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OĒ Gaillimh

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# ALL ABOUT



## The Stage is Set

*The much-anticipated O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance is now officially open and it promises to be a vibrant hub for the arts on campus. In this issue, see how staff from across our University community have brought creative flair to their work in recent months.*

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...and much more!

# OLLSCÉALA

## Focal ón Uachtarán



A Chairde,

As summer arrives on campus, it is a perfect opportunity to look back at some of our University community's recent achievements. It has been a busy and productive year to date, as you can see from this edition of *Ollscéala*.

Over the term we've celebrated the achievements of notable alumni. On 23 February, the University

officially named the upper Aula Maxima as the **Emily Anderson Concert Hall**, honouring the UCG graduate who translated the letters of Beethoven and Mozart into English and who was recognised for her work by both German and British governments (see p6). For many years the University, in partnership with *Music for Galway*, has held the annual Emily Anderson Concert, but henceforth her name will be known to visitors, staff and students through one of the University's most beautiful venues.

Another location which will proudly bear the name of a renowned alumna is the **Alice Perry Engineering Building**, officially named on 6 March as part of a day-long series of events focused on women in Engineering, coinciding with both Engineers Week (4-10 March) and International Women's Day (8 March). As well as the official naming ceremony with keynote address by Caroline Spillane, Director General, Engineers Ireland, events included a roundtable symposium, and the launch of the Máire Brazil Scholarship for talented female engineering students, enabled by distinguished engineering graduate, Áine Brazil through Galway University Foundation.

These events along with the **Path Breaking Women Exhibition** (see p6) are all part of

NUI Galway's commitment to highlight and celebrate the contribution by women to the University. They are important symbols towards addressing a deficit in our institutional legacy and I'm delighted to support the efforts to recognise women in the heritage and history of our University.

From the past to the present ... it was a pleasure to welcome over 400 alumni and friends to the Bailey Allen Hall on March 4 for the 2017 alumni awards. The winners, photographed on page 5, have distinguished themselves in a range of fields. I was particularly delighted to recognise two award-winning colleagues: **Dr Eoghan Clifford**, Paralympic gold medal winner and **Mike McCormack**, winner of Irish Book of the Year 2016 for *Solar Bones*.

The winners of the 2017 Alumni Awards were:

- **Mike McCormack, Irish novelist and short story writer** – Award for Arts, Literature & Celtic Studies
- **Tara McCarthy, CEO of Bord Bia** – Alumni Award for Business & Commerce
- **Dr Tom Courtney, Corporate Partner in Arthur Cox** – Alumni Award for Law, Public Policy & Government

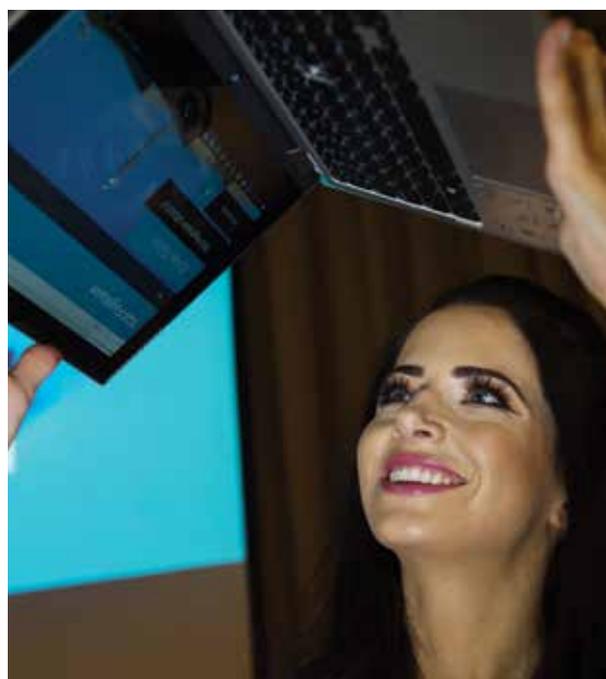
## Familiar Faces



Over 150 alumni and friends of NUI Galway attended a special production of Druid's *Beauty Queen of Leenane* in the Brooklyn Academy of Music in January. Pictured in NYC are: Jean Grahame Jones, President of the International Federation for Theatre Research; Professor Patrick Lonergan (Drama, Theatre and Performance); and Garry Hynes, Druid Theatre Company Director.



Rita Melia, a Doctoral Researcher at the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre was recently presented with a Certificate of Recognition for her contribution to early childhood education by Mayor of Boston, Marty Walsh.



Bhí láithreoir TG4, Fiona Ní Fhlaithearta, ar an gcampas i mí Feabhra chun *TG4 Foghlaim* a sheoladh – comhthionscnamh idir TG4 agus Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge a chuireann acmhainní idirghníomhacha ar fáil ar líne d'fhoghlaiméoirí Gaeilge.

Ag an seoladh, leag Príomhfheidhmeannach an Acadaimh, Dónall Ó Braonáin, béim ar thábhacht an togra: "Is iontach go bhfuil taighde ceannródaíoch ar an sealbhú teanga á ríont ar mhúinteoirí agus mic léinn ardteistiméireachta a bhfuil d'acmhainní foghlama den chéad scoth."

- **Anne Marie Farrell, Head of Behavioural Economics Research, Google** – Alumni Award for Engineering, Science & Technology
- **Dr Eileen Naughten, Retired Consultant Paediatrician** – Alumni Award for Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences
- **Dr Eoghan Clifford, Paralympic medal winner | Deirdre Mongan, Paralympic Athlete** – Joint Alumni Award for Contribution to Sport

On April 5 NUI Galway welcomed **Croatian President, Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic** to campus as part of her State Visit to Ireland. Ireland and Croatia share much, not least the cultural bonds which will be further developed over the coming years, during the lead-up to 2020 when both Galway and Rijeka become the European Capitals of Culture 2020.

As part of the visit Galway European Region of Gastronomy, in conjunction with Galway City and County Councils, hosted a showcase event, during which President Grabar-Kitarovic met with students from Shannon College of Hotel Management (see p5).

The visit of Ireland's President, Michael D. Higgins on 10 April was one of the highlights of the year when he officially opened the **O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance**. Over 300 guests attended the opening of this state-of-the-art facility, which is a hub for cultural innovation and creativity in the University and city. The O'Donoghue Centre is housed in the former IMI Building, and comprises a 120-seat theatre space, studio spaces, classrooms and a workshop and rehearsal room.

The Centre recognises the generous philanthropic support of Galway University Foundation and Dr Donagh O'Donoghue who began his association with the University while a student in the 1960s, when he was also involved in DramSoc and Comhairle Teachta na Mac-Léinn (predecessor of the Students' Union), where his fellow members included President Michael D. Higgins. He has served on the board of Údarás na hOllscoile for over 30 years.

Reflecting on the recognition of our alumni I am reminded that our students are shaped by their experience of University life. Central to the quality of the student experience is their contact with our support services staff. Many graduates speak to

me about the kindness, the excellent care and efficiency of our support staff. I was pleased to celebrate that excellence at the **Support Service Excellence Awards** on 21 March and I'd like to congratulate all the staff who received awards (see p16).

To those staff and to all colleagues across all areas of University activity – I thank you for your service and for your diverse and important contribution to the University's shared mission.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir.

**James J. Browne PhD, DSc, MRIA, C.Eng**  
Uachtarán – President



## Go Green

To receive your copy of Ollscéala electronically from now on, please email your Staff ID to [info@nuigalway.ie](mailto:info@nuigalway.ie)

## Appointments

### Internal Appointments

#### New Directors

- **Professor of Economics, Alan Ahearne** has been appointed Director of the Whitaker Institute. He leads a 200-strong research team, which delivers policy-focused research in areas such as business, economic development, public-sector innovation and reform, and sustainable and inclusive societies. Professor Ahearne joined the University in 2005, and during that time he has served as external adviser to the IMF, and as special economic adviser to former Minister for Finance Brian Lenihan. He is Chairman of the ESRI and Department of Finance Joint Research Programme on the Macroeconomy and Taxation.

Commenting on the death in December of pioneering statesman Dr T.K. Whitaker, in whose honour the Institute is named, Professor Ahearne said: "Throughout his illustrious career he demonstrated and implemented innovative ideas and approaches to challenges and issues facing our economy and society. This is what we continue to endeavour to do."

- **Dr. Faisal Sharif (Medicine)** is the new Director of the BioInnovate programme, the national medical technology innovation training programme based on campus since 2011. Dr Sharif has been involved in BioInnovate from the start, working with the programme's founding Director, Professor Mark Bruzzi (Biomedical Engineering). We wish him the best of good fortune in leading BioInnovate to even greater success.

#### Human Resources

- **Carmel Browne** has been appointed Head of HR Operational Excellence, a new role within the Human Resources Office. Carmel has worked at the University since 1998 and has a deep knowledge of the demands and challenges of HR management within higher education. We wish her every success in her new role.

#### SFI Research Professorships

We have seen two significant appointments through the Science Foundation Research Professorship Programme, which supports the recruitment of world-leading scientists in areas of strategic national importance.

- **Professor William Wijns** has joined the University as Professor of Medical Devices. An expert in cardiology, he will spearhead a €5 million research project to develop wearable sensors to alert patients at high risk of heart attacks to triggers such as stress or high blood pressure. Professor Wijns has a long and distinguished record in medtech, working at the highest levels in research centres and with industry across Europe.
- **Professor Piet Lens** has been appointed Professor of Innovative Energy Technologies. He has a distinguished background in Bioengineering, in particular in designing biological engineering processes for the recovery of valuable resources from waste. This is an area of growth at our University, and we look forward to him bringing expertise and leadership to the field.

### External Appointments

**Professor Sherif Sultan** (Surgery), was appointed as the sixth President of the International Society of Vascular Surgery at the recent Veith Symposium in New York. One focus of Professor Sultan's tenure will be the introduction of innovation forums and mentorship programmes to encourage surgeon inventors to develop new medical devices.

**Dr Rónán Kennedy** (Law and Ryan Institute) has been appointed to the Advisory Committee of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The role will see Dr Kennedy making recommendations to the Agency on a wide range of topics, including staffing, service provision, standards and guidelines, and research and work programmes.



President Michael D. Higgins with Galway businessman, philanthropist and fellow graduate, Dr Donagh O'Donoghue



Staff of the new Centre enjoying the launch: Dr Miriam Haughton, Marianne Ní Chinnéide and Dr Charlotte McIvor

## A NEW STAGE FOR DRAMA

The President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins, officially opened the O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance on campus in April, and a more suitable guest of honour would be hard to find. The President's wife, Sabina, is a graduate of the MA in Drama here, and during his speech, he recalled his time in the University's Drama Society with fellow student, Donagh O'Donoghue, for whom the Centre is named. The new state-of-the-art facility was built with the generous philanthropic support of Dr O'Donoghue, a Galway businessman who is passionate about arts and culture in his home city.

The Centre includes a 120-seat theatre space with retractable tiered seating and LED stage lighting, the first of its kind in Ireland. It also comprises studio spaces, classrooms, rehearsal rooms and office space. As part of the launch, guests enjoyed scenes from the students' innovative production of *Machinal*, showing off their skills and the new theatre's versatility.

Under the directorship of Professor Patrick Lonergan and the management of Marianne Ní Chinnéide, the O'Donoghue Centre is already becoming a cultural hub for the city. The theatre has hosted two runs of student productions, as well as the Galway Theatre Festival. Professor Lonergan is looking forward to the future: "As Galway moves towards 2020, we have a huge opportunity to transform attitudes to the creative arts, and to ensure they are valued both in themselves and for their broader impact."

## Donegal Medical Academy

Minister for Health, Simon Harris, launched the Donegal Medical Academy on the grounds of Letterkenny University Hospital in December. It was the last of three medical academies opened by the University and the Saolta Hospital Group in the past two years, and represents a significant investment in medical teaching and research in the North West. Minister Harris is pictured with Dean of Medical Academy in Donegal, Muiyiwa Aremu, and medical student, Philippa Eaton. Speaking at the launch, he said: "The NUI Galway medical academies provide a practical link between the classroom and the clinic by mixing teaching with practical training. I'm pleased that students in Letterkenny will now have access to a holistic education in one location."



## Reimagining Dementia Care

In January, we launched the new Centre for Economic and Social Research on Dementia, led by Professor Eamon O'Shea in the Institute for Lifecourse and Society. Dementia is a growing challenge facing society and the centre has been funded €1.6 million by the Health Research Board to help to develop evidence, instruments and policy frameworks that will support dementia care. The research team's work will put an emphasis on non-pharmacological approaches that encourage person-centred pathways to care, and that treat sufferers with dignity and respect.



## Alumni Awards 2017

The University was delighted to recognise the achievements of seven distinguished alumni at this year's gala. Pictured at the awards were: (back, l-r) Dr Eileen Naughten, Mike McCormack, Dr Eoghan Clifford, President Jim Browne, Michael Fitzgerald who accepted on behalf of Anne-Marie Farrell, Dr Tom Courtney, and (front l-r) gala host – Eimear Ní Chonaola, Deirdre Mongan and Tara McCarthy. Read more in Focal ón Uachtarán on p3.

## Nursing Leads Rise in Subject Rankings

The University saw a significant rise in the QS World University Subject Rankings in March, with 20 subjects recognised as world leading for our teaching and research. This is a marked increase since last year, when the University was recognised in 12 subjects using the same metrics.

Five subjects featured in the Top 200 globally. Medicine, Geography, and Earth and Ocean Sciences all ranked in the Top 200; English Language and Literature featured in the Top 150; while Nursing rose to be ranked in the Top 100 in the world.

The rankings take into account our reputation among academics and employers around the world, as well as the research impact of colleagues in these areas. They are a strong endorsement of our investment in research and of the expertise and dedication that our academic staff bring to their work and to promoting the University's reputation.

## Youth Mentoring goes Global

The UNESCO Child & Family Research Centre at NUI Galway has launched a Global Youth Mentoring Network to help share research and best practice. The network has dedicated partners from across the world, who are actively involved in youth mentoring research. Their work puts a particular emphasis on sharing knowledge among organisations and researchers outside of the USA, where research and practice remains fragmented. Youth mentoring is a growing area of expertise in Galway, and the Centre is based in the Institute for Lifecourse and Society in the north campus.

## TechInnovate Takes Off

The first group of TechInnovate fellows has been announced, and their projects are targeting tech solutions for agriculture and defence. Based on the hugely successful BioInnovate programme, TechInnovate mentors entrepreneurs and innovators to develop new technology solutions through to commercialisation. The programme is led by Dr John Breslin (Engineering), who is himself an entrepreneur as co-founder of boards.ie, adverts.ie, and more recently the start-up hub PorterShed. He explains how TechInnovate works: "Through the immersion phase, the Fellows get direct experience of the needs of a farmer or soldier in the field. They then go on to filter and prioritise these needs and develop a solution wherein the key market opportunity lies." We wish the TechInnovate team good luck in their ventures, and look forward to seeing their innovations on the ground.



## Croatian State Visit

In April, Croatian President Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović and her husband Jakov visited campus as part of the official State visit to Ireland. The President is a native of Rijeka, which will be European Capital of Culture in 2020 along with Galway. She met members of the Croatian community at the University during her visit, and took part in a discussion about some of the pressing issues shared by the two countries. Galway has recently been designated as European Region of Gastronomy 2018, and President Grabar-Kitarović was also introduced to some of the food and gastronomy of the West of Ireland by staff and students of Shannon College.

## RECOGNISING GALWAY ICONS

The University community has taken significant steps in recent months to recognise the lives and work of some extraordinary female figures from our past. A new landmark exhibition, combined with the renaming of two of the most iconic spaces on campus, are making these women's contributions more visible to staff, students and visitors alike.



President Jim Browne, Dr Róisín Healy, Professor Anne Scott, and Music for Galway's Artistic Director, Finghin Collins, all spoke of the impact Emily Anderson had on the University and on the world of music.

## Emily Anderson Concert Hall

In February, University staff and music-lovers from across Galway filled the Upper Aula Maxima for a very special event to mark the renaming of that space. From now on it will be called the Emily Anderson Concert Hall in recognition of a truly remarkable graduate and former staff member of our University. At the event Dr Róisín Healy (History) gave a fascinating insight into Emily Anderson's life. She was the first Professor of German in the University and she worked for the British Foreign Service during World War II. She is most known, however, for being the first person to translate the writings of Mozart and Beethoven into English, and her book is still a reference point for music scholars today. It is fitting that this concert hall at the very heart of the University should be renamed in honour of such an extraordinary graduate, Professor and trailblazer.



## Alice Perry Engineering Building

On International Women's Day in March, the University held a series of events to celebrate the naming of the Alice Perry Engineering Building on campus. Alice Perry became the first woman in Ireland or the UK to earn a degree in engineering when she graduated from Queen's College Galway back in 1906, and we are hugely proud of her legacy. As part of the naming ceremony, Director General of Engineers Ireland, Caroline Spillane, gave an address on the theme of diversity in engineering. She is pictured (centre) with Professor Anne Scott and Dean of Engineering and Informatics, Professor Peter McHugh. Another important element of the event was the launch of the Máire Brazil Scholarship, established by our distinguished engineering alumna Áine Brazil through Galway University Foundation. It will support talented female students to develop careers in Engineering.

## Path-Breaking Women

Both Emily Anderson and Alice Perry feature among 12 women celebrated in a landmark exhibition currently on display in the Hardiman Building foyer. The 'Path Breaking Women of NUI Galway: 1912-1922 and Beyond' project was led by Professor Niamh Reilly (Political Science and Sociology, pictured left) and supported by the Irish Research Council. Mary Clancy (Political Science and Sociology) and Dr Muireann O'Cinneide (English) contributed to the project through their research into the often hidden history of the women's achievements. Each of the women featured in the exhibition is a former faculty member or student of the University. It was launched by former EU Commissioner, Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, who praised the work for highlighting the women's contribution to social reform in the early twentieth century. "[Their campaigns] led to women's rights and a modern Ireland that would have been unimaginable when these women were starting out on their student days", she said.



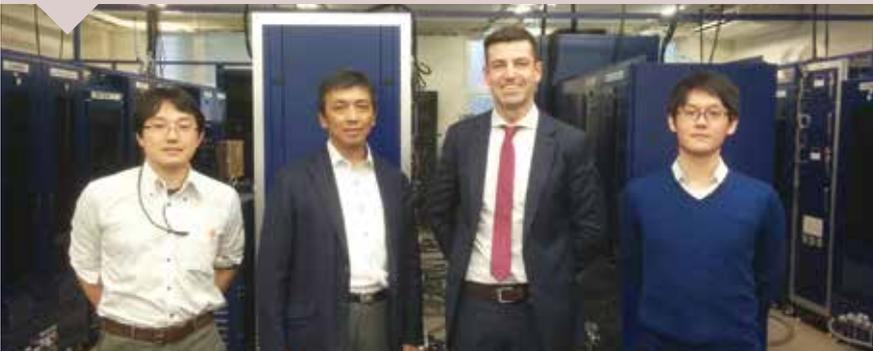


## French Honours

Two staff were recently awarded the prestigious title of Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques (Knight of the Order of the Palms) by the French Government. The awards were presented by French ambassador to Ireland, H.E. Jean-Pierre Thébhault, in separate ceremonies in the French residence in Dublin. In October, Director of the Irish Centre for High End Computing (ICHEC), Professor Jean Christophe Desplat, was recognised for his work in establishing ICHEC as one of the leading technology centres in Europe. In November, Dr Sylvie Lannegrand (French) was presented with the award in recognition of her contribution to research and teaching of French literature and culture over the course of her career, in particular for her focus on French autobiography. The Palmes Académiques were first established by Napoleon, and in receiving the award Professor Desplat and Dr Lannegrand join the ranks of esteemed politicians, scientists, historians, artists, musicians, and even royalty. Félicitations à nos deux collègues!

## Joining with Japan

Engineering lecturer Dr Barry Hayes recently visited the research labs of Professor Hideo Ishii and his team at Waseda University in Tokyo, with the aim of building research links with NUI Galway. The institutions will collaborate on smart energy management systems, a growing area of expertise in Galway. This research visit was funded by Science Foundation Ireland, with further visits and student exchanges already planned.



This is what team building looks like in the Seychelles! Shannon College staff member, Dr Seán T. Ruane, sent in this photo from his overseas assignment in the Indian Ocean. He is currently managing the Advanced Diploma in Hospitality Management run in collaboration with the Seychelles Tourism Academy. Dr Ruane spends time on the islands supporting local lecturers and administrative staff, some of whom are pictured here.

## A Selfie that Spans the Globe

Dean of International Affairs, Professor Brian Hughes, took a snap with colleagues from the International Affairs Office, Miriam Moylan and Anna Cunningham, and some of the 30 students on international scholarships to Galway this year. They attended a reception hosted by the President to celebrate the scholars' unique contribution to campus and the University's founding commitment to inclusion and diversity.



## Scepansky Scholarship

Civil Engineering has launched a new scholarship to help support students to spend a semester in Villanova University in Philadelphia. The inaugural Scepansky Scholarship was won by third year student, Niall Keane, and presented by Dr Bryan McCabe and Dr Mark Healy (Civil Engineering).

Biomedical Engineering PhD researcher, Ilaria Cinelli, was recently selected as Crew Commander of an **international mission for the Mars Desert Research Station**. The Italian native is pictured here on top of a hill in Utah, where the research station is based. The unique facility supports Earth-based research in pursuit of the technology, operations and science required for human exploration on Mars. Over four weeks, Ilaria and her crew worked to engineer ways to survive the harsh environment of Mars.



# RESEARCH IN ACTION

## Just some of the results, reports and discoveries that made headlines in recent months.

**A new formula is helping scientists advance artificial muscles, soft robotics** – and even Batman’s cape! The mathematical formula on soft ‘dielectric’ membranes was devised by Professor Michel Destradre and Dr Giuseppe Zurlo (Mathematics) and can be used to work out how much deformation these soft membranes can take before they break. Their findings were published in February in the prestigious *Physical Review Letters*, and the pair are now working on experiments with engineering colleagues at Xi’an Jiaotong University in China to test it further.

As life expectancy continues to grow in Europe, many older people confront challenges in relation to intimacy and sexual health. To help combat these challenges, a new initiative entitled IntimAge is producing a series of free online **modules for health and social care professionals** working with older people. Dr Martin Power and Dr Jane Sixsmith (Health Promotion Research Centre) are collaborating with researchers across Europe on the modules, which help raise awareness of the issue of sexual health and provide resources for engaging with older people.

Environmental researchers have completed the **first national statistical assessment of arsenic contamination in groundwater in the EU**. The study, which was led by Dr Liam Morrison (Earth and Ocean Sciences), points to elevated levels of naturally occurring arsenic in private wells, particularly in the northeast and the southwest of Ireland. Recent studies have provided evidence to suggest that long-term low-dose arsenic exposure can induce varying chronic health effects. “These can vary from stomach upsets to more chronic ailments”, says Dr Morrison.

A team of microbiologists has proposed **changes to antibiotic treatment of MRSA** that may help beat the bacteria. MRSA is a major health issue, with 20% of patients infected with MRSA dying from systemic infections. Now a study by NUI Galway and the University of Liverpool has shown that it may be treated more effectively by modern-day antibiotics, if old-fashioned penicillin is also used. “When exposed to penicillin, the bacteria switches off its toxin genes”, explains Professor James O’Gara (Microbiology). “Our immune systems can then take advantage of this compromised state to destroy the bacteria.”

## Research Funding

Our Research community has had a run of funding successes in recent months

### SFI Infrastructural Awards

We had five successful applications to Science Foundation Ireland’s Infrastructural Awards programme, which funds investments in equipment and facilities. Congratulations to Professor Frank Barry (CÚRAM), Professor Rhodri Ceredig (CÚRAM), Dr Ger O’Connor (Physics), as well as the Irish Centre for High-End Computing, which was funded over €5 million. The Research Office also secured €2 million through the Opportunistic Fund.

### Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowships

Congratulations to Dr Andrea Erxleben (Chemistry), Professor Michael Gormally (Microbiology) and Dr Mark Healy (Civil Engineering) who were awarded Marie Curie Fellowships through the European Commission to further advance their research careers.

### SFI Discover Programme

In February, Science Foundation Ireland awarded €250,000 to four NUI Galway initiatives that are engaging the public in our research.

Congratulations to the passionate people behind:

- Cell Explorers
- Bright Club
- ReelLife Science
- and the Genetic Testing group

All of these projects have devised imaginative ways of getting the public – young and old – interested in our research and appreciative of its importance and impact.



**A new robotic device could help failing hearts** by mimicking healthy cardiac muscles. The soft robotic sleeve has been developed by a team of researchers, including Dr Ellen Roche (pictured here). It wraps around the organ, twisting and compressing in sync with the beating heart, potentially opening new treatment options for people suffering from heart failure. "This research demonstrates that the growing field of soft robotics can be applied to clinical needs and ultimately improve the quality of life for patients," Dr Roche explains.



In February, the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre hosted a **research dissemination event in Croke Park for staff and partners of Tusla**, the Child and Family Agency Ireland. The focus of the day was to share the findings from the Centre's current study on Tusla's Early Intervention and Prevention Programme entitled 'Prevention, Partnership and Family Support'. This study commenced in 2014 with support from Atlantic Philanthropies Ireland, Galway University Foundation and NUI Galway. The Croke Park event is a great example of our research community's impact in embedding evidence-based research and best practice into national policy.



**New approaches in delivering care to young adults with type 1 diabetes** are needed, according to researchers in Galway. The research team from the University and hospitals in the city has highlighted a lack of high-quality, well-designed interventions, aimed at improving health outcomes for people aged 15-30 living with diabetes. Ireland has no diabetes registry making it difficult to know how many people are living with type 1 diabetes and how many of these are young adults. The researchers are now working in collaboration with a panel of eight young adults living with the condition, in order to develop a new more targeted intervention.



## Storytelling for Social Inclusion

In an innovative collaboration with the BA Connect in Children's Creativity, a Galway-based story teller is helping children from diverse backgrounds to create their own stories. As Rab Fulton explains, "Storytelling is an ideal medium for creatively challenging exclusion and opening up space for a diversity of voices to engage, create, collaborate and grow." He designed the 12-week Storytelling and Social Inclusion programme for pupils of two local primary schools, with the support of NUI Galway students Noelle Lydon and Kate Harvey. The school children then performed their stories on campus in April.



## Ready for Launch

A new initiative led by Blackstone LaunchPad is giving our students unique opportunities to develop their innovation and entrepreneurship skills. The LaunchLab was officially opened in March with a series of labs and workshops to help nurture a culture of ideation on campus. The Fintech Lab is run in collaboration with software company PERACTON® and gives students hands-on experience of the technology of financial trading. Meanwhile, the Social Simulation Lab is focused on exploring the complexities of social systems using simulation and analytics technology. Pictured here is LaunchLab's Scientific Lead, Dr Raghav Srinivas (Economics), who is helping to design these unique training programmes, with the support of business and industry, the Blackstone LaunchPad team and the Research Office.



## Recognising Excellent Teaching

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2016 President's Awards for Teaching Excellence, as nominated by students and colleagues across the University. Pictured here with President Jim Browne and 'CELT Assistant Director', Dr Sharon Flynn are (l-r): Dr John Cullinan (Business and Economics), Dr Muireann O'Cinnéide (English), Dr Angela Kearns (Mayo Medical Academy), Dr Catherine Houghton (Nursing and Midwifery) and Conor McBrierty, in the School of Physics – who is the first Senior Technical Officer to receive the award.



## Jews in Irish Literature

Earlier this year, the Hardiman Building hosted an exhibition exploring the 'Representation of Jews in Irish Literature' – the result of a research project led by NUI Galway Registrar, Professor Pól Ó Dochartaigh, and Dr Frank Ferguson from Ulster University. Drawing on multiple sources it charts the representations of Jewish identity, culture and life in Ireland since medieval times. Dr Ríóna Ní Fhrighil (Gaeilge) explored Jewish characterisation in Irish language literature as part of the project. Pictured are the core project team: Dr Barry Montgomery (Ulster University); Professor Ó Dochartaigh, Dr Ní Fhrighil and Dr Ferguson; Dr Marie-Claire Peters (UU), and Irish-Jewish writer Stanley Price, who launched the exhibition. The exhibition has now go on tour, visiting New York and Berlin.

## Decoding the Disciplines

A collaboration with CELT is seeing academic staff in two Disciplines apply a novel methodology to their teaching. The Decoding the Disciplines methodology is being used to help students develop positive experiences of diversity and intercultural understanding in their studies here. Dr Simon Warren (CELT) is coordinating the project, which is funded through Erasmus+, and so far it has been rolled out to students of Dr Miriam Haughton in Drama, Theatre and Performance and Dr Peter McKeown in Botany and Plant Science. Decoding the Disciplines helps staff to assess bottlenecks to participation and learning, and develop strategies for inclusion in their teaching programmes. Contact Simon for more information.



Congratulations to Dr Enrico Dal Lago (History) who was awarded a DLitt (Doctor of Literature) degree on Published Work by the National University of Ireland. The DLitt is a higher doctorate awarded to scholars who have published a substantial body of ground-breaking work in their field over a sustained period. He is pictured here with colleagues from History.



Congratulations to Medical Device PhD researcher, Bárbara Oliveira, who won the third annual Threesis competition, organised by the Research Office. Bárbara wowed the judges with her three-minute presentation on using microwave breast imaging to enable more accessible and affordable cancer screening.

## Library News



### National Award for Archives Engagement

Congratulations to Paul Flynn (Education) and Barry Houlihan from the Library's Archives team who won a National Teaching and Learning Award for their student engagement initiative. The 'Breaking the SEAL' initiative invites secondary school students to get hands-on with archives, with practical advice on how to use primary sources in the Leaving Cert History curriculum. The award was granted by CONUL, a consortium of national and university libraries, who praised the project for breaking down barriers to academia. 'Breaking the SEAL' was set up as part of the EXPLORE initiative at NUI Galway.



### Rare Coal Mining Archive

In March, the University was delighted to receive the archive of Flynn and Lehaney Coal Mining Company as a gift from the Flynn family. The archive is one of a very small number on mining in Ireland and it offers a fascinating insight into the social and economic history of the mines at Arigna. University Librarian, John Cox, welcomed the archive saying: "The Flynn and Lehaney archive adds to the regional coverage of our collections, sitting well with the John McGahern archive in particular." He is pictured here (left) at the official handover of the archive with President Jim Browne and members of the Flynn family: Lorna Flynn, Denis Flynn, and Father Tomás Flynn.

## Digital Publishing Seminars

The Library's Digital Publishing team has been working with academic partners across the University to highlight the impressive work carried out in the Digital Humanities. The Digital Publishing Seminars have explored work on the Abbey Theatre Archive, the Tim Robinson Archive, and the historical economic data in the Duanaire Project. Are their aspects of your work that could be enhanced by their digital expertise? Visit the Hardiman Blog for information on upcoming seminars in the series at [hardimanlibrary.blogspot.ie](http://hardimanlibrary.blogspot.ie).



## A Time & Place

As part of her recent PhD viva examination, Nora Duggan held a week-long public screening of her film *Between Realities* in An Dánlann, the University Art Gallery, supported by the Arts Office. Nora's art practice-based PhD is supervised by Dr Conn Holohan (Huston School of Film & Digital Media) and explores our experience of time and movement in digital imagery. Much of her footage was filmed around the Quadrangle, capturing light passing through the building at different stages of the day.



## Youth Researchers on Screen

The Ombudsman for Children, Dr Niall Muldoon, visited the Institute of Lifecourse and Society in February to launch two videos called *It's OK* and *Dear Parents, Dear Friends*. The videos are the result of the work of a group of youth researchers over six months guided by Dr Ann O'Kelly (UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre). Supported by Foróige and a Creative Youth Education Programme, they support young people and their teachers in coping with parental separation. Watch the videos on the 'Youth as Researchers' page at: [www.childandfamilyresearch.ie](http://www.childandfamilyresearch.ie)

## AN TEANGA BHEO



## Glórtha Ghaiscígh na Réabhlóide

Mar chuid de chlár comórtha Éirí Amach 1916, bhreathnaigh taighdeoirí ó Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge siar ar an gcartlann 40 bliain de Raidió na Gaeltachta chun sainléargas a fháil ar an am corraitheach seo. Rinneadh an chartlann a chíradh chun na míreanna fuaime is feiliúnaí a aithint, idir léachtaí, agallaimh agus chlár faisnéise, agus anois tá an bailiúchán 'Glórtha na Réabhlóide' ar fáil ag an bpobal arís ar [www.reabhloid.ie](http://www.reabhloid.ie). I measc na n-ábhar ar an suíomh, tá mapaí, aistí agus 98 mír fuaime le breis is 40,000 focal. Sa phictiúr tá (ó chlé) LeasCheannaire RnaG, Gearóid Mac Donncha; an taighdeoir, Seathrún Ó Tuairisg (Acadamh Charna); agus an tAire Stáit, Sean Kyne, ag an seoladh oifigiúil.

## Kitchen Chemistry

NUI Galway staff have launched a free online resource that helps inspire budding scientists. The Kitchen Chemistry project began as an outreach venture in the School of Chemistry in 2010 when a team of postgraduate students designed a science roadshow for primary schools. Since then, doctoral student, Dr Nicole Walshe, has worked with Dr Veronica McCauley in the School of Education to translate these experiments into online resources for the classroom. See for yourself at: [www.nuigalway.ie/kitchenchemistry](http://www.nuigalway.ie/kitchenchemistry)

## New Books

*He was Galway: Máirtín Mór McDonogh, 1860–1934*, by Dr Jackie Uí Chionna (Moore Institute), is the biography of a colourful tycoon who wielded an enormous industrial influence on his native city. The author reveals how McDonogh took his father's hardware business and turned it into the largest employer in Connacht.

*Frontiers, states and identity in early modern Ireland and beyond*, edited by Christopher Maginn and Gerald Power, is a collection of essays in honour of Professor Steven G. Ellis, former Head of the School of Humanities. The book explores the history of medieval Ireland, with a particular focus on the Tudor period.

## Ó Bhaile na hAbhann go Steòrnabhagh agus ar ais

Thug Ard-Stiúrthóir TG4, Alan Esslemont, cuairt ar ionad an Acadaimh ar an gCeathrú Rua lá 'le Bríde chun caint a thabhairt do mhic léinn na Cumarsáide. Dúirt sé gur dhá lucht féachana ar leith a bhí ag TG4: an 200,000 duine a bhfuil an Ghaeilge mar chuid dá bhféinaitheantas agus a labhraíonn an teanga ó lá go lá, agus na ceithre mhíliún go náisiúnta a d'fhéadfaí a mhealladh chuig an stáisiún. Is é an dúshlán freastal ar an dá dhream le hacmhainní teoranta. Caitheann mic léinn ón goéim Cumarsáide agus Gaeilge tréimhse taitní oibre i TG4 agus san earnáil neamhspleách teilifíse. Tá Esslemont le feiceáil (ar chlé) in éineacht leis an léachtóir, Aodh Ó Coileáin, agus mic léinn an chúrsa.



## National Procurement Award

Congratulations to the Procurement and Contracts Office team – (l-r) Tara Ryan, Ann Melia and Máire Hornibrook – who beat competition from across Ireland to win at the Institute of Purchasing and Materials Management annual awards ceremony. They won the Innovation Award for their recent project to bring efficiencies to how procurement tendering documentation is stored and made available to University staff. The new database makes tracking each stage of the procurement process easier and more transparent, with useful reporting and alert features. To see how the software can help simplify your procurement process, contact Ann and the team to arrange a demo.



## Best Outdoor Event

It has been attracting staff and students to the Connemara peaks for over 40 years, and now the Maamturks Challenge organised by the NUI Galway Mountaineering Club has been recognised nationally. It was named Outdoor/Adventure Event of the Year at the Outsider Awards, organised by the adventure magazine of the same name. Congratulations to all those who have volunteered over the years to organise and staff this event for the benefit of the hillwalking community in Ireland.

## Future of Breast Cancer Surgery

At the Society of Academic and Research Surgery conference in January, Surgery PhD researcher, Dr Niamh O'Halloran, was awarded the Future Projects Prize for her presentation on the potential for stem cells to help in breast regeneration for cancer patients. Niamh's research is supported by Breast Cancer Research and explores the use of tissue engineering strategies to create implants from fat tissue for use in breast reconstruction for patients who undergo mastectomy.

## ICHEC Wins at Irish Software Industry Awards

The Irish Centre for High-End Computing, hosted by NUI Galway, has been awarded the Irish Software Association's Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement of the Year. ICHEC was recognised for its work in developing rapid blood tests that measure platelet behaviour. The research project is led by Dr Simon Wong, in collaboration with scientists in Irish and US institutions. According to ICHEC Director, Professor JC Desplat, "The award reflects the high impact that key partnerships between technologists, researchers and clinicians can have."

## Most Cited Worldwide

In November, four of our staff were named among the World's Most Highly Cited Researchers in an international analysis carried out by Clarivate. This puts us in joint-first place in Ireland. Congratulations to Professor Henry Curran (Chemistry), Professor Colin O'Dowd (Physics), Professor Donal O'Regan (Mathematics) and Dr Ronan Sulpice (Natural Sciences). Our students and our research community benefit directly from their expertise, their passion and their global reputation.



## Irish Health Awards

Professor Fidelma Dunne (Medicine) won the overall award at the national Irish Healthcare Awards for her work on improving pregnancy outcomes for women with diabetes. As a result of Professor Dunne's work, pregnant women with diabetes in the West of Ireland now have access to a bespoke pre-pregnancy care programme, which the judges deemed would have an outstanding impact on patient care while also making cost savings to service delivery. She is pictured (holding her award) with members of the Atlantic Diabetes in Pregnancy research team.

## Leamer-Rosenthal Prize

Post-doctoral researcher in Health Behaviour, Dr Elaine Toomey, has been awarded the prestigious Leamer-Rosenthal Prize for Open Social Science in the Emerging Researcher category. The prestigious international award is presented by the Berkeley Initiative for Transparency in the Social Sciences, University of California, Berkeley. The award recognises her work on developing methods that enhance reporting and improve the transparency of research within the area of behaviour change.

## Fís na Fuisioige

Bronnadh an gradam don scannán faisnéise is fearr ag Féile Scannán na hÉireann i Londain ar 'Fís na Fuisioige' le hAodh Ó Coileáin, a mhúineann iriseoireacht in Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge. Scríobh agus stiúir Aodh an scannán a phléann an dáimh le dúthaigh a mhúnlaigh an tsamhlaíocht liteartha Ghaelach agus an féinaitheantas Éireannach ón gcianaimsir anuas. Craoladh é ar TG4 i mí na Samhna anuraidh.

## SPOTLIGHT ON INFORMATION SOLUTIONS & SERVICES

### A Note from our Guest Editor

#### A Chairde,

I have an interesting vantage point of being both staff and a student, so I am taking this opportunity to give the benefit of my experience from these past few months working in the Information Solutions and Services (ISS) Department. There is such a wealth of information and services available on our website that I didn't know about previously, so maybe I can show you something new!

Thank you for reading.

*Serena Lawless,  
MA in Writing*



### ISS provides IT that works for you

We in ISS are dedicated to providing IT solutions that address business problems. Speak to us if you are undertaking a new initiative that has IT requirements.

Over the past two years, we have been involved in the development of:

- Online Results via Blackboard
- Exam Modelling Tool
- Online Procurement
- Online Payslips/P60s
- Curriculum Management
- Public Website Redesign

Keep an eye out for our current projects:

- Review of Student Records
- Replacement of telephony system
- Improvements in HR and Finance systems

We also provide researchers with compute and storage resources on 'virtual machines' in a secure data centre environment to assist them with their research activities.



**54.6 Million**  
emails sent from  
and delivered to the  
University last year

### Did you know?



You can get great software for home use - such as Microsoft Office 365 and McAfee Anti-Virus - for free! Check out our A-Z Software list.



NUI Galway Staff and family can get a great value mobile plan, with calls, texts, and 5GB of data for €21.53 per month. There is also a mobile broadband dongle with 15GB of data per month for €10.



To help us give an efficient service, ISS has 3 priority levels for tickets: 24 hours, 48 hours, and 5 days. This will give you an idea about how long it takes to process your request.



NUI Galway has two data centres where systems are hosted and data is stored. This means that the central systems and data are mirrored, which allows for business continuity and recovery in case of any issues with either site.



Working on a group project? Job-sharing? ISS can create a shared mailbox or file share for multiple users.



Need to send a large or sensitive file that exceeds the 25MB email limit? Use the File Sender service. It allows you to send files up to 500GB. These files are encrypted and can only be opened by the desired recipient.



**21,300**  
IT requests and queries were  
dealt with last year by ISS

### Tech Trends

- The cloud is a collection of dedicated computing resources and storage held in high-tech data centres and available over the Internet. There are many providers out there – Google Drive, Dropbox etc. – but in NUI Galway we provide OneDrive from Microsoft Office 365. You can access this through your email account and download it directly to your PC to sync your files. To see what else is available, check out the Office 365 webpages on the ISS website and [outlook.office365.com](mailto:outlook.office365.com)
- A new, exciting development in technology is the Internet of Things. IoT allows networked devices to communicate with each other. Imagine if your alarm on your phone could communicate with your coffee machine! Or your fridge could connect to the supermarket to say that you are low on milk. This might sound like Science Fiction, but it will be a real possibility in the coming years.



## IT Security - some practical advice

It is important to be vigilant with your PC and files. There are so many sophisticated threats to your online security and personal data. Here is our advice about phishing and ransomware:

### Go Phish

Phishing emails attempt to dupe you into providing personal information, like passwords and credit card details. No genuine source, bank, or indeed ISS would ask for this information over email, so if you receive a message like this, delete it. If you ever give any sensitive information, change your password immediately and notify your bank if you have given any credit card or bank account details.

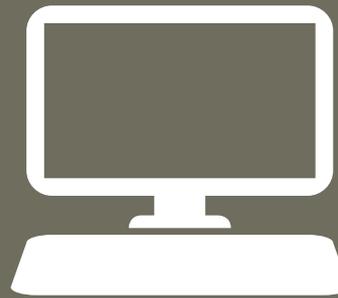
### Held for Ransom

Ransomware is created by hackers with an expert level of coding. They hold your PC for ransom by running a programme that will encrypt and lock the files on your device. They demand money in exchange for a unique key that will make your computer usable again. Ransomware can compromise your online backups if you are connected to them when your PC becomes infected. Ransomware ends up on your PC through phishing emails or corrupted websites.

### To reduce your risk of a ransomware attack:

- Be vigilant with the files you open and the links you click. If something sounds too good to be true - like a free iPhone or tax rebate - it could be an attempt to trick you into providing passwords, bank details, or installing ransomware
- Back up your files onto an external hard drive or USB key. Keep your backup device disconnected from your PC to prevent it from being infected.
- Do not pay the ransom; you will have no guarantee of getting your files back and the hackers will have your bank details

ISS have links to free, easy to run anti-virus and spyware removal programs on our website.



**1,650**  
PCs available for  
student use

## And finally...



We recommend Eduroam WiFi instead of the NUIGalWiFi Network. You will remain connected even after a period of inactivity and your device will connect automatically on campus. You will also have automatic WiFi connection to other Higher Education campuses that use Eduroam.



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You can easily reset your Financial System (Agresso) password yourself. Go to <https://agresso.nuigalway.ie>, click 'Forgot your password', enter your 6 digit Agresso ID and NUI Galway email address. You'll be sent a link to reset your password - no need to log a ticket!



P A S S W O R D

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Subscribe to our ISS Bulletins. If there is scheduled downtime or an unplanned issue, you will receive an email notification. Keep up-to-date with IT Services and activities by visiting the ISS website, where you will also find our Quick Start Guides for new staff and students:  
[www.nuigalway.ie/information-solutions-and-services](http://www.nuigalway.ie/information-solutions-and-services)

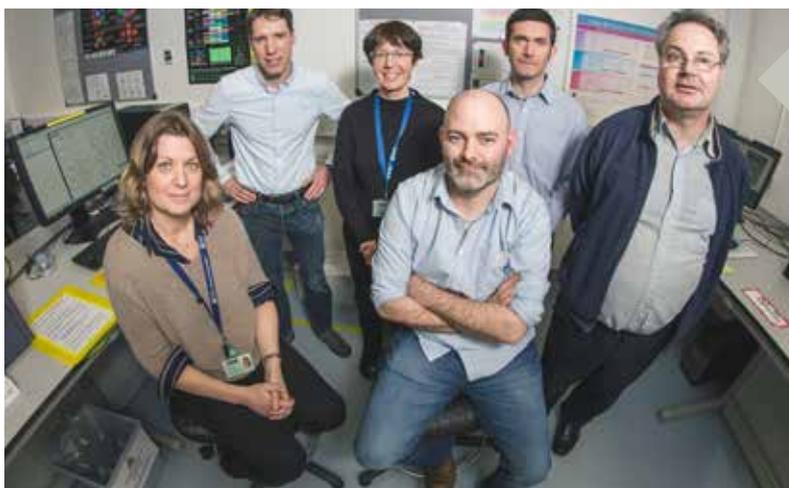


**8,500**  
daily connections  
to WiFi by staff and  
students



## Supporting our University with Distinction

In March, the winners of this year's President's Awards for Support Service Excellence were announced, in recognition of the commitment, professionalism and hard work of our support staff. The winners were nominated by colleagues across the campus for going the extra mile in supporting our University's mission. Individual awards went to Emma Brinton (Business and Economics), Geraldine Moloney (NCBES), Nicola McNicholas (Management Accounting), Ann Ryan (Research Office) and Lorraine Tansey (Community Knowledge Initiative). This year's team award went to the Events Management Team – in Buildings and Estates. This team of 20 staff work tirelessly to co-ordinate and support the setting-up, running and taking down of events right across campus. To read more about these wonderful colleagues, visit [www.nuigalway.ie/passe2017](http://www.nuigalway.ie/passe2017)



## 5 Million Milestone for ARAN

The University's ARAN repository is going from strength to strength. ARAN enables online open access to our research community's publications and in March, it got its five millionth hit! That's five million downloads and page views on the site. Without doubt, uploading your publications to ARAN helps boost your citations and increases the visibility of your research. Is your most recent publication up there yet? Congratulations to everyone in the Library's Digital Publishing and Innovation Team on their achievement. We wish you many million more hits to come!

## Park – by Phone!

It has happened to us all. The staff parking spaces are all taken, you leave your car in Pay-and-Display, but when it comes to topping up your ticket, you're stuck in a meeting or it's raining outside. The good news is that staff, students and visitors can now remotely top up their parking payment online or on a smartphone. If you are delayed on return to your vehicle, simply visit the Pay & Display website and register your vehicle at [www.nuigalway.ie/pay-display](http://www.nuigalway.ie/pay-display)



## Health & Safety – It's Everyone's Business

The University's updated Safety Statement is now available online at the Health and Safety website. It has a wealth of information, links and resources on safety in the workplace. No matter where you work on campus – in a lab, in an office or on the grounds – our safety is always a priority. Check out the Safety Statement to see how you can best prevent and prepare for workplace incidents at [www.nuigalway.ie/healthsaf](http://www.nuigalway.ie/healthsaf)

Pictured is Galway paramedic, Seamus Hayes, giving an ambulance tour to staff on campus at a special event organised by the Health and Safety Office.

## A Bright Future for Core Facilities

Without doubt, access to sophisticated and expensive equipment is essential to the continued success of our research community. This high-end infrastructure must be maintained, staffed and resourced. Step in the Core Facilities Operations Group. This group is made up of principal investigators and technical officers, who report to the Research Office on the five core facilities in the University: the Centre for Microscopy and Imaging, the Bio Resource Unit, and the core facilities for Flow Cytometry, Screening and Molecular Biology, and Biological Mass Spectrometry. Some group members are pictured here (standing l-r) Dr Peter Owens, Dr Eadaoin Timmins, Professor David Finn, Brendan Harhen, and (sitting) Dr Shirley Hanley and Dr Enda O'Connell.



## Access to Employment for All

In January, the Career Development Centre launched their Transition to Employment programme for students with disabilities or mental health challenges. The programme was designed in partnership with the University's Disability Support Service and Student Counselling to support students as they begin their transition to the workforce. It helps them to recognise the skills and attributes that will enable them to build positive and meaningful careers. It also includes contributions from employers who support and promote access to the labour market for graduates with disabilities.



## 5,000 Jobs Up for Grabs

In a sign that the economy is on the turn, the Career Development Centre has provided information on more than 5,000 job vacancies to students so far this year. They have hosted over 40 employers on campus (like Vistamed, pictured), in a wide range of events including company presentations and employability workshops. The annual Careers Fair attracted hundreds of students to the Bailey Allen Hall to find out directly from employers what jobs are available. According to Employment Officer, Emma Goode: "The graduate jobs market is continuing to expand. Especially in demand are those with a combination of languages and another discipline such as business or IT".

## Creative Explosion for Múscailt

Dance, drama and divilment – Múscailt had it all this year as the Arts Office's festival hit campus in March. This year's programme saw staff and student talent on display in exhibitions of photography, art, sculpture and crochet, while visiting artists brought street spectacle, song and creative talks to the University. The festival was led by University Arts Officer, Fionnuala Gallagher, who is pictured here (right) with comedian Aine Gallagher and writer, actor and sculptor James Fleming, along with one of his 'Sculptures from a Caravan' that went on display.



## Famelab Winners

Congratulations to Ana Panigassi (right) and Dr Patrick Ryan (left) who came first and second respectively in the FameLab Galway 2017 regional heats. They're pictured with Microbiology student, Joanne Brophy, who won the audience vote on the night. FameLab is the world's biggest science communication, and competitors must explain scientific concepts to a general audience in just three minutes. The Galway event was organised by staff in the College of Science and MCed by Dr Jessamyn Fairfield (Physics). Patrick and Ana went on to compete in the national final in April.

## First for PHABLABS

NUI Galway is the first Irish university to join PHABLABS 4.0, a European initiative that aims to inspire young scientists with the power of photonics. Led by Professor Martin Leahy in the University's Centre for Photonics and Imaging, Galway will have one of 11 hubs across Europe where citizens can experiment with photonics – the technology of light. Look out for workshops and toolkits to inspire school children, students and young professionals alike.



## Fossil Fuel Divestment

Following a campaign led by students in the University, NUI Galway has committed to divesting from fossil fuel shares by the end of 2017. The student Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security Society had petitioned the University to make the change to show our commitment to good environmental practice. They collected over a thousand signatures and produced a report making the case for divesting the €3.4 million worth of shares held in companies like Gazprom and Statoil. The report was welcomed by University President, Dr James Browne, who emphasised that the divestment is in line with the University's values with regard to sustainability.

## Wedding Bells

### Man of the Moment

Mark McGuinness is surrounded by colleagues from the HR Office at his wedding to Dónal Walsh in the G Hotel late last year.



### Black & White Beauty

Congratulations to Noirín Mannion from Student Services and her new husband – and NUI Galway graduate – Feargal Walshe.



### Ár Spéirbhean féin

Phós Lisa Ní Fhlatharta ó Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge agus a fear céile Séamus Ó Loideáin thiar ar an gCeathrú Rua i mí na Samhna. Comhghairdeas leo beirt.



### Stole the Show

Congratulations to Aisling Lennon from the J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics and her husband Joe Corcoran. Aisling and Joe were engaged in the University's Quadrangle and took some photos of their special day there.



### Love is in the air in Nun's Island!

Nuala McGuinn sent in this photo of two staff from the Centre for Adult Learning and Professional Development who recently got hitched. Eilís O'Regan (left) recently married Alan Burgess in London, while Pádraig Ó Sabhain took Lilian Collier's hand (right) while on the Camino de Santiago.



### Reader, I married her!

Even this editor got in on the action. Many of you will know Marina Wild from the Arts Office for her art classes on campus, but I now know her as my wife and muse! Thanks Marina.

## The View from Around Campus

A fond farewell to Tess Mahoney who retired from the School of Physics after many years of service. Tess is pictured here (second from right) with colleagues from the College of Science: Olive Mills, Professor Andy Shearer, Dr Miriam Byrne and Claire Mitchell.



Congratulations to our colleagues Sandra Glennon (President's Office) and Maria Linnane (ISS) who recently graduated from the MBA. After two years of juggling work and study, we hope they enjoy a stress-free summer break.



Geography PhD student, Michelle Curran, sent in this photo from her recent training trip in the Atlantic aboard the Polarstern research vessel. Here, the group is given a demo of equipment that measures the conductivity, temperature and depth of the ocean.



300 secondary school students attended Tyndall Lecture hosted by the School of Physics in February. Eoin Gill and Sheila Donegan from WIT entertained the students with an account of the lives of the 17th century Irish scientists, Robert Boyle and Lady Ranelagh. They're pictured in period costume with Dr Mark Lang (Physics).



Students from the Masters in Human Resource Management get the opportunity to work on HR projects in some of Ireland's largest companies. Dr Alma McCarthy (Business and Economics) sent in this photo of Mark Gantly, MD of Hewlett Packard Enterprise, pictured (third from left) with students Alina, Jonathan, David and Kevin, along with Alma herself.

Having a chat in the Institute for Lifecourse and Society after a public lecture on age discrimination were Dr Caroline Heary (Psychology), Professor David Archard (Queen's University Belfast) and Dr Allyn Fives (Political Science and Sociology).



This messy bunch are the NUI Galway Rugby Youth Academy U18.5 team who won the Connacht Title in February. Thanks to Jim Lenaghan (Education) for sending in the snap!



Dr Eric Mortimer (ISS) sent in this photo from the Ryan Institute Christmas Coffee Morning where they presented a sponsorship to the NUI Galway Men's Soccer Club as part of their Engagement Strategy. Eric is Chairman of the Club, and he is pictured (left) with Professor Colin O'Dowd and Dr Michelle O'Dowd (Ryan Institute), Derek Rogers (Mail Services & Men's Soccer Club) and Dr Richard Manton (Ryan Institute).



Would you believe, this extraordinary group of people have each been working in the University for over 25 years! We think they all look very well on it. The photo was taken at a special lunch for the 1990/91 intake of staff. On behalf of the University, we would like to thank these remarkable colleagues for their 900 years of service!

# EXPLORE

## Desktop Diary

May 2017							June 2017							July 2017						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4						1	2
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
29	30	31	26	27	28	29	30	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						
													31							

### Time to Ditch the Tag!

Our Staff Parking Permit system is now completely online and there is no longer any need to keep your old purple parking tag. Furry dice, air freshener, county colours... whatever you're into – ditch the tag and make more space in your windscreen!

Don't forget, you must log in online to transfer your parking permit to an alternative car – and don't forget to log in and change it back when you're finished.



### Do you have an idea you want to EXPLORE?

The EXPLORE programme is open now for applications, and staff and students across campus are invited to apply. It is a rolling call for submissions, so visit [explore.su.nuigalway.ie](http://explore.su.nuigalway.ie) today to see how to apply.

Successful applications will be awarded up to €900 in funding, along with a support structure to enable innovative ideas get off the ground. Since 2012, over 100 new projects involving more than 600 students and staff have been supported.

"EXPLORE's collaborative approach has been key to its success over the years. Now we want to support even more innovative thinking and idea implementation", explains Ruth Hynes, Innovation and Engagement Officer, who manages EXPLORE.