational access.

Calls for fellowship grants will be launched **twice a year for a total of six calls**. Scholars from the European Union and beyond are eligible to apply. Successful applicants are expected to join the chosen infrastructure for a period of 8 to 12 weeks. However, shorter residencies will be also taken into consideration.

The **first call** will be open from **Monday 1 November 2021 to Monday 6 December 2021**.

Apply for a TNA fellowship and find out more information on the Host Institutions, Eligibility Requirements and the Terms and Conditions [here](#).

(continued from page 10) to address reading, publishing, authorship, gender, or commerce; or their attention to the effects of digital and material resources on consciousness and thought, each considers aspects of how the digital has helped to invigorate the history of the book with updated tools, methods, and possibilities” (781).

[Link to Special Issue](#)

RECENT ARTICLES

Dr Justin Tonra published an article on “[Digital Bibliography and the Irish Book Trades](#)” in the most recent volume (49) of *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture*. The article surveys opportunities for large scale quantitative bibliographical analysis and the linking of data across disparate digital book trade records, and identifies lines of inquiry within those methods that have the potential to transform the study of several aspects of eighteenth-century Ireland.

O’Baill, A, Armeni, K., Brinkman, L., Carlsson, R., Eerland, A., Fijten, R., Fondberg, R., ... & van't Veer, A. PERSPECTIVE: Towards wide-scale adoption of open science practice: The role of open science communities. *Science and Public Policy: The journal of science, research, technology, innovation and policy* 48 (5), 605-611.

Ó Baoill, A. Using the Crisis: media studies pedagogy and the pandemic. *Mediální studia / Media Studies* 15 (01), 9-21.

Ó Baoill, A. Beyond a spot on the dial. *Radiofonias – Journal of Audio Media Studies*, for special issue ‘College radios in times of attacks on science’.

Ridge, Emily ‘[Bureaucracy across Borders: Administering Cosmopolitan Hospitality at the English P.E.N., 1930–1945](#)’ in *Modernist Cultures*, 16.3 in August 2021.

Caption describing picture or graphic

MA DISSERTATION DEVELOPMENT SERIES

These lectures are designed to provide MA students in the School of English and Creative Arts with the skills and techniques to develop their dissertation and/or research project (30ECTs) undertaken independently during the summer months. Each lecture focuses on a specific aspect that may support the dissertation and independent study process in a research-led and analytic

context, ranging from archival to arts-led methodologies. Lectures will provide examples of how to frame arguments, synthesise the relevant primary and secondary materials, and ensure a framework that is feasible within the time period.

Lectures will take place from November through to April and recordings of the lectures are available.

[Introduction to Dissertations](#)—
Dr Tony Tracy

[Critical Theory and Frameworks](#)—Prof Lionel Pilkington

Dr Amanda Feery’s opera film *A Thing I Cannot Name*, with libretto by novelist Megan Nolan, premiered in July 2021. Read a [review from the Journal of Music](#) .

**Dr Conn Holohan
(Huston School of
Film & Digital Media)**

was successful in securing an IRC New Foundations grant and also an Illuminate grant for a research project in collaboration with Galway Simon entitled "Immersive Empathy: immersive technology as a tool for advocacy and self-expression for people experiencing homelessness"

IN THE MEDIA

Dr Justin Tonra spoke to *The Times* (London) for an article about the influence of social media on literary style.

[Read article.](#) Also Times Radio broadcast [interview.](#)

Dr Amanda Feery spoke to Sean Rocks on RTÉ Arena on November 9th to talk about the premiere of her choral work by Chamber Choir Ireland, called *Longwave*. [Listen here.](#)

Dr Amanda Feery has received a commission from the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra for a large-scale work to be premiered at New Music Dublin in 2023.

Dr Justin Tonra (English) spoke to the [Tech Radio Podcast](#) about Computational Literary Studies and how big data might be used to study literature (from 44:00):

Dr Ian Walsh (Drama Theatre and Performance) has been appointed Chair of the Board of *Galway Community Circus*. He has been working with *Galway Community Circus* on two funded projects over the past three years: 'Circus ++' funded by Erasmus + which is developing a European Curriculum for a BA in Youth and Social Circus Pedagogy and on the monitoring and Evaluation of their 'Wires Crossed' **Creative Europe project** that examines how funambulism – the art of tightwire walking with a pole—might promote wellbeing in participants.



Pictured from left, Dr Ian Walsh, Lecturer in Drama and Theatre Studies, NUI Galway, Ulla Hokkanen, Executive Artistic Director of Galway Community Circus, and BA students Darragh O'Donohoe and Julietter O'Donnell. **Photo by Aengus McMahon.**

All items for the newsletter should be sent to:

karenm.walsh@nuigalway.ie

Enjoy the Festive Season and a truly well deserved break!

