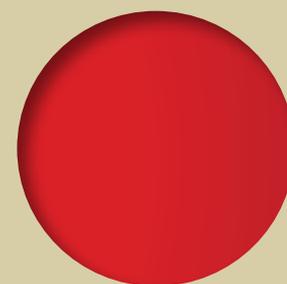


# Dlíscéala

For Friends, Alumni & Students

ISSUE 1 | SEPTEMBER 2013



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Student Activities	2-3
New Professorial Appointments	4-5
External Appointments	6
Doctorates from Yale and Leiden	7
Centres (ICHR)	8
CDLP	9
Housing	10
Publications	11
Tradition & Change	12-13
Doctoral Programme	14
Internationalisation	15
Clinical Legal Education	16-17
Conferences & Events	18-21
Alumni News	22-23



### Welcome from Head of School

I hope you enjoy this first issue of our new Law School Newsletter, *Dlíscéala*, detailing the School's activities in the past year. In May I commenced a four-year term as Head of School having recently been appointed to an Established Professorship in Law. It is a great honour to hold such an office. Inside this newsletter I set out some of my thoughts on legal education at a time of significant change

for the legal professions (pages 12-13). The School of Law at NUI Galway is a community of scholars, students and graduates – diverse in composition, pluralist in thinking, engaged with the world and impactful. In the pages that follow I hope you will see what I mean by that!

*Professor Donncha O'Connell,*  
**Head of School**

### Major Success for School in IRC Scholarship Scheme

Seven doctoral and post-doctoral students in the School of Law have been awarded Irish Research Council scholarships. This is an enormous success for the School and has helped

in a significant way to bolster the overall excellent performance of the University in a highly competitive process (see inside page 14).

School of Law  
Newsletter



NUI Galway  
OÉ Gaillimh

# Student Activities

## Connie Healy



Connie Healy, Ph.D candidate and IRC scholar at the School of Law (supervisor Marie McGonagle), was recently awarded one of twelve scholarships open to all Family Law researchers across the EU to attend and present a paper at the Commission on European Family Law's *Fifth Annual Conference entitled Family Law and Culture in Europe* which was held at the University of Bonn from 29th-31st August 2013. Connie's paper is entitled 'Collaborative Practice: An Interdisciplinary Approach to the Resolution of Conflict in Family Law Matters'.

## Colin Gannon



Pictured (L to R) is Colin Gannon (B.Corp Law graduate 2012), who is currently undertaking a stage with DG Competition, with Vice-President of the Commission and Commissioner for Competition, Joaquín Almunia, and another *stagiaire*. Colin will be returning to the Law School in September to undertake the LL.B.

## Charles O'Sullivan

Charles O'Sullivan has been selected as the recipient of the LL.M in Public Law Summer Internship Bursary 2013. The bursary is awarded annually to a current student on the LL.M in Public Law to take up an internship with an international NGO working in the area of Public Law. Charles spent six weeks over the summer working for the London-based NGO, JUSTICE, an all-party law reform and human rights organisation that promotes improvements to the British legal system through research, education, lobbying and interventions in the courts. Internships with JUSTICE are very prestigious, providing successful applicants with the opportunity to develop research skills and experience of working on important areas of law and policy.



## Law School to welcome another Mitchell Scholar

The prestigious Mitchell Scholarship Programme offers competitive scholarships sponsored by the US-Ireland Alliance that facilitate up to twelve Mitchell Scholars aged between 18 and 30 to undertake a year of postgraduate study. This second award in three years to a student choosing the LL.M in Public Law is a great achievement for the School of Law. The incoming scholar, Robin Tipps is a member of the Quapaw Tribe. He studied for a degree in sociology-criminology at the University of Oklahoma. His goal is to be a tribal attorney, and he hopes one day to be chairman of his tribe.

Joseph Graziano, a graduate of the Georgetown Law School, undertook the LL.M in Public Law as a Mitchell Scholar in 2010/2011. The Irish Centre for Human Rights has also hosted two Mitchell Scholars, Michael Solis and Rebekah Emanuel.

## Caitriona de Paor



## Interns at the Superior Courts



Deirdre Halloran and Seán Aherne, our two Interns with the Superior Courts, with Mrs. Justice Susan Denham, Chief Justice of Ireland. This was the first year this judicial internship scheme was run and both students were immensely positive about their experiences.

## Student Papers



A number of current students on the LL.M in Public Law presented papers at the 5th Annual Conference of the Irish Society of Comparative Law in May 2013. Deirdre Halloran was awarded the 2013 Prize for Best Masters Student Paper. She is pictured receiving the prize from Professor Stephen Hedley, President of the Irish Society of Comparative Law. Other students on the LL.M in Public Law who presented papers that were highly commended were Sandra Murphy and Niall McMonagle.

Caitriona de Paor has been selected as a judicial research assistant for Judge Matti Twomey of the Court of Appeal in Seychelles. Judge Twomey is a graduate of the LL.M in Public Law and is a Ph.D candidate at the School of Law (co-supervised by Marie McGonagle and Dr. Seán Donlan of UL). Caitriona travelled to the Seychelles in August to observe the proceedings of the Court of Appeal and engage in legal research. She previously worked as the Communications Officer for the Public Interest Law Alliance (PILA), a project of FLAC.

## Video-casting Seminal Legal Cases

A project by a team of students supervised by Dr. Joe McGrath and Diarmuid Griffin piloted a new learning model based on the case method approach in the past year. Undergraduate students taught each other about their favourite seminal cases using the latest technology. After participating in interactive workshops with staff, the students used video cameras and an iPad to record short pithy case notes. The videos were showcased at a successful launch event and are now available as a teaching aid for other students. In the first two weeks, the videos received a total of 750 views. This project ran under the EXPLORE Innovation Initiative, with assistance from CELT/Audiovisual Services. The lecturers involved in this project, Dr. Joe McGrath and Diarmuid Griffin,

were also shortlisted for the President's Team Award in Teaching Excellence.

The videos can be viewed at [www.youtube.com/NUIGSchoolofLaw](http://www.youtube.com/NUIGSchoolofLaw)



Dr. Joe McGrath (left), Tom O'Malley, some of the students who participated and Diarmuid Griffin (right)

## The Advocate – McCann FitzGerald



Sean Hiney & Jack McInerney were the winners of the prize for the Best Written Submission in the McCann FitzGerald All-Ireland Business Law Challenge, *The Advocate*, in November 2012. This competition is run by McCann FitzGerald, in association with the Courts Service and the Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service.

## Lá na nGradam 2013



The Michael McNamara Scholarship sponsored by RDJ Glynn Solicitors (2012-13) for Master of Laws (Law, Technology and Governance) students was this year awarded to Emmet Creighton (centre).



University Scholar for Year 2 Bachelor of Civil Law, Maggie Mac Aonghusa with An tOllamh Nollaig Mac Congáil, Registrar and Deputy President, NUI Galway; President of NUI Galway, Dr. Jim Browne and her grandmother, Mrs. Justice Catherine McGuinness.



Joint winner of the The Val O'Connor Memorial Prize in Equity (2011-12), Eleanor Golden



Joint winners of the The Val O'Connor Memorial Prize in Equity (2011-12), Elaine Whelan.

## NUIG Law Student Wins A&L Goodbody Bold Ideas Competition 2012



Mahmoud Abukhadir (2nd. B. Corporate Law) was the overall winner of the A & L Goodbody Bold Ideas Award 2012 – Law Student Competition. His submission on the topic "The business of law in a connected world" impressed a judging panel made up of former Attorney General, Michael McDowell, S.C., Clíodhna O'Sullivan, Head of Legal in Telefónica Ireland and John Whelan, A&L Goodbody Partner.

This prestigious award includes an internship in one of A&L Goodbody's offices in Dublin, London or New York and a cash prize of €3,000. More details are available here: [www.algoodbody.ie/boldideasaward](http://www.algoodbody.ie/boldideasaward)

## ARTHUR COX

Arthur Cox is committed to encouraging students to avail fully of the opportunities that university offers them; to be innovators and catalysts for change; consistently to stretch themselves and increase their potential; and to contribute towards a sound society and dynamic economy. Arthur Cox is proud to sponsor a €500 Award to an excellent student who has contributed greatly while at NUIG. Students ranked within the top 10% of students across all law programmes on the basis of 2014 second year exams will be eligible to apply for this award. Eligible candidates should apply by sending in a 1-2 page submission outlining a significant contribution to or impact on university life, be it through sporting activities; student societies; or initiatives to improve the college community or the relationship between college and the wider community. The focus of the prize is on actual achievements rather than on participation alone and on contributions which involve a commercial, organisational or legacy element. Supporting documentation may be attached if appropriate.

Arthur Cox and NUIG reserve the right not to award the prize in any given year should no candidate meet the eligibility requirements in the view of the Prize Committee made up of representatives of the School of Law, NUIG and Arthur Cox.

# New Professorial Appointments

## New appointments in ICHR

The Centre is very pleased to welcome three new lecturers, Dr. Ekaterina Yahyaoui Krivenko, Dr. Noelle Higgins and Dr. Karen da Costa.

Dr. Krivenko, previously on the Law Faculty at McGill University, Montreal, also holds the position of Associate Researcher at the Hans and Tamara Oppenheimer Chair in International Law at McGill University. At the Centre, she is teaching International Human Rights Law, Public International Law and Women's Rights.

Dr. Higgins has previously lectured in various aspects of international law and was MA programme director in the School of Law and Government, Dublin City University. She teaches Human Rights on the BA Connect programme and on the LLM programme, and also lectures on Minority Rights and Procedure at the International Criminal Court.

Dr. Karen da Costa, originally from Brazil, is an expert on the extra-territorial application of human rights treaties and is concurrently an Honorary Research Fellow at the Department of Social Sciences of the University of Roehampton, London.

## New appointments in CDLP

- Charlotte May-Simera, Research Assistant with responsibility for the annual publication of the *European Yearbook of Disability Law* and the EU-funded Academic Network of European Disability experts (ANED).
- Dr. Lucy Series, Research Associate, focusing on legal capacity reform.
- Joanna Forde, EU DG-Enlargement "PERSON" project coordinator.

## Staff Departures

The School of Law sends its best wishes to Dr Tom Hickey and Professor Laurent Pech, who are taking up positions in DCU and Middlesex University, respectively. Tom joined the Law School in September 2011 after completing his Ph.D. ("Liberty as Non-Domination and Ethical Difference in the Modern Polity") in August 2010 under the supervision of Professor Gerard Quinn. Laurent was appointed as the Jean Monnet Chair of EU Public Law at NUI Galway in 2004 and joins Middlesex as Professor of EU Law and Head of the Law Department.

## Professor Ronán Long



Professor Ronán Long was appointed to a Personal Professorship in April. He has a Ph.D from the University of Dublin, Trinity College. He teaches EU Law, Planning and Environmental Law, Law of the Sea, and European Fisheries Law. Ronán has also lectured at the Rhodes Academy Oceans Law and Policy and is a supervisor of advanced academic research under the United Nations - The Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellowship Programme. In this capacity, he has worked with mid-career legal professionals from Bangladesh, Myanmar, Mozambique, Sierra Leone and Guatemala.

He was the first recipient of the Manahan Fellowship and has written and co-edited five books, and contributes to the leading peer-review journals as well as international workshops/conferences on the law of the sea, ocean management, and the law and policy of the marine environment. His work has received critical acclaim in the academic literature and has been cited by the European Commission, the United Nations Secretary-General in his annual report to the General Assembly on oceans and the law of the sea, and in legal proceedings in the superior courts in Ireland and the European Court of Justice. He is a member of the editorial boards of the *International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law* and *Ocean Development and International Law*.

Prior to his academic career, he was a permanent staff member at the European Commission (1993-2000) and undertook over 40 missions on behalf of the European Institutions to the Member States of the European Union, the United States of America, Canada, Central America as

well as to African countries. His responsibilities included representing the European Commission at European Council working groups and at several international fora as well as drafting EC regulations governing new satellite technologies for vessel monitoring systems. He contributed to the negotiation and monitoring of the bilateral fishery/trade agreements with Morocco and Mauritania.

Professor Long is Research Director at the Marine Law and Ocean Policy Centre, which is a cross-faculty initiative between participants from the School of Earth and Ocean Sciences, the Law School at NUI Galway and Trinity College Dublin. He has participated on the European Union delegation at a number of international fora dealing with the Law of the Sea including the United Nations and is Ireland's representative at UNESCO /IOC Advisory Body of Experts of the Law of the Sea. He acts as an adviser/consultant on oceans law and policy issues and provides commissioned work to a number of government departments, state agencies, foreign governments, the European Commission, as well as to public and private bodies including the OSPAR Commission, the Office of Legal Affairs at the United Nations, the International Hydrographic Organisation, the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas, the North-Sea Regional Advisory Council, the Government of Scotland, and the Forum Fisheries Agency in the Pacific. As the Managing Director of an off-campus SME ([www.marinelaw.ie](http://www.marinelaw.ie)) he is participating on an extra-mural basis in the ODEMM Project in conjunction with 11 European partners.

## Professor Michael O'Flaherty

The renowned UN human rights expert, Professor Michael O'Flaherty FRSA, has been appointed as Established Professor of Human Rights Law in the past year. He will also serve as Director of the Irish Centre for Human Rights. Professor O'Flaherty is combining his new role at NUI Galway with his current commitment as Chief Commissioner of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission. During this period the Centre for Human Rights will be co-directed by Professor Ray Murphy.

Professor O'Flaherty was appointed Chief Commissioner of the NIHRC in October 2011 but he recently tendered his resignation and will take up duties at the Irish Centre for Human Rights on a full-time basis in November 2013. The Commission advises the government and is responsible for protecting and promoting human rights throughout Northern Ireland. It is also empowered to help people whose rights may have been denied and can carry out its own investigations.

Professor O'Flaherty worked the UK university sector from 2003 as Professor of Applied Human Rights and Co-Director of the Human Rights Law Centre at the School of Law in University of Nottingham.



A native of Galway, Professor O'Flaherty has a distinguished reputation in the human rights arena. Since 2004, he has been an elected member of the United Nations Human Rights Committee and is currently a Vice-Chairperson. He is also a member of the UN Expert Group on Human Rights Indicators, serves on a number of human rights advisory bodies of the UK government and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of the Arts.

Professor O'Flaherty sits on committees of the European Roma Rights Centre, the Diplomacy

Training Programme, the UN-UK Association, the World Organization Against Torture, the Hilde Back Education Fund and a number of other groups worldwide.

Prior to taking up his posts at the University of Nottingham, he served in a number of senior positions with the United Nations. He established the UN human rights field missions in Bosnia and Herzegovina (1994) and Sierra Leone (1998) and subsequently guided UN headquarters support to its human rights programmes across the Asia-Pacific region.

## Professor Donncha O'Connell



Professor Donncha O'Connell took up office as Head of the School of Law in May having recently been appointed to an Established Chair in Law. He is also a part-time Commissioner of the Law Reform Commission, the statutory body charged with advising the government on law reform proposals, and a member of the Legal Aid Board.

Donncha, who comes originally from Swinford, Co. Mayo, graduated from UCG with a BA (in Legal Science and Sociology & Politics) in 1988 and an LL.B in 1990 after which he was called to the Irish Bar. Immediately after that he went to the University of Edinburgh for a year graduating with a Masters in Law in 1993.

Upon returning from Edinburgh Donncha was appointed to a lectureship at the School of Law,

NUI Galway and taught Constitutional Law, Labour Law and European Human Rights there until taking unpaid leave of absence in 1999.

In 1999 he was appointed as the first full-time Director of the Irish Council for Civil Liberties (ICCL), an NGO founded in 1976 by the late Kader Asmal and Mary Robinson. In 2002 Donncha resigned as Director of the ICCL and returned to the Law School at NUI Galway.

In the same year he was appointed as the Irish member of the EU Network of Independent Experts on Fundamental Rights established by the European Commission on foot of a recommendation by the European Parliament LIBE Committee.

In 2005 Donncha O'Connell was elected Dean of Law at NUI Galway and served a full term until 2008. During that time he worked through the Council of Deans to bring about the establishment of the new College of Business, Public Policy & Law, NUI Galway, made up of the former faculties of Commerce and Law as well as the Shannon College of Hotel Management & Catering.

While serving as Dean of Law Donncha continued to teach Constitutional Law and European Human Rights to under-graduate students while

pioneering new courses, such as Equality Law: Principles & Thematic Application and Processes of Law Reform, offered to post-graduate students on the Law School's LL.M in Public Law.

In 2007, he tendered successfully with an international consortium that formed FRALEX, the legal expert group that advises the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights based in Vienna and continued to work as the Senior Irish Expert until 2011.

He edits the *Irish Human Rights Law Review*, published biennially by Clarus Press. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the London-based NGO, INTERIGHTS from 2009-2012. Donncha joined the Board of INTERIGHTS while spending a sabbatical year (2009-2010) as a Visiting Senior Fellow at the Centre for the Study of Human Rights, London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE).

He has been a member of the National Council of the Free Legal Advice Centres (FLAC) Ltd., the National Executive Committee of Amnesty International - Ireland and the Advisory Board of the Public Interest Law Alliance (PILA), a project of FLAC.

Since 2006 Donncha has played an active part on the Board of Directors of the internationally-acclaimed Druid Theatre Company. He is also a trustee of Counterpoint Arts based in Dublin and London.

# External Appointments for Law School Staff

## Professor Ray Murphy nominated to new human rights body



Professor Ray Murphy, Co-Director of the Irish Centre for Human Rights, was appointed by the Government as a Commissioner of the Human Rights Commission and a member-designate of the new Human Rights and Equality Commission, pending the establishment of the latter. The Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission will replace the Irish Human Rights Commission and the Equality Authority which are to be merged. The Minister for Justice, Mr. Alan Shatter, T.D., stated: "The objective of this body will be to champion human rights, including the right to equality." Professor Murphy will sit on the Commission for a period of five years.

## Mrs Justice Catherine McGuinness Appointed Chair of NUI Galway Governing Authority



Mrs. Justice Catherine McGuinness with Dr. Jim Browne, President of NUI Galway, on the occasion of Mrs. Justice McGuinness' appointment as Chair of NUI Galway's Údarás na hOllscoile (Governing Authority) in May. Mrs. Justice McGuinness is also an Adjunct Professor in the School of Law and succeeds Noel Dorr as chair of Údarás na hOllscoile.

Ursula Connolly of the School of Law was also elected to Údarás na hOllscoile. Conor Fottrell, a law graduate, was elected from the Graduate Panel.

## Two NUI Galway academics appointed to Law Reform Commission



In July 2012, NUI Galway law lecturer Tom O'Malley was appointed by the Government to the Law Reform Commission. Professor Donncha O'Connell was also reappointed to the Commission having been initially appointed to replace Mr. Justice Donal O'Donnell earlier in 2012. The other members of the Commission are: Mr. Justice John Quirke (President), Ms. Finola Flanagan (full-time) and Ms. Marie Baker, S.C. (part-time).

Tom O'Malley is a Senior Lecturer in Law and a practising barrister specialising in judicial review. He holds three first-class honours degrees from NUI Galway as well as the LL.M. degree from Yale University. He was a graduate fellow at Yale Law School in 1986-1987 and since then has taught at NUI Galway. He was a Visiting Fellow at the University of Oxford Centre for Criminology in 1992-1993 and, last year, was Visiting Professor of Criminology at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands.

His main research interests are in the area of criminal law and criminal justice and he is the author of leading Irish treatises on sex offences, sentencing and criminal procedure. Tom has served on several committees and working groups at national and international level and is at present a member of the Steering Committee for the Irish Sentencing Information System

The Commission held a public consultation on its Fourth Programme of Law Reform in NUI Galway in February of this year.

## Prestigious EU Appointment for Professor Gerard Quinn

Professor Gerard Quinn, Director of the Centre for Disability Law and Policy in the School of Law, has been appointed to the Scientific Committee of the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) in Vienna. FRA is one of the EU's specialised agencies set up to provide expert advice to the institutions of the EU and the Member States to ensure that the fundamental rights of people living in the EU are protected.

## Appointments to the Irish Disabilities Studies Association

The Irish Disabilities Studies Association has elected Elaine Keane and Dr. Eilíonóir Flynn, both of the Centre for Disability Law and Policy, to the positions of secretary and Ordinary Member (renewable), respectively. The IDSA was formed in 2013 to provide a forum in Ireland, north and south, for analysis, discussion, exchange of ideas and scholarship on disability.

## Larry Donnelly elected first President of the Irish Clinical Legal Education Association (ICLEA)



Larry Donnelly, Lecturer and Director of Clinical Legal Education in the School of Law, was elected the first President of the Irish Clinical Legal Education Association (ICLEA).

ICLEA will work in the coming years to ensure a set of shared objectives are met. These objectives include: establishing a vibrant forum for reflecting and sharing experiences; fostering collaboration where appropriate; lobbying law schools, and the broader institutions of which they are usually a part, for badly needed resources; seeking funding internationally; hosting regular conferences and facilitating smaller events; supporting scholarship on legal education; ensuring that time-consuming and labour-intensive clinical work is valued and recognised; and engaging at the highest level with those involved in clinical legal education in other jurisdictions.

Perhaps most importantly, ICLEA will work to improve and revamp the educational experience for the current and future generations of Irish law students who, on graduation, will encounter a very different world than their predecessors.

# Doctorates from Yale and Leiden

## Lecturer elected chair of Vegetarian Society



Congratulations to Maureen O'Sullivan, Lecturer in Law, who was elected Chairperson of the Vegetarian Society of Ireland in March 2013.

## Co-editor of Irish Journal of European Law



Congratulations to our colleague, Anna-Louise Hinds, on her appointment as Co-Editor of the *Irish Journal of European Law*. Published in print since 1992, the journal will make its first appearance as an e-journal in early 2014, with one volume to be published annually.

The journal is double peer-reviewed under its new editorial direction with greater flexibility in style and content of submissions, and an editorial board of both practitioners and academics.

Congratulations to our two colleagues, Dr. Conor Hanly and Dr. Ciara Smyth, who were recently conferred with Ph.Ds from two highly prestigious universities. Conor graduated with a doctorate from Yale. His thesis was on "The Criminal Jury in Victorian England", supervised by Prof. John Langbein.

Ciara graduated with a doctorate from the University of Leiden having defended her thesis

on "The Common European Asylum System and the Rights of the Child: An Exploration of Meaning and Compliance" in the traditional public defence mode used by Dutch universities. Dr. Smyth's thesis has been nominated by the Law Faculty Board of Leiden University for the prestigious Max van der Stoep Human Rights Prize. The prize will be awarded towards the end of 2013 in Tilburg. Congratulations to Ciara and best wishes to her in the final assessment for this prize.



Dr. Hanly and family on his graduation day at Yale



Dr. Ciara Smyth defending her thesis

# News from the Centres

## IRISH CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (ICHR)

### Ireland & the Human Rights Council Seminar



Speakers at the event, left to right: Dr Niamh Reilly from NUIG, Mary Lawlor from Front Line Human Rights Defenders, Colm O'Gorman from Amnesty International - Ireland and Mark Kelly from ICCL

On February 1st, 2013, the Irish Centre for Human Rights and the Irish Council for Civil Liberties (ICCL) hosted a one-day seminar at NUI Galway that explored the challenges and opportunities presented by Ireland's recent election to the United Nations Human Rights Council. The event brought together a range of human rights experts and produced a list of recommendations to inform Ireland's term of office on the Council. Questions regarding

Ireland's pre-election pledges, how Ireland can best contribute to the agenda of the Council, and the leadership role Ireland can adopt in the promotion of human rights, were considered and addressed. The large conference turnout demonstrated the huge interest there is in the promotion of human rights, in multilateral monitoring through the United Nations and Ireland's performance at the UN Human Rights Council.

### 22nd EU-China Human Rights Seminar



The 22nd EU-China Human Rights Seminar was hosted by the Irish Centre for Human Rights at NUI Galway between October 30-31, 2012. The event brought together approximately 50 Chinese and European academic and civil society experts from some 28 institutions, as well as a small number of officials from both sides, to discuss human rights issues of mutual concern. The topics discussed at the two-day conference were 'Human Rights, the Environment and the Right to Development' and 'Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers'.

The EU has been taking part in a bi-annual human rights dialogue with the Chinese authorities since

1996. This political process has been supported since 1998 at the academic level by the EU-China Human Rights Seminar process. Responsibility for logistical organisation of the Seminars on the Chinese side has continuously resided with the Law Institute of the Chinese Academy for Social Science (CASS), China's leading academic institute in the area of the social sciences. The Irish Centre for Human Rights is the longest-serving institutional organiser of the event in Europe, having been awarded a three-year contract to lead the strategic development of the Seminar process in 2002 and a second four-year contract in March 2009.

### Martti Koskenniemi Visits NUI Galway for Doctoral Seminar



Professor Koskenniemi (far right) pictured with members of the ICHR

The Irish Centre for Human Rights hosted its annual doctoral seminar from April 22nd to 26th, 2013. During the week doctoral scholars and experts submitted presentations on their current research to the group for analysis and discussion. Doctoral students were extremely fortunate to benefit from Professor Martti Koskenniemi's vigorous and intellectually insightful contributions.

### Good Friday Agreement / Belfast Agreement 15 Years On - Brookings Institution Lecture

On March 18, 2013, Professor Michael O'Flaherty delivered a lecture at the influential think-tank, the Brookings Institution, in Washington. Speaking in his capacity as Chief Commissioner of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission, he addressed some of the human rights deficits that remain in the post-conflict landscape of Northern Ireland 15 years after the advent of the Good Friday Agreement / Belfast Agreement.

### Dr. Karen da Costa field mission to Madagascar

In December 2012 Dr. Karen da Costa spent three weeks on a field mission in Madagascar for a case study on the legal framework relating to natural disaster risk reduction. The study was part of a consultancy project for the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. The scope of the mission was to identify the legal framework relating to the prevention of natural disasters and how it is implemented at different administrative levels, and at the community level. This is the second such consultancy undertaken by Dr. da Costa for the International Federation of the Red Cross, the previous one was undertaken in Brazil in 2011, and the mission report is available on the Federation's website.

## CENTRE FOR DISABILITY LAW & POLICY (CDLP)

### A Thriving Legal Internship and Visiting Fellowship Programme

The CDLP Legal Internship programme has been busy with 15 students joining the Centre in the last 14 months from Northeastern University School of Law (Boston), Loyola Law School (Los Angeles), the Indian Law Society's Law College (Pune, India), University of Queensland TC Beirne School of Law, Universidad Pública de Navarra (Spain), as well as from the NUI Galway Law School's LLM in International & Comparative Disability Law & Policy, and its BCL.

The Centre was also host to the following Visiting Fellows who worked with the team during their extended visits to Galway: Dr Delia Ferri, Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Verona (Summer 2012), Professor Beatriz Rodríguez Sanz de Galdeano, Universidad Pública de Navarra, Spain (March 2013), Professor Ignacio Campoy, King Carlos, Spain, May-July 2013, Professor Peter Blanck, Burton Blatt Institute, Syracuse University, US (July 2013).

### New Funding Awards for CDLP

The Centre for Disability Law and Policy and its international partners have been successful in five new EU funding awards for projects totalling nearly €5.5m. €840,000 of this EU funding will be directly awarded to the CDLP with the projects mostly beginning early in 2013. The Centre has also enjoyed another €250,000 in recent funding wins from other non-EU sources, including the SOROS-Open Society Foundations.

### Public Seminars

The CDLP regularly hosts public seminars and has been privileged to have welcomed nine expert speakers in the last 14 months. Amongst them were: Charlotte McClain-Nhlapo, Coordinator, Office for Disability and Inclusive Development, USAID (the US Agency for International Development); Louise Olivier, Law Programme Manager with the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA); and Nicole Fritz, Executive Director of the Southern African Litigation Centre (SALC); Cher Nicholson, Office of the Public Advocate, South Australia; and Axel Leblois President and Executive Director of the G3ict initiative (the Global Initiative for Inclusive Information and Communication Technologies).



Centre for Disability Law and Policy Graduates its Inaugural Masters Class

### Launch of European Yearbook of Disability Law



CDLP students and interns in Brussels attending the EU Parliament launch of Volume Three of the CDLP's European Yearbook of Disability Law in April 2013. The launch included a colloquium entitled *The Future of European Disability Scholarship as a Tool for European Policy-Makers* which was attended by MEPS, academics, and representatives of non-governmental organisations. The party from NUI Galway also met with officials working in the area of disability policy reform.



Editors of the *European Yearbook of Disability Law*, Professor Lisa Waddington (left), Professor Gerard Quinn (centre) and Dr. Eilíonóir Flynn (right) with Máiréad McGuinness, MEP (centre-left) and Marian Harkin, MEP (centre-right) at the launch of the book in the European Parliament, April 2013.

### Other Major CDLP Events

May 2013: "The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) – getting ready to ratify" – a conference co-hosted by Disability Federation of Ireland (DFI).

April 2013: "Supported Decision-Making In Theory & Practice: Ireland's Capacity Bill exploring how to practically implement capacity legislation that is compliant with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities" – a conference co-hosted with Amnesty International - Ireland.

October 2012: "What Does Equal Access To The Printed Word Mean In The Electronic Age? The Worldwide Process Of Copyright Reform & Disability – The Debate At The UN World Intellectual Property Organization (Wipo) – a seminar co-organised by the National Council for the Blind of Ireland.

June 2012: "Mental Health Law Reform: New Perspectives and Challenges" - in association with Amnesty International - Ireland.

## CENTRE FOR HOUSING LAW, RIGHTS AND POLICY



Director of the centre, Dr. Padraic Kenna, with visiting researcher Dovilė Gailiūtė

Housing is a key area of expertise within the School of Law. The Centre for Housing Law, Rights and Policy broadens this knowledge and capability, offering valuable opportunities for postgraduate research and development. The aim of the Centre is to promote the study of the legal, political, economic, human rights, social and policy aspects of housing in Ireland and internationally. Its Director, Dr. Padraic Kenna, has extensive experience of working, teaching, researching and publishing on housing in Ireland and overseas.

Postgraduate research (some with IRC funding), is being undertaken in a range of housing areas including: mortgage market regulation in Ireland and Europe, independent living for persons with disabilities, the impact of EU law on housing rights, investment in Irish housing, the regulation of social housing, public procurement and community benefits, housing and globalization, homelessness, e-conveyancing, creating new forms of housing tenure and the application of human/housing rights to housing systems. The Centre welcomes Ph.D applications in these and other areas.

This year the Centre produced many articles and books chapters, including a Special Issue of the *International Journal of Law in the Built Environment* – entitled “Contemporary housing issues in a changing world.” In June, Dr. Kenna delivered a keynote address to the Annual Conference of the European Network of Housing Researchers at Tarragona, Spain. This event was attended by 480 researchers from many European countries. The Centre jointly co-ordinates the Legal Aspects of Housing, Land and Planning stream of this European Network.

The Centre now has established international links with universities and agencies, national and international NGOs and government departments. For instance, Dovilė Gailiūtė, from Vilnius, Lithuania, a final year PhD law student on the right to adequate housing, has been researching at the Centre under the ERASMUS training programme for the summer 2013 period.

Dr. Kenna has also been appointed to the Advisory Body of the EU 7th Framework-funded TEN-Law Project, coordinated by the University of Bremen, which sets out to provide the first large-scale comparative and European law survey of tenancy law. In collaboration with University of Ulster and Dublin Institute of Technology, the Centre is developing the first all-Ireland Masters in Housing. This will offer a high-level qualification to leading housing practitioners and others, and will be accredited by a number of professional bodies.

For more information see CHLRP website: <http://www.nuigalway.ie/chlrp/> or contact [padraic.kenna@nuigalway.ie](mailto:padraic.kenna@nuigalway.ie)

## KEVIN BOYLE ARCHIVE

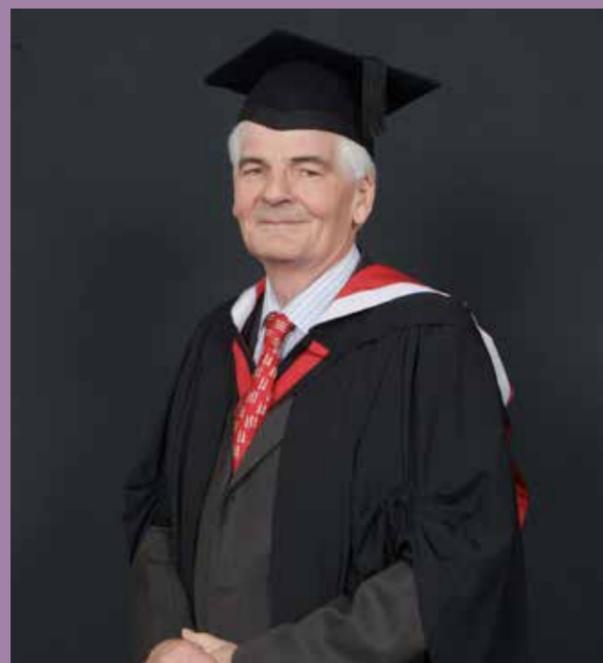
The cataloguing of the archive of Professor Kevin Boyle (1943-2010) is currently underway at the James Hardiman Library. Professor Boyle was a human rights activist, leading academic and lawyer who was Chair of Law at University College Galway from 1978 to 1986. Born in Newry, Co. Down, Boyle was a leading presence in the Civil Rights movement in Northern Ireland from the late-1960s, being involved with Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association and People's Democracy.

He was a pioneering figure in challenging rights abuses at the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. Kevin was the first full-time member of staff of the Law Faculty of UCG and was instrumental in developing the faculty, the resources of the law library and what was originally called the Irish Centre for the Study of Human Rights.

Following his departure from Galway, Boyle was founding Director of the international NGO based in London, Article 19, concerned with freedom of expression. He joined University of Essex in early 1989 and acted as Director of the internationally renowned Human Rights Centre there until 2003. In 2001 he was appointed Senior Adviser to Mary Robinson at the office of UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Professor Boyle died in 2010 at the age of 67 following an illness.

The Boyle Archive will be a leading resource for scholars of law, International Human Rights, Anglo-Irish Relations, freedom of expression and other related fields. Contact archivist barry.houlihan@nuigalway.ie for further information.”



Professor Kevin Boyle in July 2010 when he was awarded an Honorary MA. (c) University of Essex

# Selected Publications & Research



What follows is a selection of major publications by colleagues from the School of Law and its Centres published during the past year. It evidences a consistently high quality of academic research and writing but, also, of engaged scholarship and impact both nationally and internationally.

Dr. Padraic Kenna, Associate Head for Research

### Books:

- Tom O'Malley, *Sentencing: Towards a Coherent System* (Round Hall 2012)
- Kathleen Cavanaugh & Joshua Castellino 'Minority Rights in the Middle East: A Comparative Legal Analysis' (Oxford University Press 2013)
- Karen Da Costa, 'The Extraterritorial Application of Selected Human Rights Treaties' (Brill/Martinus Nijhoff Publishers 2013)
- Gerard Quinn, Eilionóir Flynn, Lisa Waddington, *European Yearbook of Disability Law: Volume 3* (Intersentia 2012)
- Ciara Smyth, *The Common European Asylum System and the Rights of the Child: An Exploration of Meaning and Compliance* (Meijers Research Institute and Graduate School, Leiden Law School, 2013)

### Chapters:

- Ciara Smyth, 'The Best Interests of the Immigrant Child in the European Courts: Problems and Prospects' in Lodder and Rodrigues (eds.) *Het Kind in Het Immigratierecht* (Sdu Uitgevers, The Haag, 2012)
- Tom Hickey, 'Civic Virtue, Autonomy and Religious Schools: What Would Machiavelli Do?' in Fintan O'Toole (ed.) *Up the Republic! - Towards a New Ireland* (Faber and Faber 2012)
- Ronan Long, 'Stepping over Maritime Boundaries to Apply New Normative Tools in EU Law and Policy' in Myron H. Nordquist, John Norton Moore (eds.) *Maritime Border Diplomacy* (Brill Academic Publishers 2012)
- Annyssa Bellal, 'Regulating the arms trade from a human rights perspective' in *Weapons under International Human Rights Law* (Cambridge University Press 2013)

- Eilionóir Flynn, 'Intersectionality and Access to Justice' in Gerard Quinn and Charles O'Mahony (eds), *The UN convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Comparative, Regional and Thematic Perspectives* (Intersentia Publishers 2013)
- Padraic Kenna, Ruth Cannon and Aine Clancy, 'Housing Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2009' in *Property Legislation Annotated 2009-2011* (Round hall 2012)
- Marie McGonagle and Annabel Brody, 'Model for a cross-country comparative analysis of state media and communications regulatory bodies: the case of Ireland' in Helena Sousa, Wolfgang Trützscher, Joaquim Fidalgo, Mariana Lameiras (eds), *Media Regulators in Europe: A Cross-country Comparative Analysis* (Portugal, Communication and Society Research Centre 2013)
- Ray Murphy, 'Forgotten rights: Consequences of the Israeli occupation of the Golan Heights' in David Keane and Yvonne McDermott (eds) *The Challenges of Human Rights: Past, Present and Future* (Edward Elgar 2012)
- Michael O'Flaherty 'The Interim Measures Practice of the Human Rights Committee' in Yves Haecq et al (eds.) *Interim Measures Protection in International Human Rights Law* (Oxford University Press 2013)
- Tom O'Malley, 'Living without Guidelines' in Professor Andrew Ashworth and Professor Julian Roberts (eds), *Sentencing Guidelines: Exploring the English Model* (Oxford University Press 2013)

### Peer-reviewed articles:

- Lucy-Ann Buckley, 'European Family Law: the Beginning of the End for "Proper" Provision?' (2012) 15(2) *Irish Journal of Family Law* 31.
- Noelle Higgins, Elaine Dewhurst, Los Watkins 'Field Trips as Teaching Tools in the Law Curriculum' *Research in Education* (2012) 88.
- Ray Murphy 'Prisoners of War: A Comparative Study' 12 *Renmin University Law Review* (2013), 274-303.
- Charles O'Mahony, 'Legal capacity and detention: Implications of the UN disability convention for the inspection standards of human rights monitoring bodies'. *Sur International Journal Of Human Rights* (2012).

- Ciara Smyth, 'Is the Right of the Child to Liberty Safeguarded in the Common European Asylum System?' *European Journal of Migration and Law* 15 (2013) 111-136.
- Ekaterina Yahyaoui Krivenko, 'The Reservations Dialogue as a Constitution Making Process' *International Community Law Review* 15(3) (2013) 381-404.

### Reports:

- Marie McGonagle, 'Monitoring and Analysis of Audiovisual Commercial Communication in Ireland.' Report for European Commission 2012. (EMR, SMART 2008/0001)
- Annabel Egan & Flora Sapio, 'People's Republic of China Criminal Procedure Law: human rights implications of the March 2012 amendments.' Report for the EU-China Human Rights Network, May 2012
- Annabel Egan, 'Second Universal Periodic Review of the People's Republic of China: Preparatory Analysis.' *Europe China Research and Advice Network Short Term Policy Brief* 73, April 2013
- Annabel Egan & Flora Sapio, 'Human Rights and Crimes Endangering State Security in the People's Republic of China.' Report for the EU-China Human Rights Network, May 2013
- Marie McGonagle and Ingrid Cunningham, 'Research Project: Representation of people with disabilities in Irish broadcast media A Review of Other Jurisdictions.' Report for the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland and the National Disability Authority 2013.
- Maureen O'Sullivan, 'Extremadura's Free and Open Source Software Policy amid Storms of Political Change.' Report for the European Commission in April 2013.
- Gerard Quinn and Suzanne Doyle, 'Getting a Life - Living Independently and Being Included in the Community.' Legal study commissioned by the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights 2013.

# Tradition & Change...



*In this article the newly-appointed Head of the School of Law, Professor Donncha O'Connell, reflects on legal education and related matters*

The Law School at NUI Galway is a community of scholars, students and graduates – diverse in composition, pluralist in thinking, engaged with the world and impactful. This is my real sense of the place in which I received my own formative legal education and in which I have taught since 1993. When I was a student in UCG in the late-1980's I didn't fully appreciate the commitment and dedication of teachers like Liam O'Malley,

that Galway did not do then were more than adequately balanced by the things that it did brilliantly, not least of which was its genuinely student-centred approach on truly innovative and distinctive teaching programmes like 'Law through Arts' and the LL.B.

Things change. When I left UCG in 1990 there were approximately 5,500 students in the University. We now have in the region of 17,000 students. Our village has become a sizeable town with a new name. The School of Law now has about 40 academic staff supported by about 10 administrative staff. We co-exist (peacefully!) with the School of Business & Economics in the

**“a community of scholars, students and graduates – diverse in composition, pluralist in thinking, engaged with the world and impactful”**

Marie McGonagle, Denny Driscoll, Nuala Jackson, Tom O'Malley, Kevin Costello and others. It was a smaller Faculty then with a casual familiarity that was taken for granted. Our distance from the metropolis was both insulating and liberating. It was not until later, having experienced legal education in other institutions, that I came fully to value my Galway education. The things

College of Business, Public Policy & Law. The School has approximately 1,200 students, in undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, and we teach in every College of the University. We have, for the past number of years, a five-star QS ranking. More recently, we were among the most successful Schools in NUI Galway in competing for Irish Research Council doctoral and post-

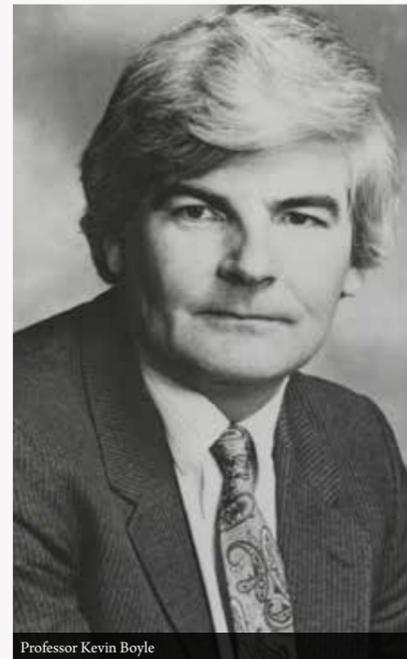
doctoral scholarships contributing, in no small way, to the excellent performance overall of the University in what is a highly competitive process.

Having recently appointed three new Professors – myself, Professor Ronán Long and Professor Michael O'Flaherty – we are about to recruit four new full-time lecturers. Next year we will move to a new location on the North Campus close to our colleagues in the School of Business & Economics. This move will entail a host of improvements for the School including the provision of a dedicated Moot Court Room to become a central facility in our pioneering Clinical Legal Education programme.

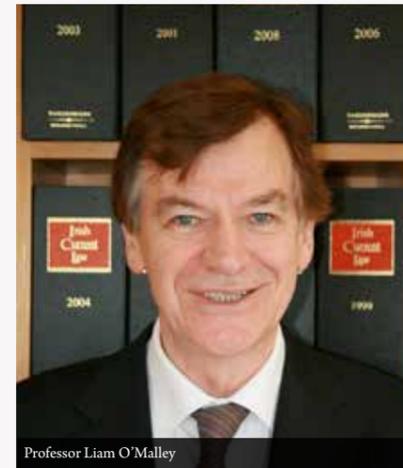
**In driving change it is vitally important to respect and protect the best of tradition and legacy**

In driving change it is vitally important to respect and protect the best of tradition and legacy. As a beneficiary of the best traditions of the Law School at NUI Galway I am acutely aware of this and see it as part of my duty to consolidate and build upon the achievements of others.

I am mindful of the vision and charismatic leadership of predecessors like the late Professor Kevin Boyle whose ability to foster and inspire talent endures in the battalions of committed



Professor Kevin Boyle



Professor Liam O'Malley

optimists that he influenced here, and in other academic institutions, to work for the promotion of human rights throughout the world. I am hugely conscious of the transformative growth – in programmes, student numbers and staffing – that took place in the School under the diligent and selfless leadership of Professor Liam O'Malley. I remember, with great warmth, the tireless efforts of Denny Driscoll to raise our sights as students and his opening up of the (literal) world of law with distinguished visiting speakers, exotic placement opportunities and an indomitable drive for improvement.

The 'thread' in all of this was our long-standing Administrator, Des McSharry, who is retiring at the end of 2013. Des has been the head, heart and soul of the School for as long as I have had an association with it and his departure will be a cause of real sadness for staff and students alike. I wish Des a long and happy retirement.

Like all institutions within institutions we face many challenges. The challenges faced by Irish university law schools have not reached the levels faced by our counterparts in the US where a burgeoning literature now exists on the existential crisis faced by Law Schools. Although we are increasingly and properly accountable for our research output we do not work under the same strictures as our counterparts in the UK and Northern Ireland who are subject to the REF. This will probably change.

The current challenges faced by Irish university Law Schools are largely to do with a decline in interest in law as a career among second-level students reflected in a decline in CAO points for law undergraduate courses. This is, in all likelihood, just a reflection of a low point in the economic cycle and there are already signs of slow recovery. Those students just entering third-level are likely to be graduating at a better time than

**“We are not enablers of passive or even efficient learning by 'customers' who are just nominally students”**



Mr. Dennis Driscoll

those graduating now. Of course, many of our graduates do not go on to pursue careers in the traditional legal professions but clearly see law as a useful academic foundation for other options.

In any event, there will be significant change in the ways in which the legal professions operate in Ireland as a result of changes being introduced in the Legal Services (Regulation) Bill. The Bar, in particular, is likely to undergo the most significant change. The fears expressed by the legal professions in relation to the regulatory regime for legal services to be provided for under the Bill may well be overstated. It is laudable, at least, that the Bill aims to address, in a serious way, the rights of users of legal services and to create a more competitive and less restrictive context for the delivery of those services. Of course, it remains to be seen if the Bill, when passed, will deliver on these ambitions.

The creation of a Legal Services Regulatory Authority, under the Bill, is likely to have real implications for university Law Schools and, indeed, other public and private actors in the area of legal education. Balancing the demands of external accreditation and other processes of such an Authority against the increasingly rigorous processes of academic institutions will not be straightforward, especially if such processes pull in different directions or collide.

It is not for university Law Schools to see themselves as allies of vested interests. We are academic units within larger academic institutions that should strive for as much intellectual autonomy as is required to realise the full value of academic freedom. By that I do not mean the right to be left alone, or the right to be like self-employed sole traders with all of the benefits of the public sector. I am talking about something much more important than that.

I am talking about the benefits that accrue to our students by being taught by independent, open-minded and intellectually rigorous educators. We are not enablers of passive or even efficient learning by 'customers' who are just nominally students. Rather, through a commitment to scholarship, reflection and research, we become good enough to inspire others to learn.

Nowadays, we do this within processes supported by a deadening language of outcomes, deliverables, outputs, product and other nouns from an industrial age. But we don't have to be too literal about all of this. It is possible to comply and be creative without resorting to the cynicism of 'creative compliance' or, even worse, 'strict compliance'.

In a university context, Law is a particularly valuable discipline. It speaks to tradition in obvious ways but it remains of enduring and, arguably, increasing value in societies where the rule of law is, perhaps regrettably, evidenced by hyper-regulation. As universities become more concerned about impact as a performance indicator for research, law is indisputably impactful as a translational tool of public policy.

**“law is indisputably impactful as a translational tool of public policy”**

Therefore, there are reasons to be cheerful about the future of legal education in Irish universities. Our own School has always been – consciously or otherwise – mindful of impact. This is amply demonstrated by the international reach of our Centres – the Irish Centre for Human Rights, the Centre for Disability Law & Policy, the Marine Law & Ocean Policy Centre and, more recently, the Centre for Housing Law, Rights & Policy. It is also evidenced by the prominence of staff such as Tom O'Malley, Dr. Mary Keys, Larry Donnelly, Professor Gerard Quinn, Professor Ray Murphy and others in the public square, whether as media contributors, activists or members of statutory bodies.

But the School of Law is not all about us, the staff. It is, as I said at the outset, a community of scholars, students and graduates: a community not fixed in one place at one time but one bonded by values. In the coming years I look forward, with energy and enthusiasm, to engaging with each part of that community and to developing those values.

# Doctoral Programme

## MAJOR SUCCESS FOR SCHOOL IN LATEST ROUND OF IRC SCHOLARSHIPS

Seven postgraduate students in the School of Law and its Centres have been offered very prestigious Irish Research Council (IRC) doctoral and post-doctoral scholarships in the latest round of offers from the Council. This success places the School of Law in the top three Schools in NUI Galway in this round of offers and has helped in a major way to bolster the overall performance of the University in a highly competitive applications process. Congratulations to the seven successful students and their supervisors:



Tanja Florath (Supervisor – Professor Ray Murphy, ICHR)



Matti Twomey (Supervisor – Marie McGonagle)



Camille Latimier (Supervisor - Professor Gerard Quinn, CDLP)



Karen Lynch-Shally (Supervisor – Dr. Padraic Kenna)



Deirdre Halloran (Supervisor – Dr Pádraic Kenna)



Áine Sperrin (Supervisor – Dr Eilíonóir Flynn, CDLP)



Dr Róisín Burke (Supervisor – Professor Ray Murphy, ICHR) (Post-doc)

## APPOINTMENT OF DOCTORAL PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

Dr. Ciara Smyth is the newly-appointed Doctoral Programme Director for the School of Law. In this role she is responsible for the development and co-ordination of the doctoral programme in the School of Law and its Centres. Ciara is also a member of the School Research Committee and is the School's representative on SARFaL, (the Strategic Alliance of Research Faculties of Law). SARFaL is a group of research-intensive law faculties/schools committed to facilitating and enhancing international research co-operation.

This includes joint research projects by senior researchers and Ph.D candidates, participation in joint conferences, cross-border reviews of written material, research visits abroad by senior researchers and Ph.D candidates, and exchange of research-oriented and talented students. At present, SARFaL consists of the Universities of Aarhus, Barcelona, Bologna, Galway, Geneva, Leiden, Leuven, Oslo, Oxford, Poitiers, Prague and Vienna.



Dr. Ciara Smyth, Doctoral Programme Director

## Some Recent Doctoral Graduates



Dr Annabel Egan with daughter Molly. Annabel graduated on March 2013. Her PhD thesis was entitled 'Constructive Engagement and Human Rights: The Case of EU Policy on China'



Annabel Brody with proud mum Madelyn

Dr. Annabel Brody received her Ph.D at the November 2012 conferring. Annabel's thesis was entitled 'Media Accountability in the Twenty-First Century' and was supervised by Marie McGonagle. Annabel has since taken up a post at the University of Amsterdam as English-language editor of the IRIS publications of the European Audiovisual Observatory and as an assistant researcher.

Dr. Bernadette Gannon, a graduate of the first LL.M in Public Law class, was awarded a Ph.D on 26 June 2013. Dr. Gannon's research was supervised by Dr. Mary Keys entitled 'The Rights of Older People in Residential Care: An Examination of the Law and Practice.'

## INTERNATIONALISATION

### The Law School in China



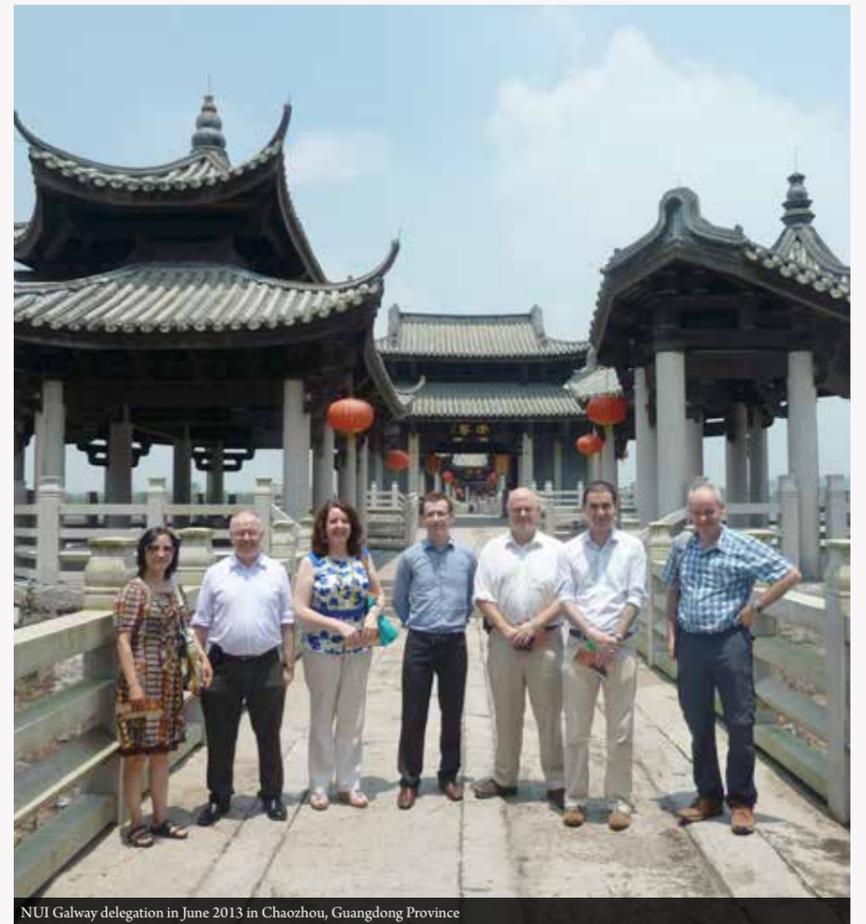
Director of Internationalisation, Dr. Conor Hanly

The Law School has for many years offered its students the opportunity to study law in partner institutions around Europe and the United States. To develop similar opportunities in Asia, the Law School's newly-appointed Director of Internationalisation, Dr. Conor Hanly, participated in a recent NUI Galway delegation to a select number of universities in the People's Republic of China. Dr. Hanly met with counterparts at Guangdong University of Technology and

Shantou University, both in Guangdong Province, south-eastern China, and at Beihang University and China University of Political Science and Law, both in Beijing.

The Law School is working with these institutions initially to institute bilateral exchange programmes that will allow both Chinese and Galway law students to gain part of their legal education in the partner institution. These exchanges will offer those Galway students and staff who travel to China an unrivalled learning and cultural experience, while the presence of Chinese students and staff in NUI Galway will bring a different perspective into our classrooms. The School hopes that these exchange programmes will be in place for September 2014.

The School is also participating in a wider university initiative to develop full joint degree programmes with these partner institutions in China. These programmes will require participating students to spend an extended period of study in both Galway and China. Successful completion of the programme will result in students obtaining law qualifications from both universities. These programmes will start coming on-stream from September 2015.



NUI Galway delegation in June 2013 in Chaozhou, Guangdong Province

# Clinical Legal Education

## School of Law/PILA Clinical Legal Education Conference



Professor Donncha O'Connell, Larry Donnelly and Kevin Kerrigan, Executive Dean for the Faculty of Business and Law, Northumbria University

A group of legal academics from universities, institutes of technology, private colleges and professional law schools gathered recently at a conference in NUI Galway to consider the development of clinical legal education in Ireland. The conference was co-hosted by the Public Interest Law Alliance (PILA) and the School of Law. PILA, a project of the Free Legal Advice Centres Ltd. (FLAC), and the School of Law have a strong relationship and will be working strategically in a variety of ways to expand the use of law in the public interest.

Clinical legal education is a term employed to encapsulate a broad range of activities that focus on "learning by doing" and is widely recognised as the most significant innovation in the pedagogy of law teaching in the past century. It is a global phenomenon and clinical programmes are well-established throughout the common law world.

Clinical legal education, at its best, simultaneously equips students with practical know-how and with an understanding that the law and the legal system can be powerful tools for protecting human rights and promoting the interests of those on society's margins. The School of Law has long recognised the value of clinical legal education and has provided some of its students with opportunities to work in a variety of "real world" settings. For instance, this past academic year, students worked on the inquest into the death of Savita Halappanavar, on the Maura Thornton murder trial and on a Supreme Court appeal on the issue of access to education for members of the Travelling Community.

At the conference, attendees heard an inspiring keynote speech from Kevin Kerrigan, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Business and Law at Northumbria University and an internationally recognised expert in clinical legal education. At Northumbria, some 200 students work under the supervision of a cadre of full-time legal practitioners employed by the law school and

represent indigent clients in approximately 1,000 actual cases annually. Northumbria's clinic has achieved life-changing successes for those who have used its services.

Although clinical programmes in Ireland haven't yet scaled these lofty heights, a number of Irish legal academics described exciting existing and planned initiatives in their own institutions. In addition to long-established clinical programmes at NUI Galway and UCC, virtually every other Irish law school is now embracing clinical legal education. Attendees were also heartened to hear that clinical training is now very much a part of the curriculum in the professional law schools. And Kevin Kerrigan devoted much of his keynote to outlining how Irish law schools can further enhance and expand their clinical offerings in these straitened times.

Buoyed by the energy and enthusiasm at the conference, attendees agreed to establish the Irish Clinical Legal Education Association (ICLEA) to work toward a set of shared objectives. These objectives include: establishing a vibrant forum for reflecting and sharing experiences; fostering collaboration where appropriate; lobbying law schools, and the broader institutions of which they are usually a part, for badly needed resources; seeking funding internationally; hosting regular conferences and facilitating smaller events; supporting scholarship on legal education; ensuring that time-consuming and labour-intensive clinical work is valued and recognised; and engaging at the highest level with those involved in clinical legal education in other jurisdictions.

ICLEA will be led initially by Larry Donnelly, Lecturer and Director of Clinical Legal Education in the School of Law and former PILA Manager.



Noeline Blackwell, Director General of FLAC speaking at the conference

## Moot Court Module Final 2013



Moot Court Module winning team, Trevor Glavey and Simona Siskauskaite

The Moot Court Module final took place in Galway Courthouse on 2 February 2012. The victorious Team of Trevor Glavey and Simona Siskauskaite narrowly overcame Tatiana Kelly and Féidhlim Seoige in a thrilling final moot which exhibited everything that is positive about mooting. The School would like to thank the three judges for their time and effort: Justice Mathilda Twomey (Court of Appeals, The Seychelles), Justice Rory MacCabe (Circuit Court) and Judge Mary Larkin (District Court).

Special tribute must also be paid to all sixteen mooters for their application, effort and enthusiasm over the three months period prior to the competition which culminated in some fantastic mooting and to the staff who so generously gave of their time, in particular Ursula Connolly for drafting the interesting Moot fact pattern, Tom O'Malley, John Countryman (visiting Fulbright Scholar) and Dr. Conor Hanly for giving guest lectures and Rónán Kennedy who was kind enough to address the class and give them critical feedback in relation to their draft submissions.

The team mentors were Donncha O'Connell, Charles O'Mahony, Nicola Murphy, Dr. Noelle Higgins, Dr. Tom Hickey, Thomas Mc Donagh, Dr. Joe McGrath and Dr. Laurent Pech.

## Student Success at 12th INADR Annual International Law School Mediation Tournament



Kieran Touhy, Cassie Roddy, their coach Lughaidh Kerin, Karolyn Place, Tamara Cassidy, Tatiana Kelly & Eoghan Clogher

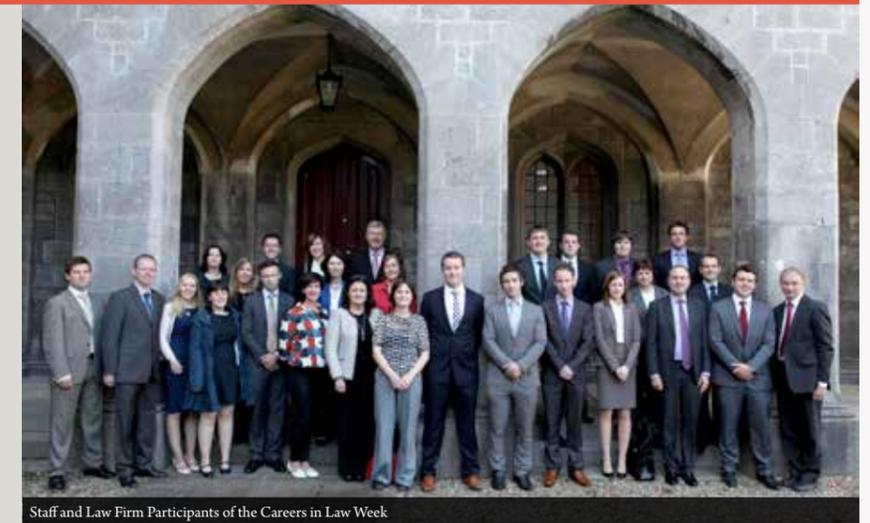
Our students excelled at the 12th International Academy of Dispute Resolution (INADR) Annual International Law School Mediation Tournament which was held this year in Dublin at the Law Society of Ireland. The performance of the NUI Galway teams contributed to NUI Galway's ADR module being awarded "Outstanding New Mediation Programme".

On an individual level, Karolyn Place (3rd BCL) finished 10th overall in the "Individual Mediator Awards" and Cassie Roddy (3rd LLB) & Tatiana Kelly (3rd LLB) finished joint 5th in the "Individual Advocate/Client Awards".

## Careers in Law Week 2012

Careers in Law Week took place in September 2012. This is an initiative by the School of Law in conjunction with the Career Development Centre.

The highlight of the week was the Law Firms Day in the Bailey Allen Hall, where Arthur Cox, William Fry, A&L Goodbody, Matheson, Mason Hayes & Curran and Holmes O'Malley Sexton gave their presentations, followed by networking and refreshments.



Staff and Law Firm Participants of the Careers in Law Week

## DCU National Moot Court Competition



NUI Galway Law students Michael Wilkins, Aaron Fahy and Dara Geoghegan represented the School with distinction at the DCU National Moot Court Competition which took place on Saturday, 10 November 2012 in the Court of Criminal Justice, Dublin.

Hosted by the Socio-Legal Research Centre and School of Law and Government at DCU, and sponsored by Matheson, the National Moot Court Competition is open to all those studying law at third level on the island of Ireland.

# Conferences and Events



## NUI Galway Celebrate Over 20 Years in Occupational Health and Safety Education



In celebration of twenty-one years of Occupational Health and Safety education in NUI Galway a conference entitled 'Occupational Health and Safety: A Pioneering Past and a Bright Future' was held in NUIG on the 14th & 15th of June.

A keynote address was delivered by Herbert Mulligan of the *Health and Safety Review* which discussed 'Health and Safety Legislation and Case Law: Past, Present and Future' with a very interesting address from Ursula Connolly from the Law School on 'Bullying in Irish Workplaces – legal remedies and proposals for reform'

Deirdre Callanan, from the School of Law, who was the organiser of the event, delivers the Health and Safety module on the various Occupational Health and Safety programmes offered in NUIG.



Ursula Connolly, School of Law; Rob Saunders, Shell International BV, The Netherlands (past graduate); Dr. Therese Shryane, INTERPOL (past graduate)

## School of Law hosts 5th Annual Conference of Irish Society for Comparative Law



President of NUI Galway, Dr. Jim Browne, with keynote speakers Mrs. Justice Catherine McGuinness, Professor Sue Farran, Professor Brice Dickson, Professor Donncha O'Connell, Marie McGonagle, and Professor Steve Hedley, President of the ISCL.

The LL.M in Public Law programme at the School of Law hosted the 5th Annual Conference of the Irish Society of Comparative Law on Friday 24th and Saturday 25th of May 2013. Over 50 legal academics and practitioners from Ireland, other European countries, the US, Canada, Uganda, Japan and China presented papers at the conference on the overarching theme of 'Comparative Public Law'. Topics explored issues ranging from children in rainbow families to equality in healthcare, cyberbullying, money laundering and the question of constitutional rights for human-animal hybrids and chimeras. Professor Brice Dickson from Queen's University

Belfast presented a keynote paper entitled 'The Irish Supreme Court in Comparative Perspective', to which former Supreme Court judge and Adjunct Professor at the School of Law, Mrs. Justice Catherine McGuinness, responded with insightful observations on her experience of the workings of the Supreme Court. The other keynote speaker was Professor Susan Farran of the University of Northumbria who presented a paper entitled 'The Age of Empire Again: Critical Thoughts on Legal Imperialism'. The keynote papers can be viewed on the LL.M in Public Law Youtube channel:

[www.youtube.com/user/LLMNUIG](http://www.youtube.com/user/LLMNUIG)

## Law of the Sea Conference



Professor Ronán Long and Professor Myron Nordquist, Associate Director of the Centre for Oceans Law and Policy

Over 150 international lawyers and diplomats attended the 37th Annual Oceans Law and Policy Conference, which took place in Seoul, from 1-4 May 2013. This year's conference reviewed a broad range of contemporary issues concerning global challenges and the freedom of navigation including maritime boundaries in the China Sea,

recent developments in EU law, petroleum law, energy security, piracy, transnational threats to international peace and stability, the Arctic Ocean, marine environmental protection, as well as scientific research.

The Centre for Oceans Law and Policy at the University of Virginia and the Korean Maritime Institute were the primary organisers with additional support from the School of Law, NUI Galway, the Centre for International Law at the National University of Singapore, and the South China Sea Institute at Xiamen University. Conference photos can be found on Picasa. Conference proceedings will be published by Nijhoff and distributed worldwide.

## Conference on Mediation in Cases of International Family Conflict and Child Abduction



Left to right: Dr. Mohamed M Keshavjee, Carmel Savage, Judge Eberhard Carl (retd.), Sabine Walsh, Professor Donncha O'Connell, Hilde Demarre, Mr. Justice Henry Abbott & Lughaidh Kerin.

The School of Law and the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre, NUI Galway held a Conference on Mediation in Cases of International Family Conflict and Child Abduction in association with The Irish Centre for International Family Mediation on 18 May 2013. Irish and international speakers and experts in the field and representatives of the EU Network of International Family Mediators addressed the Conference.

The conference was opened by Mr. Justice Henry Abbott of the High Court and chaired by Professor Donncha O'Connell, Head of the School of Law. Professor Pat Dolan, UNESCO Chair and Director of the Child and Family Research Centre, NUI Galway gave some preliminary remarks on the potentially positive effects of mediation. Presentations were given by Hilde

Demarré, Project Manager, Child Focus, Brussels, Belgium on 'An Introduction to the concept of International Family Mediation, the Model and EU-NIM'; Judge Eberhard Carl (Retd.) Former Head of the Mediation Section, Federal Ministry of Justice, Berlin, Germany on 'The Judicial perspective on Mediation in International Family cases'; and Dr Mohamed M Keshavjee, BL (Gray's Inn) International Family Mediator, (Author – Islam, The Sharia and ADR) on 'A Cross Cultural & non-EU perspective'. The Family Mediation Service carried out a demonstration role-play of an international family mediation. The conference rapporteur was Sabine Walsh, Accredited International Family Mediator, Member EU-NIM. The moderator and chief organiser was Lughaidh Kerin of the School of Law.

## Public Symposium on Privacy Laws



L to R: José María Baño, Professor Joshua Fairfield, Rónán Kennedy, Mr. Paul Lambert.

The School of Law organised an international conference on 8 March 2013 entitled 'Privacy from Birth to Death and Beyond: European and American Perspectives'. The event examined topics such as the upcoming European Court of Justice ruling on the so-called 'Right to be Forgotten', the development of privacy regulation in the United States of America, the protection of children's privacy online, privacy rights after death, and the practical issues that face legal practitioners working with these rapidly-developing problems. The symposium was jointly organised by the LL.M in Public Law and the LL.M in Law, Technology and Governance. The speakers included Mr. José María Baño, Instituto de Empresa and José María

Baño León Abogados, Madrid; Fulbright Scholar Professor Joshua Fairfield of the Washington and Lee University Law School; Dr. Sharon McLaughlin, Letterkenny Institute of Technology, Mr. Paul Lambert, Merrion Legal Solicitors and Mr. Damien McCallig, IRC Doctoral Scholar at the School of Law, NUI Galway. There was a large attendance at the conference and the event itself and the issues discussed by the speakers generated a great deal of national and local media coverage.

The SCRIPed Journal of Law, Technology & Society posted a report on the symposium as part of a special issue on post-mortem privacy.

## Conference on the Children's Constitutional Referendum

The LL.M in Public Law programme hosted a conference on the children's constitutional referendum on 21st September 2012 at the Burren College of Art, Ballyvaughan, Co. Clare. This was the second annual conference of the LL.M in Public Law. The conference was timely as it coincided with the beginning of the referendum campaign for the constitutional amendment, which was adopted in November 2012. The conference critically considered the Children's Constitutional Referendum and its implication on the rights of the child. Mrs. Justice Catherine McGuinness chaired the conference. NUI Galway graduate, Dr. Geoffrey Shannon, Special Rapporteur on Child Protection and leading expert on child law, delivered the keynote address. Other speakers at the conference included Dr. Anne Egan, Fergal Landy, Child and Family Research Centre, NUI Galway; and Connie Healy, solicitor and child law expert and Irish Research Council scholar at the School of Law NUI Galway.

## Minister for Children and Youth Affairs gives keynote address at Law School Discussion on Children's Rights

On Monday 22 October 2012 the School of Law and the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre held a public discussion on the proposed changes to the constitution proposed by the Children's Rights Referendum. Frances Fitzgerald TD, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs delivered the keynote address. The seminar provided a stimulating dialogue about the implications of a YES vote in the Children's Referendum, ahead of the 10 November 2012 vote. The session also featured an expert panel consisting of Fergal Landy from the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre and Dr. Ciara Smyth from the School of Law. The panel discussion offered members of the public an opportunity to hear a youth perspective on the proposed constitutional amendments and there was lively and active participation from the audience in the questions and answers session that followed the discussion.

## ICHR Summer Schools



Staff and participants at the annual International Criminal Court Summer School

Following the success of the last seven years in Venice and Galway, The Huston School of Film & Digital Media, NUI Galway, together with the Irish Centre for Human Rights hosted the fourth Summer School in Cinema, Human Rights and Advocacy in Galway from June 27th to July 6th, 2013. This year's programme featured the Human Rights Cinema Event on July 5th-6th, organised in collaboration with Amnesty International - Ireland and Galway One World Centre.

The annual *International Criminal Court Summer School* at the Irish Centre for Human Rights took place from June 17 to June 21, 2013. The summer school allows participants the opportunity to attend a series of intensive lectures over five days and is the premiere summer school specialising on the International Criminal Court. The lectures were given by leading academics on the subject and by legal professionals working at the International Criminal Court, and attended

by legal professionals, academics, postgraduate students and NGOs. They discussed related issues in international criminal law, including: genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, the crime of aggression, universal jurisdiction, immunities, and the role of victims.

## CDLP Summer Schools

The annual International Disability Law Summer School, with a focus on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, has grown to be the largest such summer school in the world and was attended by over 100 delegates from 38 nations. This year's School was officially opened by

Minister Kathleen Lynch, TD and certificates were presented to participants by the Attorney General, Ms. Máire Whelan, S.C. Participants included Mr. Justice John McMenamin of the Supreme Court as well as expert speakers from around the world, many of whom drafted the Convention.

It was part supported by the Atlantic Philanthropies, the Soros-Open Society Institute, the Department of Foreign Affairs (Irish Aid), the DREAM project of the European Union and the University.



Attorney General Máire Whelan, SC, presents a delighted Professor Gerard Quinn, Director of the CDLP, with his Summer School certificate.



President Michael D. Higgins at the launch of the 4th International Disability Law Summer School (June 2012). Also pictured are President Jim Browne and Mrs Sabina Higgins (flanking), along with the staff, students of the Centre for Disability Law and Policy and its Summer School volunteers.

## NUI Galway Convenes Workshop on Information and Communications Technology and Environmental Regulation



(L to R) Professor Ciaran O'Neill, Dean of the College of Business Public Policy and Law, Rónán Kennedy, workshop convenor, and Professor Bradley C. Karkkainen, University of Minnesota School of Law and keynote speaker.

The ways in which information and communications technology can be used to support environmental regulation was the subject of an international exploratory workshop in NUI Galway on 20-21 June.

The workshop, 'Information and Communications Technology for Environmental Regulation: Developing a Research Agenda', attracted over fifty international experts from Europe, the United States of America and Australia. The delegates were experts in law, the physical and social sciences, information systems and web science. The lively discussions addressed topics such as real-time monitoring of air pollution through

sensors; large-scale databases of geographical information on the health of rivers, lakes and beaches; satellite-based monitoring of farming patterns; and the provision of information on industrial pollution to the public through government websites. Speakers included academics, staff from non-governmental agencies and personnel from regulatory agencies.

The workshop was funded by NUI Galway's Ryan Institute for Environmental, Marine and Energy Research, the Whitaker Institute for Innovation and Societal Change, and the Irish Research Council.

## CDLP Hosts Community Living Conference in Association with Irish EU Presidency



EU Commissioner, Maire Geoghegan-Quinn, addressing the conference by video link.

A major international conference held at NUI Galway on May 3rd in association with the Irish Presidency of the EU urged the EU to end the practice of using taxpayers' money to build expensive and needless institutions for persons with disabilities and others.

The conference "Community Living for All" was co-directed by Professor Gerard Quinn and Senator Katherine Zappone.

The conference brought together a broad range of European actors including the European Disability Forum, Age Platform Europe, The European Association of Service Providers, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the European Group of National Human Rights Institutions, the Open Society Institute and the European Foundation Centre. The European Commission was also in attendance. It was addressed by two Ministers of State – Kathleen Lynch T.D., and Brian Hayes T.D., the Executive Director of the new US Federal Administration for Community Living, and EU Commissioner Máire Geoghegan-Quinn who spoke on the importance of using research to provide clear blueprints for positive change.

## Legal Aid Board Family Law Conference 2013 in NUI Galway



The Legal Aid Board held its Annual Family Law Conference 2013 in NUI Galway. The event was attended by over 150 delegates. Prior to the conference the Board held a formal meeting in NUIG. Pictured delivering the opening address to the conference is Legal Aid Board chairperson, Muriel Walls.



Muriel Walls, Chairperson of the Legal Aid Board, Professor Pat Dolan of NUIG and other speakers at the LAB Annual Conference.

## Graduate student conference on Law, Technology and Governance

Graduate students in the Law School at NUI Galway held a conference on the theme of "Law, Technology and Governance" on 27 May where this year's LL.M. in Law, Technology and Governance class presented their theses for discussion and feedback. Amongst the topics discussed were electronic commerce, Internet piracy, privacy online, Internet gambling and stem-cell research.

# Alumni News

## Dr. Gearóid Ó Cuinn, Co-Director of Ceartas



Gearóid Ó Cuinn is a graduate of the NUIG (LL.B 2006), he completed his Ph.D in Nottingham University and is currently an Academic Fellow at Lancaster University Law School. Combining his earlier background in Biology his research in human rights examines the intersection of law and science, his doctoral research focused on the governance of pandemic influenza.

In 2012 Gearóid co-founded *Ceartas* – Irish Lawyers for Human Rights, an independent non-profit organisation with a unique mandate. It aims to use legal action from Ireland to promote accountability and enforcement in international human rights issues using domestic and international legal mechanisms. The organisation operates a pro-bono register bringing together practitioners and academics who lead actions or donate their expertise. Combined with its internship program the organisation takes an innovative approach to human rights issues employing horizontal, quasi-judicial and non-traditional legal avenues. The organisation has already taken three actions including those drawing on Ireland's connections to Bahrain's hospital systems and the professional conduct of Bahrain's Attorney General receiving widespread international attention. Over the next year *Ceartas* aims to build its capacity, grow its connections and its focus on its case load. More information can be found on [www.ceartaslaw.org](http://www.ceartaslaw.org), including the *Ceartas* blog which aims to capture legal activities in line with the group's mandate.



## NUIG grads on the bench



### The School of Law is delighted at the appointment of a number of our graduates as judges and would like to congratulate each of them.

1. Judge Mary Larkin, originally from Oughterard, Co. Galway but based in Gort, Co. Galway, was appointed to the District Court. Judge Larkin was involved in some of the country's most important family law cases prior to her appointment as a judge among them the C v. C, 'second bite' or 'ample resources' Supreme Court case.
2. Judge John O'Connor, originally from Swinford, Co. Mayo but based in Dublin, was appointed to the District Court. Until his appointment Judge O'Connor was a long-standing member of the Council of the Law Society of Ireland.
3. Judge Eugene O'Kelly, from Kiltrush, Co. Clare, was appointed to the District Court. He was involved in a number of high-profile cases during his career, having been the solicitor to the Commission of Investigation into the death of Gary Douch and also defence solicitor in the Sharon Collins "Lying Eyes" conspiracy to murder case, which dominated much of the headlines in 2008.
4. Judge Tom O'Donnell, who has an LL.M in Human Rights from the Irish Centre for Human Rights, was recently appointed to the Circuit Court having served with great distinction on the District Court in Limerick.
5. Judge Carmel Stewart, who was appointed in the last year to the Circuit Court. Prior to her appointment Judge Stewart acted for the applicants in the famous case of A, B & C v. Ireland before the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

## Dr. Ciara Staunton

Ciara Staunton, a doctoral at the School of Law until recently, contributed to parliamentary hearings held by the Oireachtas Committee on Health and Children in January 2013 on the implementation of the Government decision following the publication of the Expert Group Report into matters relating to A, B, C, v Ireland. The Committee heard contributions from experienced medical practitioners, legal experts, representatives of churches and religious groups and from advocacy groups.

Ciara recently defended her Ph.D thesis entitled "The Regulation of Stem Cell Research in Ireland". Her research was funded by the Irish Research Council and was supervised by Dr Laurent Pech. Ciara is taking up a research post at the Centre for Medical Ethics and Law, Stellenbosch University, South Africa.



## Dr. Tarlach McGonagle



Dr. Tarlach McGonagle, who graduated in 1998 with a BA (International) in Law and French, is a Senior Researcher at the Institute for Information Law (IvIR), Faculty of Law, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands, where he is also the coordinator of the specialised (Dutch-language) Information Law LL.M. Programme.

In Spring 2013, he was a Visiting Scholar, Centre for Global Communication Studies (CGCS), Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania and a Visiting Fellow, Rutgers Institute for Information Policy and Law (RIIPL), Rutgers School of Law-Camden, New Jersey.

Tarlach's research spans a broad range of issues relating to international and European law and policy in three main fields: the media, information and human rights. Recurrent themes include freedom of expression, the rights of persons belonging to minorities and cultural and linguistic rights.

Tarlach regularly writes expert reports for various branches of the Council of Europe, OSCE and other IGOs and NGOs. He was an invited expert speaker at the Thematic Discussion on "Racist Hate Speech" organised by the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in 2012. In July of this year he gave a keynote presentation to the staff of the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media on legal issues around open journalism. He is currently writing two expert papers for the forthcoming Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Media and Information Society, entitled 'Freedom of Expression and Democracy in the Digital Age: Opportunities, Rights, Responsibilities' (Belgrade, November 2013). The papers focus on legal responses to: (i) online hate speech, and (ii) current threats to journalism and the media.

## NUIG Grads prominent in Future Voices Ireland

A number of NUIG grads are prominently involved in a worthy new initiative to encourage participation in legal education by young people from disadvantaged backgrounds called Future Voices Ireland. Four members of its Management Committee (of seven) are Galway grads. They are: James Mulcahy, Emer Lyons, Gráinne Hassett and Shona Marry. Its inaugural meeting in the Law Society of Ireland was addressed by Professor

## David O'Leary



The legal education obtained by David O'Leary at NUIG has been put to invaluable use by him in his career, but in a slightly different way. The Wexford man graduated in 2007 with a BA in Legal Science and French before completing the LLB in 2008, during which time he also served as the Auditor of the Law Society.

A keen amateur performer during secondary school and university, David trained in operatic performance with some of the world's foremost voice coaches both in London and New York.

In 2009, after a year of teaching French in his *alma mater*, David moved to New York To pursue a career as a tenor. Since then, he has performed in some of the country's most prestigious venues

and for audiences that included President Obama, President Clinton, Vice-President Biden, Speaker Boehner, US Chief Justice John Roberts, the New York Giants and the New York Mets.

David credits much of his success to NUIG and support he received from the Galway University Foundation and US-based graduates when he moved there. His first important performance was at the NUIG US Foundation Gala Dinner at the Metropolitan Club, a performance that he auditioned for over the phone.

No stranger to big events at home, David's most recent major performance was at Croke Park for the All-Ireland Football Semi-Final on September 1st.

## Deirdre Fottrell



Deirdre Fottrell, who graduated from NUI Galway with a BA and LL.B in the early 1990's, practises as Barrister in London with a mixed family and civil practice at Coram Chambers.

She has appeared at all levels of court in the UK including the Supreme Court and she has represented clients in applications before the European Court of Human Rights.

She regularly acts in cases in which there is complex medical evidence or allegations of sexual abuse. In addition she has particular expertise on the interplay between the (UK) Human Rights Act 1998 and family law and has appeared in numerous reported cases in which these issues have been considered.

Deirdre has a particular interest in international child law having taught and published in this area for many years, this includes international abduction, international adoption and the application of Brussels IIR in public and private law cases.

She advises and acts on matters of judicial review. She is a member of the law department at the University of Essex and of the Human Rights Centre. Since 2002 she has been a visiting Professor at the Human Rights Centre at Columbia University, New York where she teaches on the summer school. She has advised many NGOs on human rights and children's rights issues including AIRE Centre, INTERIGHTS, UNIFEM and Amnesty International. Since 2000 she has been a Council of Europe expert on the ECHR and has conducted training of lawyers and judges on the application of the Convention.



## Forthcoming Event

### Brehon Law Society - U.S./Ireland Legal Symposium 2013

The Brehon Law Society is delighted to host its third U.S./Ireland Legal Symposium in Westport, Co. Mayo on September 25-27, 2013.

The Symposium is designed to bring together internationally-minded in-house attorneys, private legal practitioners and business executives looking to invest in key sectors in Ireland, the U.S. and Europe.

Academics, politicians, government officials and law students are also invited to take part.

*The U.S./Ireland Legal Symposium has three core objectives:*

- To harness the experience and expertise of top legal professionals across the globe;
- To highlight the exceptional legal, financial and other professional services in the U.S., Ireland and Europe;
- To promote Ireland, the U.S. and Europe as destinations for foreign direct investment.

**For further information:**

<http://www.brehonlawsociety.org/2013-symposium/>



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