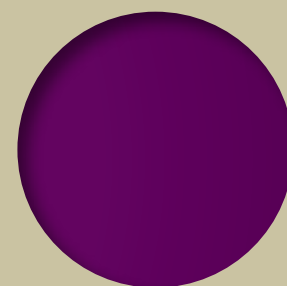


# Dlíscéala

For Friends, Alumni & Students

ISSUE 2 | SEPTEMBER 2014



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Student Activities	2-4
Clinical Legal Education	5
New academic staff appointments	6-7
Staff Departures	8
Internationalisation	9
News from the Centres	10-11
Publications	12-13
Annual Distinguished Lecture 2014	14-15
Doctoral Programme	16-17
RDJ Glynn	17
Staff News	18-19
Conferences & Events	20-23
Alumni News	24-26
Staff in the Media	27



## New staff join Law School

Four new permanent academic staff – Dr Eilionóir Flynn, Dr Eoin Daly, Dr John Danaher and Brian Tobin – have joined the School of Law in the past year with plans to recruit a further two staff in the course of the next year. This represents a major investment in the School of Law following upon the appointment of three professors in 2013 and has been welcomed by the Head of School, Professor

Donncha O’Connell, as ‘a crucial addition to our intellectual capital at a time of intense competition for undergraduate and postgraduate students and for research funding’. He went on to say: ‘Each of our new colleagues bring their own distinctive strengths and add in most valuable ways to the strong pool of talent that already exists in the School.’ (See inside pages 6 & 7.)

School of Law  
Newsletter



NUI Galway  
OÉ Gaillimh



# Welcome from Head of School

Dear Friends,

I hope you enjoy the second issue of *Dlíscéala*, the annual newsletter of the School of Law, NUI Galway, compiled with great efficiency by my colleague, Michael Coyne.

In the past year we have welcomed four new permanent academic staff members and we are about to recruit two more. We have also bid farewell to some colleagues whose contribution to the School is acknowledged elsewhere in this newsletter.

As you will see in the pages that follow, we have had an extremely busy year in the Law School with many successes for our students, staff and graduates.

The recovery in our CAO position, evidenced by growth in demand for undergraduate programmes, continues. There also signs of increased interest in programmes like the LLB and our LLM programmes continue to prosper as do our Masters graduates in so many diverse fields. We have made big improvements to our doctoral programme embedding the structured modules now required of doctoral students and winning

significant doctoral funding. We also continue to enjoy success in attracting external funding for research from national and international funding agencies. Our engagement with new international partners through various academic exchange programmes continues apace with new and increasing opportunities for our students to gain invaluable experience abroad.

I have endeavoured, since taking up office as Head of School in May 2013, to connect at intervals with our graduate community by inviting them to events hosted by the School of Law or sending them videos of such events later. It has been very gratifying to receive messages from graduates affirming, supporting and encouraging the work of colleagues – past and present – in the School of Law and offering to assist in various ways. In the coming years I plan to deepen the involvement of our graduates in the life of the School of Law so as to establish 'a community of impact' that reflects the very best of what we do in NUI Galway.

*Professor Donncha O'Connell,*  
**Head of School**  
donncha.oconnell@nuigalway.ie

## Student Activities

### President Higgins visits NUIG Law Society

President Michael D. Higgins was awarded an honorary life membership of the NUI Galway Law Society at a ceremony held in the Aula Maxima on 21 March 2014. President Higgins and his wife Sabina are pictured at the event with, from left: Professor Pól Ó Dochartaigh, Registrar and Deputy President, Professor Donncha O'Connell, Head of the School of Law; Conor Nolan, Law Society Auditor; Amy Grant, Law Society Treasurer; Professor Michael O'Flaherty, Director of the Irish Centre for Human Rights, and Dr James Browne, President of NUI Galway.



(L to R) Lughaidh Kerin, Tom Lavelle, Siobhan Lavelle, Sara Waloszek, Fiona Lavelle, Garry Ferguson (Solicitor and Managing Partner, Walkers Ireland) and Gayle Bowen (Solicitor, Walkers Ireland)

### Inaugural Walkers Ireland Prize

Sara Waloszek (2 B.Corp.Law) was awarded the Walkers Ireland Gold Medal in Company Law inaugurated in memory of a graduate of the Corporate Law programme, the late Cathal Lavelle, whose untimely death occurred in 2013. Sara spent the summer working as a paid intern in Walkers Dublin office. She was selected following an interview process involving senior staff at Walkers with Lughaidh Kerin and Dr Joe McGrath of the School of Law having been shortlisted for her strong performance in Company Law 1.



## Irish Red Cross IHL Winners – Corn Adomnáin

Two teams from the Irish Centre for Human Rights faced each other in the final of an international humanitarian law competition organised by the Irish Red Cross in the Criminal Courts of Justice, Dublin in March 2014. The Corn Adomnáin finalists (Rick O'Connor, Luke Hamilton, Andrea Wescott-Lacoursiere, Sinead Coakley, Nora Kennelly and Dianne Keur) undertook a number of international humanitarian law-based scenarios in the morning of the competition and the two ICHR teams received the highest scores. This resulted in them facing each other in the final of the competition where they were required to argue different sides of an international humanitarian law moot problem. In the final they argued before Mr Justice McKechnie of the Supreme Court, Mr Justice Hogan then of the High Court and District Judge McNamara. In a split decision, the winners were Rick, Luke and Andrea. They were presented with the winning trophy by the Chief Justice of Ireland, Mrs. Justice Susan Denham. The teams were coached by Dr. Noelle Higgins of the ICHR.



(L to R) Donal Forde (Irish Red Cross), Luke Hamilton (Team Captain), Andrea Westcott-Lacoursiere, Rick O'Connor and Chief Justice Susan Denham

## European Trip 2014

Generously sponsored by the former MEP, Phil Prendergast, this year's Annual Irish Universities' Trip to the European Institutions was organised by Anna-Louise Hinds for NUI Galway and UCC, and took place in February 2014, with five NUI Galway students onboard. The group enjoyed visits to the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg, and the European Commission, European Parliament and European Ombudsman in Brussels. Highlights of the trip included meeting with Judge Aindrias Ó Caoimh and Judge Anthony Collins at the Court of Justice, with Miriam Driessen-Reilly (UCG graduate) at DG Competition, with Dr Catherine Day, Secretary General of the European Commission, with Marian Harkin MEP, and with Emily O'Reilly, the recently appointed European Ombudsman. The group also had the opportunity to meet with recent NUI Galway graduates working in Brussels, including Deidre Carroll, Mark Dunne and Andrew Murphy.



Front L to R: Laura Gray (3 BA Legal Studies), Aileen Turley (3 BA Legal Studies), Marian Harkin MEP, Anna-Louise Hinds; back L to R: Shane Kelly (3 BA Legal Studies), Robyn Dunne (3 BA Legal Studies), and Orlane Dubo (Erasmus)

## Student Placements & Internships

In the past year the School of Law, through its clinical legal education programme, has expanded the opportunities for students to participate in prestigious internships over the summer period.

Maggie MacAonghusa (Final BCL) and Áine Holmes (Final LLB) were selected for the two summer internships initiated by the Chief Justice at the Superior Courts.



(L to R) Claire Loftus (Director of Public Prosecutions) with Dervla Nash (BCL International, Class of 2014) and Kate Mulkerrins (Head of Prosecution Policy & Research Unit). Dervla undertook a summer internship in the Prosecution Policy section of the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions.



Mary Ann Sullivan (Final BCL) was an intern at Arthur Cox for four weeks over the month of June 2014. The Arthur Cox Intern Programme is designed to give those who are interested in a career as a corporate solicitor in Ireland a real introduction to life in a large commercial law firm. During this she was placed with the Energy & Projects Group and provided with excellent training, given interesting work to complete, and encouraged to get to know her colleagues through a series of organised events.



(L to R) John Dunlevy (Final LLB), Attorney General Máire Whelan, SC, and Mary Heavey (2nd BCL). Mary and John completed summer internships at the Office of Attorney General.



## Student EXPLORE projects

There were two very innovative EXPLORE projects involving law students and staff during the past academic year.

The 'Disability Awareness Week' in April 2014 saw a range of inter-disciplinary events organised all over campus with the aim of raising awareness around disability, diversity and equality in access to higher education and inclusion in society. More specifically, this project aimed at increasing staff, student and public awareness about people with disabilities, with a view to combating stereotypes and promoting the contributions of people with disabilities through a campus-wide awareness week.

Highlights during the week included: a seminar on 'Mental Illness or Psychosocial disability - What's the difference?'; an Introduction to Irish Sign Language class, a Disability Awareness Workshop; a Disability Equality e-learning module, designed by the National Disability Authority; and a tandem cycle event around campus, organised by the Galway Visually Impaired Activity Club. Students also presented the outcomes of their Accessibility Audit of NUI Galway.

The students on this project came from the LLM in International and Comparative Disability Law and Policy class: David Bohan, Josephine McLoughlin, Sinead Keane, Oyaró Louis, Colm Lennon, Meenraj Panthee, Dev Datta Joshi, Peter Ngomwa, Prem Singh Tharu, Michael Coleman, Lila Carey, Elizabeth Kamundia, and Aly MacGrath. The supervisors were Shivaun Quinlivan and Charlotte May-Simera with additional support from the Disability Support Office and local organisations.

Another project, 'Preparing Law Students for Professional Exams', was aimed at preparing final year law students for the professional examinations for entry to the legal profession (for both future barristers and solicitors). This project was run by Conor Nolan (LLB) liaising with Larry Donnelly, Associate Head for Teaching & Learning and Director of Clinical Legal Education in the School of Law.



Staff and students from the LLM in International Disability Law and Policy with President Jim Browne and Yaz the guide dog

## Student Participation in the Model European Union

In April, Eimhin McEvoy, 4th Year B.Corp, took part in the Model European Union (MEU), hosted annually by the European Parliament in Strasbourg. This is a prestigious political simulation, akin to a Model United Nations simulation, popular across the EU and US and open to students across the European Union. The MEU gives delegates a unique insight into the day-to-day workings of the European institutions. Student delegates are assigned roles months in advance as European Commissioners, Members of the European Council, European Parliamentarians, journalists, interpreters and lobbyists; and are then charged with passing legislation through the ordinary legislative procedure, debating, amending and redrafting it as it passes from one institution to the other, replicating the workings of the EU in minute detail.

Eimhin took part as a Minister in the European Council representing Slovenia, and was charged with seeing through two pieces of legislation; the 'Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership' between the EU and USA and the 'European Social Fund 2014-2020'.



Eimhin is third from right, pictured with his fellow delegates

## LLM Students Receive Gold Medal



(L to R) Shivaun Quinlivan, Programme Director of the LLM in International and Comparative Disability Law and Policy; LLM Graduates Alberto Vasquez Encalada and Thomas Bernhard, joint awardees of the CDLP Gold Medal for Excellence in December 2013; Dr Lucy Byrnes, Dean of Graduate Studies; Professor Gerard Quinn, Director of the CDLP

## Law Ball 2014

The 2013-14 Committee of the NUIG Law Society at the annual Law Ball in February in the Hotel Meyrick. More photos by Kieran Durcan can be found at [www.facebook.com/nuig.lawsoc](http://www.facebook.com/nuig.lawsoc)



# Clinical Legal Education

## Clinical Legal Education students and supervisors speak at national conferences

The clinical legal education programme grew substantially under the leadership of Larry Donnelly over the past academic year. Thirty final year BCL students undertook placements in academic year 2013-2014 – twice the number as in the previous year – with government agencies, non-governmental organisations, solicitors' firms and barristers. This year, the School of Law was delighted to commence new relationships with a range of new placement partners in Galway, Dublin and across Ireland.

This year, for the first time, NUIG students and placement supervisors attended and spoke at conferences which focused on the student experience of clinical legal education.

In March, a conference convened by the Public Interest Law Alliance (PILA) – Using the Law To Challenge Injustice – featured a breakout session with student speakers from Irish law schools and moderated by Larry Donnelly. Maggie MacAonghusa, a final year BCL student who worked with James MacGuill & Co. Solicitors in Dublin represented the School of Law on the panel of speakers and discussed the extraordinary learning experience she had and the value of the virtually simultaneous integration of theory and practice that is a feature of the part-time placement programme. Maggie's placement was also a significant first in that her supervisor, Solicitor Clare McQuillan, was a past participant in the clinical legal programme in its first year of operation, 2006-2007.

And in June, the Irish Clinical Legal Education Association (ICLEA), led by Larry Donnelly, held its second conference – Law in Action: Reimagining Clinical Legal Education in Ireland – at University College Dublin. The conference was organised by Dr Liam Thornton of UCD and co-sponsored by the University of Ulster and PILA. As part of the conference, School of Law placement supervisors Kate Mulkerrins, Head of Prosecution Policy at the DPP, and Maeve Regan, Managing Solicitor of Mercy Law Resource Centre, as well as Maggie MacAonghusa, participated on an innovative workshop that brought together the various stakeholder groups for clinical legal education programmes.

Also, at the ICLEA conference, Larry Donnelly moderated a panel discussion involving the heads of nine Irish law schools that considered the future trajectory of legal education in Ireland. This was the first time such a conference panel has been convened in recent memory on this topic and the diverse range of contributions were fascinating. Prof Donncha O'Connell was among those heads of school from law schools on the island of Ireland who participated.

## NUIG Internal Moot Court Final 2014

The Moot Court Final (for those students taking the elective module, Moot Court) took place in February 2014 with the victorious team of Daniel Doyle and Liam King narrowly overcoming Mary Ann Sullivan and Maggie MacAonghusa in a tense competition which exhibited everything that is positive about mooting before a bench comprising: Gerry Burke, BL, Ronan Murphy, Solicitor, Maria, Solicitor and Mr. Justice Henry Abbott of the High Court.

Thanks to all the members of staff who so generously gave of their time, in particular Ursula Ní Chonghaile for drafting the interesting moot fact pattern, Tom O'Malley 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.



Justice Henry Abbott with, L to R, finalists Mary Ann Sullivan, Daniel Doyle, Liam King and Maggie MacAonghusa

The team mentors were: Diarmuid Griffin, Dr Charles O'Mahony, Nicola Murphy, Dr Noelle Higgins, Shivaun Quinlivan, Thomas Mc Donagh, Dr Joe McGrath and Larry Donnelly.

## Careers in Law Week 2013

Careers in Law Week took place in September 2013. This is an initiative by the School of Law in conjunction with the Career Development Centre and was, last year, led by Lughaidh Kerin on behalf of the School of Law.

The highlight of the week was the Law Firms' Day on Tuesday 17 September in the Bailey Allen Hall, where students had the chance to meet Ireland's top firms, network and learn about their job opportunities. RDJ Glynn, William Fry, Arthur Cox, A&L Goodbody, Matheson Ormsby Prentice, Holmes O'Malley Sexton and Mason Hayes & Curran gave presentations, followed by networking and refreshments (kindly supported by RDJ Glynn).

Other events included:

- 'Gateways into the Legal Profession in Ireland, the US and Australia' and 'Qualifying as a Barrister in Ireland - Tales from the Trenches.'
- Mock Group Interview Workshop, facilitated by Arthur Cox.
- 'Qualifying as a Solicitor UK - Video Conference with Oxford University'



NUIG law graduate Dannie Hanna (BCL 2008) from Arthur Cox



Pamela Devins, Career Development Adviser, pictured with iPad winner Rory Treacy and Lughaidh Kerin of the School of Law

- 'Alternative Careers with a Law degree'

Attendees at Careers with Law Week events were entered into a draw for an iPad, kindly sponsored by William Fry. The lucky winner was Rory Treacy (B. Corp Law).

## National Negotiation Competition

This year's National Negotiation Competition, judged by Mr Justice Peart of the High Court, featured an expanded knockout format with the inclusion of UL, UCD, Trinity and UCD for the first time. NUI Galway was represented by Jacintha Hopkins & Mahmoud Abukhadir. Many thanks to Lughaidh Kerin for preparing the NUIG team.



NUI Galway team Mahmoud Abukhadir & Jacintha Hopkins



# New academic staff appointments

## Dr Eilionóir Flynn



Dr Eilionóir Flynn is a Senior Lecturer at the School of Law and Deputy Director of the Centre for Disability Law and Policy, NUI Galway. She is a graduate of University College Cork (BCL, PhD), and received a scholarship from the Irish Research Council for Humanities and Social Sciences for her PhD research on advocacy for persons with disabilities in Ireland and Australia.

She published her first book with Cambridge University Press in 2011, entitled 'From Rhetoric to Action: Implementing the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.' This work was based on her postdoctoral research on comparative National Disability Strategies, conducted at the Centre for Disability Law and Policy (CDLP).

Eilionóir was appointed to the role of Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Disability Law & Policy in 2011, and in this role she has represented the CDLP on a number of EU-funded research projects in the fields of access to justice, EU implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (DREAM), active citizenship and disability (DISCIT), and legal capacity reform (PERSON).

At a national level she is actively engaged in the process of legal capacity reform, and co-ordinates a working group of over 15 civil society organisations in the fields of disability, mental health and older people on this issue. Together with other colleagues from the CDLP, and in partnership with Seasamh and Inclusion Ireland, she is also supporting the emergence of a National Platform of Self Advocates with Intellectual Disability in Ireland.

Internationally, she has supported the Secretariat of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and, in particular, the working group which prepared a draft General Comment on Article 12 (legal capacity). She is also actively engaged with the UN Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing which aims to strengthen the international human rights of older persons.

She has published widely in international peer-reviewed journals such as the *International Journal of Law in Context*, the *Berkley Journal of International Law* and the *American Journal of Comparative Law* on disability rights issues, and is also one of the editors of the *European Yearbook of Disability Law*. Her next monograph on *Access to Justice for Persons with Disabilities* will be published by Ashgate in 2014. Eilionóir's current research interests include legal capacity, advocacy, access to justice, and the intersectionality of disability, gender and ageing.

## Dr Eoin Daly



Dr Eoin Daly is a lecturer and researcher who specialises in questions of political theory in the domain of Constitutional Law. A Law and French graduate of University College Cork, he was awarded a PhD by UCC in 2010. His thesis examined contrasting approaches to constitutional protections of religious freedom in schools. In 2010 he was appointed as a lecturer at Dublin City University, where he taught Constitutional Law, Administrative Law and Jurisprudence, and developed a new module in Comparative Law. In 2012, he published his first monograph, *Religion, Law and the Irish State: the Constitutional Framework in Context* (Clarus Press). In Autumn 2012, he was appointed as a lecturer in law at University College Dublin, where he served as coordinator of the Law and French programmes. He lectured Constitutional and Administrative Law, Legal Theory, and Introduction to French Law, as well as developing a new module in Law, Religion and Secularism.

Eoin Daly's research approaches constitutional law issues from a political-theory perspective. In particular, his interests lie in the areas of religion and secularism, Church-State relations, political liberalism, theories of justice, as well as republican and liberal political philosophy. He has published a number of papers on French *laïcité* (secularism) in legal and political journals including the *Oxford Journal of Legal Studies*, the *European Journal of Political Theory*, *French Politics* and the *International Journal of Law in Context*. He has also made a contribution in the field of political theory, particular in relation to the political philosophy of John Rawls and the constitutional thought of Jean-Jacques Rousseau. He has published on Rawls and Rousseau in journals such as *Jurisprudence and Law, Culture and the Humanities*. His latest paper, entitled "Republican deliberation and symbolic violence in Rousseau and Bourdieu", is forthcoming in *Philosophy and Social Criticism* in 2014.

As a teacher of Constitutional Law, Eoin also has a strong interest in the role of the Constitution in Irish public life. While a regular contributor in print and broadcast media, he is currently working on a co-authored book, *The Political Theory of the Irish Constitution* (Manchester University Press).

*In the past year, four new permanent members of academic staff have joined the School of Law. This represents a major investment in the School following upon the appointment of three professors in 2013 and will be augmented in the current academic year by two further appointments.*

## Dr John Danaher



Dr John Danaher is a graduate of University College Cork (BCL), Trinity College Dublin (LLM) and University College Cork (PhD). Prior to joining NUI Galway as lecturer, he worked in Keele University in the UK from 2011-2014.

His research interests lie predominantly in the intersections between philosophy and law, with a particular focus on the ethics and regulation of emerging technologies. To date, he has published a variety of articles, including pieces on the death penalty, criminal responsibility, scientific evidence and blind expertise, the use of brain-based lie detection, and the ethics of human enhancement.

He is currently pursuing three research themes: (i) the regulation of human enhancement technologies; (ii) speech act theory and legal interpretation; and (iii) brain-based lie detection and the philosophy of evidence law. He is also developing an interest in the social and legal implications of advanced artificial intelligence.

In the past, he has taught Jurisprudence, Criminal Law, Contract Law, Company Law, Medical Ethics and the Law, Law and Ethics, and Law and Economics. In 2013, along with a colleague from Keele University, he was awarded funding from the Higher Education Authority UK for a novel legal education project dealing with the fallout from the withdrawal of civil legal aid.

John writes a blog called Philosophical Disquisitions: <http://philosophicaldisquisitions.blogspot.ie/>

## New appointments in ICHR

- Dr Róisín Burke is a Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Research Fellow conducting an Irish Research Council funded project titled, "Rule of Law reform initiatives: A vehicle for advancing gender justice, women's civil law and property rights, and rural women's access to justice in post-conflict states?"
- Dr Zoi Aliozi is a post-doctoral researcher providing support and research assistance for the EU-funded project led by Dr. Ekaterina Yahyaoui entitled 'International Protection of Human Rights as a Constitutional Issue: Promises, Problems and Prospects'. The project critically examines the relationship between human rights and international constitutionalism through an interdisciplinary lens combining law with philosophy and political theory.

## Brian Tobin



Brian Tobin is a graduate of Trinity College Dublin, where he has recently submitted for examination his Ph.D thesis examining the socio-legal assimilation of same-sex family structures in Ireland. The final year of his doctoral research was funded by an Arthur Cox Studentship.

Brian previously lectured at NUI Galway in 2007/2008 and, since then, he has lectured at Trinity College Dublin, DIT, Independent Colleges and Kingston University London.

Brian's primary research interests are in the areas of Family and Child Law, Gender, Sexuality and Law, Human Rights and Equity and Trust Law. He has published articles on these areas in leading peer-reviewed journals such as the Irish Jurist, the International Journal of Law, Policy and the Family, and the Journal of Social Welfare and Family Law. He has been the Equity correspondent for Thomson Round Hall's Annual Review of Irish Law since 2007.

Brian has a wide range of teaching experience in law. He has lectured Equity and Trusts at NUI Galway and Trinity College Dublin, Contract Law at NUI Galway and DIT, Company Law at DIT, Constitutional Law at Independent Colleges, and Tort Law at Kingston University London. Brian began lecturing in the areas of Family Law and Business Law at NUI Galway in January 2014.

## New appointments in CDLP

- Dr Delia Ferri and Dr Sinead Keogh, post-doctoral researchers with responsibility for the EU FP7 DISCIT project – Making Persons with Disabilities Full Citizens – New Knowledge for an Inclusive and Sustainable European Social Model. Delia has recently been hired as a lecturer by NUI Maynooth.
- Piers Gooding, Research Associate, focusing on current and prospective legal capacity reform projects.
- Jenni Kline, Research Assistant, providing empirical research for projects including the EU-funded DISCIT and Access to Justice projects.
- Niamh Lally, Research Assistant, focusing on the preparing of amicus briefs, legislative submissions, briefings documents and working papers, as well as the Centre's extensive programme of research and education events.
- Elizabeth Kamundia, Research Assistant, supporting new EU projects.

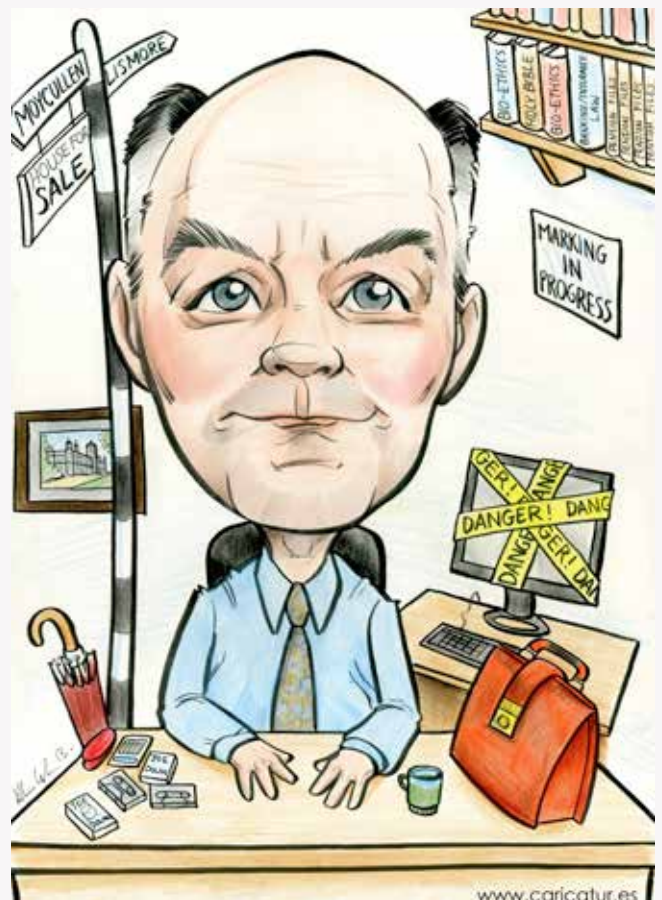


# Staff Departures

*A number of retirements by longstanding colleagues occurred in the past year.*



Des McSharry retired as Administrator of the School of Law and Freedom of Information Officer for the University in January 2014. Des was known to generations of law students as a most professional, generous and approachable member of staff of the School of Law (and the Faculties of Law and Commerce in the past) who was always supportive and creative in his efforts to resolve the various administrative problems faced by students. He took a particular interest in the Erasmus programme since its inception and was an enthusiastic proponent of internationalisation on all undergraduate programmes.



Dr Oliver Mills retired in February 2014 after twenty years' service as a Lecturer in Law. Oliver wrote two books on moral restraints, patent law and biotechnological inventions and is fondly remembered by many students as an organised and stimulating lecturer in subjects such as Insurance Law and Banking Law. Oliver also had a longstanding association with the MBA programme offered by the School of Business & Economics.

*Both caricatures, which were presented to the retirees, are by Allan Cavanagh ([www.caricatures-ireland.com/blog/](http://www.caricatures-ireland.com/blog/))*



Marie McGonagle retired in August 2014 having originally joined the staff of the School of Law in the 1980's. Marie, who served a distinguished term as Head of School between 2005 and 2008 and was the founding director of the LL.M in Public Law for almost ten years, pioneered the development of subjects like Media Law, Entertainment Law and Information Law. Her standing as an expert in these subjects was widely recognised nationally and internationally. Her doctoral students are continuing and will continue this work with great energy and innovation. She will be missed greatly by our students for her rigorous analysis, unfailing fairness and strong support and encouragement of genuine endeavour.

## Other Departures

Best wishes also to Lughaidh Kerin whose contract ended in August 2014 and to Dr Joe McGrath who is leaving to take up a post as a lecturer in the School of Law, UCD.



# Internationalisation

The Law School's internationalisation efforts are continuing to bear fruit. This past summer the School initiated a new Summer Exchange Programme with Suffolk University Law School in Boston, Massachusetts. Four Galway students spent the summer in various placements in Boston, while two Suffolk students spent their summer in Ireland. Plans are underway to add a study abroad programme for both Galway and Suffolk students by 2015.

Additionally, the Director of Internationalisation, Dr Conor Hanly, is negotiating with several other American law schools to develop similar links. It is hoped that by 2016, Galway students will have the option to study abroad or engage in summer placements on both the west and the east coasts of the United States and in the mid-west.

Our efforts to develop links in Asia are continuing. Dr Hanly has had further meetings with representatives from Shantou University and the China University of Political Science and Law. We are working towards Galway law students having the opportunity to study in China by 2015.

## Suffolk University Law School-NUIG Exchange

The Law School inaugurated a new student exchange scheme with Suffolk University Law School in Boston in the summer of 2014. The scheme, coordinated by Larry Donnelly and Dr Conor Hanly, allows students from the two institutions to experience the legal system in the other country over the summer months. Four graduating students – two from the BCL programme and two from the LLB programme – went to Boston for the summer where they took a legal skills class at Suffolk and participated in clinical placements:

- Ammi Burke (BA, LLB) was placed with a Massachusetts appellate court judge;
- Catherine Corcoran, (BCL) was placed in the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office;

- Jacintha Hopkins (BA, LLB) was placed with a judge of the Probate and Family Court in Boston;
- Patrick Munnely (BCL) was placed in the Massachusetts Secretary of State's Office.

The Law School hosted two Suffolk students, Melissa Chen and Ana Mora, in return. They took classes on the Irish legal system from a number of faculty members before commencing placements. Melissa worked with the Centre for Disability Law and Policy at NUI Galway, while Ana was placed in the Law Reform Commission in Dublin.



Larry Donnelly, Jacintha Hopkins, Patrick Munnely, Catherine Corcoran and Dr Conor Hanly



From Boston to Boston: Melissa Chen and Ana Mora



Students Patrick Munnely, Jacintha Hopkins and Ammi Burke with Mayor Marty Walsh in City Hall, Boston

## Washington Ireland Programme



Maria Ní Fhlatharta (Final BCL) was awarded a place on the prestigious Washington Ireland Programme for the summer of 2014. This programme brings "outstanding university students from Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland to Washington, DC for summer work placements and leadership training."

Maria is currently working for IUBAC (the International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftsmen), under the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) on women in non-traditional employment; focusing on family leave, pregnancy discrimination, health care and leadership empowerment. The approach of unions is multi-disciplinary so her work involves using many different methods to forward our agenda be it political and legislative, through education, through collective bargaining and by working with our GC.

## Brehon Law Society Philadelphia Internship

Ronan Finucane, who has just completed a BCL degree, has been selected for an internship with Kelley Partners, a boutique law firm in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania which advises businesses, not-for-profits and health care providers on a full range of legal matters. Ronan will travel to Philadelphia to begin the two-month internship in September. The placement has been facilitated by the Brehon Law Society, an organisation of Irish American lawyers and judges based in Philadelphia and Cleveland, Ohio. The School of Law has a strong relationship with the Brehon Law Society which has been built up through its active participation in the annual US/Ireland Legal Symposium organised by the Brehons. In late-September, Professor Donncha O'Connell will travel to Cleveland, Ohio to speak at The Irish American Business & Legal Forum organised by the Irish American Law Society of Cleveland.

# News from the Centres

## CENTRE FOR DISABILITY LAW & POLICY (CDLP)

### India and Ireland Policy Encounter



Professor Gerard Quinn with Honourable Justices Mr Dipak Misra (Supreme Court of India) and Mr Rajiv Shakhder (High Court of Delhi) at the Indo-Irish Encounter

The first ever India and Ireland 'Policy Encounter' on disability law and policy was held in January 2014 at India's No 1 Law School, NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad. The encounter was a joint project of NALSAR University of Law, India and the Centre with the support of the SOROS-

Open Society Foundations. It brought together key players and figures from both countries' legal and political systems to reflect together on commonalities and shared problematics in moving toward supported decision making in place of guardianship.

### LLM News



Recent CDLP graduates: Front row (L-R): Professor Gerard Quinn, Dr Noelín Fox and Xiaoli Yue. 2nd row: Alberto Vasquez Encalada, Emily Loughlin and Jose Castro Girona Martínez. 3rd row: Dr Eilíonóir Flynn, Shivaun Quinlivan and Thomas Bernhard. Back row: Charles O'Mahony and Dr Padraic Kenna

This year the world renowned independent disability rights defender and Centre Adjunct Professor, Gábor Gombos, taught on the Centre's LLM programme. In September he gave an introductory lecture to the incoming class on Contemporary Issues in Disability Law and Policy and in February he led an intensive week-long programme on legal capacity. Also in this year, the luminary Dr Tom Shakespeare lectured on the topic of the social model of disability.

Alumni of the LLM programme continue to make their mark on an international stage. In November 2013 Innocentia Mgijima and Elizabeth Kamundia (also a researcher at the Centre) presented at "Disability Rights in Africa Conference - Overcoming obstacles: towards the effective implementation of the CRPD in Africa" This conference was held in the very prestigious Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria, South Africa.

### Launch of the European Yearbook of Disability Law



Editors of the European Yearbook of Disability Law – Dr Eilíonóir Flynn, Professor Gerard Quinn and Professor Lisa Waddington (European Disability Forum Chair in European Disability Law, Maastricht University) – at the launch of Volume 4 at the University of Cologne in September 2013. The Yearbook has been described by Marian Harkin, MEP as "an indispensable tool for EU policy-makers" and provided both inspiration and blueprint for the African Yearbook on Disability Law & Policy (launched in Pretoria, November 2013).

### National Platform of Self Advocates



Pictured are the new committee for the groundbreaking National Platform of Self Advocates. The Platform, which grew out of the Centre, hosted its first national conference in Croke Park in May in Dublin. Senator Katherine Zappone opened the conference which was attended by over 120 self advocates.

### Future Perspectives On Legal Capacity Law



(L to R) Conan McKenna, Department of Justice (Ireland); Mario Otheimer, EU Fundamental Rights Agency; Kathleen Lynch, Minister for Disability, Equality, Mental Health and Older People (Ireland); Sunniva McDonagh, Acting Chairperson, Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Designate; Professor Gerard Quinn, NUI Galway and Michael Bach, Canadian Association for Community Living

The Centre was asked by the Department of Justice to co-organize with the EU FRA and the Department of Justice a seminar on best international practice in legal capacity reform in Dublin in October 2013. The FRA event 'Future Perspectives On Legal Capacity Law' brought together key Justice officials from 24 EU Member States to reflect on how to put supported-decision making legislation together. It was opened by the Attorney General and closed by Minister Kathleen Lynch (with responsibility for Disability, Older People, Equality & Mental Health).



## IRISH CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (ICHR)

### Annual Doctoral Seminar at the ICHR



The ICHR 13th Annual Doctoral Seminar took place from the 14th to the 18th of April 2014. The Centre was pleased to have the participation of Professor Bill Bowring of University of London, Professor Siobhan Mullally of the Centre for Criminal Justice and Human Rights at University College Cork and Dr Edel Hughes from the University of East London.

### Faith in Democracy?



In 2012, Dr. Kathleen Cavanaugh of the ICHR and Dr. Edel Hughes (UEL) were awarded a British Academy/Leverhulme Foundation (SRG 2012-2013) for a project entitled 'Faith in Democracy?' Militant Democracy, Legal Pluralism and the Turkish State. As part of this project, this photo was taken during the first phase of field work in Istanbul, Turkey which coincided with the Gezi Park/Taksim protests in May 2013.

### International Symposium on the Domestication and Practice of International Human Rights Instruments in Taiwan, ROC



A symposium was convened by the Judicial Academy of Taiwan on the 26th-27th of November 2013 with experts from various countries to share their experiences in implementing the ICCPR and ICESCR in their countries. The comparative and empirical researches were expected to be references for Taiwan to implement the International Bill of Human Rights. Prof. O'Flaherty, Director of the ICHR, was invited to speak on 'The Implementation of UN Conventions and the Interpretation of Human Rights Treaties'.

### Ireland's Leading Human Rights Groups Adopt a Common Vision for Human Rights in Irish Foreign Policy

Towards the end of 2013 the ICHR brought together twenty-two of Ireland's leading human rights groups to adopt a common vision for human rights in Irish Foreign Policy. The Galway Platform on Human Rights in Irish Foreign Policy, launched in January 2014, sets out the basic human rights standards and practices by which Ireland should be held to account in its dealings with other countries, as well as in its activities at EU and UN levels.

The Galway Platform contains forty-seven specific observations and proposals to government in the context of the public consultation on a review of Irish Foreign Policy undertaken by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. These are realistic and measured recommendations intended to ensure that Ireland holds true to the human rights commitments that it has freely entered into.

The protection of human rights is integral to Ireland's foreign policy and Ireland now has the opportunity to significantly enhance its capacity to promote and protect human rights worldwide as well as at home. The recommendations also emphasise the need for human rights to be mainstreamed across every aspect of foreign policy. For instance, the Galway Platform states that, "it would be unacceptable for the State to undertake any action that is inconsistent with the human rights standards by which it is held to account."

Professor Michael O'Flaherty, Director of the ICHR said, "We are delighted that so many important human rights groups were able to come to Galway and agree on this wide-ranging road map for human rights in Irish Foreign Policy. Although the government is already getting a lot right when it comes to the promotion of human rights internationally, no one would dispute that it can do so much more. The Irish Centre for Human Rights and the other signatories are putting the Galway Platform recommendations to government so that Ireland can be an international champion of human rights to make us proud."



### Professor Murphy on Sabbatical

Professor Ray Murphy has returned from sabbatical. He was a Visiting Scholar with Al-Haq until the end of May 2014. Al-Haq is an independent Palestinian non-governmental human rights organisation based in Ramallah, West Bank.

Established in 1979 to protect and promote human rights and the rule of law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), the organisation has special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council. Al-Haq documents violations of the individual and collective rights of Palestinians in the OPT, irrespective of the identity of the perpetrator, and seeks to end such breaches by way of advocacy before national and international mechanisms and by holding the violators accountable. The organisation conducts research; prepares reports, studies and interventions on breaches of international human rights and humanitarian law in the OPT; and undertakes advocacy before local, regional and international bodies. Al-Haq also cooperates with Palestinian civil society organisations and governmental institutions in order to ensure that international human rights standards are reflected in Palestinian law and policies.



Pictured are Professor Murphy with Sheikh Sulaiman Hathaleem, a Bedouin elder, on the hills of south Hebron, Palestine.

# 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.

In the past year we have implemented an internal reporting mechanism in the School for measuring research outputs every six months which will assist us in continuing to increase our productivity and impact as a School of active and engaged researchers.

## Books:

- Ciara Smyth, *European Asylum Law and the Rights of the Child* (Routledge 2014)
- Shane Darcy, *Judges, Law and War: The Judicial Development of International Humanitarian Law* (Cambridge University Press 2014)
- Annabel Egan, *Constructive Engagement and Human Rights: the case of EU policy on China* (Ashgate 2014)
- Eilionóir Flynn, *Disabled Justice? Access to Justice and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* (Ashgate 2014)
- Padraic Kenna, *Contemporary Housing issues in a Globalized World* (Ashgate 2014)
- Ronán Long, Myron Nordquist, John Norton Moore, Aldo Chircop (eds), *The Regulation Of Continental Shelf Development: Rethinking International Standards* (Martinus Nijhoff 2013)

## Peer-reviewed articles:

- Lucy-Ann Buckley, 'Financial Provision on Relationship Breakdown in Ireland: A Constitutional Lacuna?' (2013) 36 *DULJ* 59
- Lucy-Ann Buckley, 'Family law and the corporate veil: accessing company assets on marital breakdown after *Prest v. Petrol Resources Ltd*' (2014) *Dublin University Law Journal*
- Caterina Gardiner, 'The Proposed Common European Sales Law: A New Direction for European Contract Law?' (2013) 36 *Dublin University Law Journal* 183
- Anna Arstein-Kerslake, 'A Call to Action: The Realisation of Equal Recognition Under the Law for People with Disabilities in the EU; (2014) *European Yearbook Of Disability Law* 5

- Anna Arstein-Kerslake and Eilionóir Flynn, 'The Support Model of Legal Capacity: Fact, Fiction or Fantasy?' (2014) *International Law Journal*
- Anna Arstein-Kerslake and Eilionóir Flynn, 'Legislating Personhood: Realising the Right to Support in Exercising Legal Capacity' (2014) 10(1) *International Journal Of Law In Context* 81
- Eoin Daly, 'Ritual and symbolic power in Rousseau's constitutional thought' (2014) *Law, Culture and the Humanities*
- Eoin Daly, 'A republican defence of the constitutional referendum' (2014) *Legal Studies*
- Eoin Daly, 'Public funding of religions in French law: the role of the Council of State in the politics of constitutional secularism' (2014) *Oxford Journal of Law and Religion*
- Eoin Daly, 'Republican deliberation and symbolic violence in Rousseau and Bourdieu' (2014) *Philosophy And Social Criticism*
- Delia Ferri, 'European Citizens... Mind the Gap! Some Reflections on Participatory Democracy in the EU' (2014) *Perspectives on Federalism*
- Delia Ferri and Anthony Giannoumis, 'A Revaluation of the Cultural Dimension of Disability Policy in the European Union: The Impact of Digitization and Web Accessibility' (2014) 32(1) *Behavioral Sciences & the Law* 33
- Eilionóir Flynn, 'Mental (In)Capacity or Legal Capacity? A Human Rights Analysis of the Proposed Fusion of Mental Health and Mental Capacity Law in Northern Ireland' (2013) 64(4) *Northern Ireland Legal Quarterly* 485
- Noelle Higgins, 'The Responsibility of the Netherlands for the Actions of Dutchbat: An Analysis of Nuhanović and Mustafić' (2014) 14 *International Criminal Law Review* 641
- Noelle Higgins, Mohamed Elewa Badar and S. Amin, 'Boko Haram, Islamic Law of Rebellion and the ICC' (2014) *International Human Rights Law Review*
- Anna-Louise Hinds and Sinead Eaton, 'Commitment Issues: New Developments in EU and Irish Competition Law' (2014) 35(1) *European Competition Law Review* 33
- Anna-Louise Hinds, 'All Settled: Some six years of cartel settlement' (2014) 35(6) *European Competition Law Review* 292
- Padraic Kenna, 'What is Housing Need?' (2013) 2(2) *The Irish Community Development Law Journal* 6
- Padraic Kenna and Dovile Gailiute, 'Growing coordination in housing rights jurisprudence in Europe?' (2013) 18(6) *European Human Rights Law Review* 606
- Padraic Kenna and Rory Hearne, 'Using the Human Rights Based Approach to Tackle Housing Deprivation in an Irish Urban Housing

Estate' (2014) 6(1) *Journal of Human Rights Practice* 1

- Brian Tobin, 'The Regulation of Cohabitation in Ireland: Achieving Equilibrium between Protection and Paternalism?' (2013) 35(3) *Journal of Social Welfare and Family Law* 279

## Chapters:

- Shane Darcy, 'Reciprocity and Reprisals' in Timothy McCormack and Rain Livioja (eds), *Routledge Handbook of the Law of Armed Conflict* (Routledge 2014).
- Shane Darcy, 'Retaliation and Reprisal' in Marc Weller (ed), *The Oxford Handbook on the Prohibition of the Use of Force* (Oxford University Press 2014)
- Donncha O'Connell, 'Bunreacht na hÉireann: Radical Reform or Redundant Ruminantion?' in Theo Dorgan (ed), *Foundation Stone - Notes Towards a Constitution for a 21st-Century Republic* (New Island 2014)
- Magdolna BIRTHA, 'A chance to pioneer or a lost opportunity?: Monitoring disability rights effectively and independently in the EU in line with Article 33 of the UN CRPD' in Gerard Quinn, Eilionóir Flynn and Lisa Waddington (eds), *European Yearbook of Disability Law* (Intersentia 2014)
- Kathleen Cavanaugh and Joshua Castellino, 'Transformations in the Middle East: The Importance of the Minority Question' in Will Kymlicka and Eva Pfoestl (eds), *Multiculturalism and Minority Rights in the Arab World* (Oxford University Press 2014)
- Delia Ferri, 'Participation in EU Governance: A 'Multi-Level' Perspective and a 'Multifold' Approach in Cristina Fraenkel-Haebler, Sabine Kropp, Francesco Palermo and Karl-Peter Sommermann (eds), *Federalism, Alternative Forms of Democracy, Better Governance* (Brill-Nijhoff 2014)
- Delia Ferri, 'Genetic Discrimination: Is it Time for the EU to Take on a New Challenge?' in Aisling De Paor, Gerard Quinn and Peter Blanck (eds), *Genetic Discrimination - Transatlantic Perspectives on the Case for a European Level Legal Response* (Routledge 2014)
- Delia Ferri, 'Is there a "Cultural Dimension" of EU Disability Policy? New Perspectives after the Accession to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities' in Lauso Zagato (ed), *La Cittadinanza sociale* (Venice University Press 2014)
- Diarmuid Griffin, 'Parole and Reentry' in *Handbook of Irish Criminology* (Routledge 2014)
- Noelle Higgins, 'International Law and Wars of National Liberation' in David Armstrong (eds),



*Oxford Bibliographies in International Relations* (Oxford University Press 2014).

- Padraic Kenna and Karen Lynch-Shally, 'Comparing Mortgage law in England and Ireland after the Crisis' in Sanchez Ruiz de Valdivia and Olmedo Cardenette (eds), *Deshaucios y Elecciones Hipotecarias (Evictions and Foreclosures)* (Tirant de Blanch 2013)
- Padraic Kenna and Mark Jordan, 'Housing rights in Europe: the Council of Europe leads the way' in Padraic Kenna and Mark Jordan (eds), *Contemporary Housing Issues in a Globalized World* (Ashgate 2014)
- Joe McGrath, 'The Prosecution of White-Collar Crime in a Developing Economy: A Case Study of Ireland in the 20th Century' in *The Routledge Handbook of White-Collar and Corporate Crime in Europe* (Routledge 2014)
- Michael O'Flaherty, 'High Commissioner and the Treaty Bodies' in F. Gaer and C.L. Broecker (eds), *The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights* (Brill-Nijhoff 2013)
- Michael O'Flaherty and Daria Davitti 'International Human Rights Field Operations: A fast developing human rights tool' in N. Rodley

and S. Sheeran (eds), *Routledge Handbook of International Human Rights Law* (Routledge 2014)

- Michael O'Flaherty, 'Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity' in Daniel Moeckli, Sangeetha Shaah and Sandesh Sivakumaran (eds), *International Human Rights Law* (Oxford University Press 2014)
- Michael O'Flaherty, 'Saving and Strengthening the United Nations Human rights Treaty Body System' in Julia Kozma, Anna Müller-Funk and Manfred Nowak (eds), *Vienna +20: Advancing The Protection of Human Rights* (Intersentia 2014)
- Shivaun Quinlivan and Andrea Broderick, 'The Right to Education: Article 24 of the CRPD' in Gerard Quinn and Charles O'Mahony (eds), *The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Comparative, Regional and Thematic Perspectives* (Intersentia 2014)
- Shivaun Quinlivan and Claire Bruton, 'Defining Disability in the Employment Context: Perspectives from the CRPD & European Union Anti-discrimination Law' in Gerard Quinn and Charles O'Mahony (eds), *The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities:*

*Comparative, Regional and Thematic Perspectives* (Intersentia 2014)

- Ronán Long, 'European Law and Policy Review: Striking a balance between ecosystem considerations and navigation rights under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, the Law of the Sea Convention and the Draft Directive on Maritime Spatial Planning' in *Global Challenges and Freedom of Navigation* (Martinus Nijhoff (2014).
- Ronán Long, 'A European Law Perspective: Science, Technology and New Challenges to Ocean Law' in Harry Scheiber and James Kraska (eds), *Science, Technology and New Challenges to Ocean Law* (Martinus Nijhoff 2014)
- Brian Tobin, 'Equity' in Raymond Byrne and William Binchy (eds), *Annual Review of Irish Law 2012* (Thomson Round Hall, 2013)
- Ekaterina Yahyaoui-Krivenko, 'Revisiting the Reservations Dialogue: negotiating Diversity while Preserving Universality Through Human Rights Law' in Machiko Kanetake and André Nollkaemper (eds), *The Rule of Law at the National and International Levels: Contestations and Deference* (Hart 2014)

## CENTRE FOR HOUSING LAW, RIGHTS AND POLICY

### Director of the Centre for Housing Law, Rights and Policy to lead €1m study on evictions in 28 EU Member States

Dr Padraic Kenna is leading a major €1m EU-funded research project on evictions across the twenty-eight European Union (EU) Member States. The research will investigate the national legal frameworks and extent of evictions across Europe. It will gather data from across the EU and identify both the pan-European factors that lead to the loss of a home and measures to counter homelessness. The research will identify effective early intervention and preventative measures and

create a profile of evicted households, risk factors and risk groups. Patterns of evictions across all EU Member States will be analysed in the context of diverse structural factors including the economic crisis, welfare systems and legal practices and protections.

The project, which will take two years, was awarded following a competitive tendering process organised by the EU Commission.

The consortium headed by Dr Kenna consists of university and housing research agencies in Belgium, Denmark, Germany and Spain. Dr Kenna, as Research Director/Principal Investigator will lead the network of national experts on housing law and policy across all EU Member States. The researchers will collate national and local data, as well as legal materials for the project's report to the European Commission.



Former Minister of State for Housing and Planning, Jan O'Sullivan, TD, is pictured with Dr Padraic Kenna and President Jim Browne at the presentation of Dr Kenna's new book, *Contemporary Housing in a Globalized World*. The book examines key contemporary issues in housing in today's globalized financial system.



Mr. Justice Nial Fennelly

# *Annual Distinguished Lecture 2014*

## *The National Judge and the European Union*



Anna-Louise Hinds



Professor Donncha O'Connell

*Mr. Justice Nial Fennelly of the Supreme Court and formerly Advocate General at the Court of Justice of the European Union delivered the School of Law Annual Distinguished Lecture 2014 on 4 April in the Aula Maxima, NUI Galway.*

*The title of his lecture was 'The National Judge and the European Union'. Anna-Louise Hinds, Lecturer in European Law at NUIG and Co-editor of the Irish Journal of European Law, formally responded to his paper.*





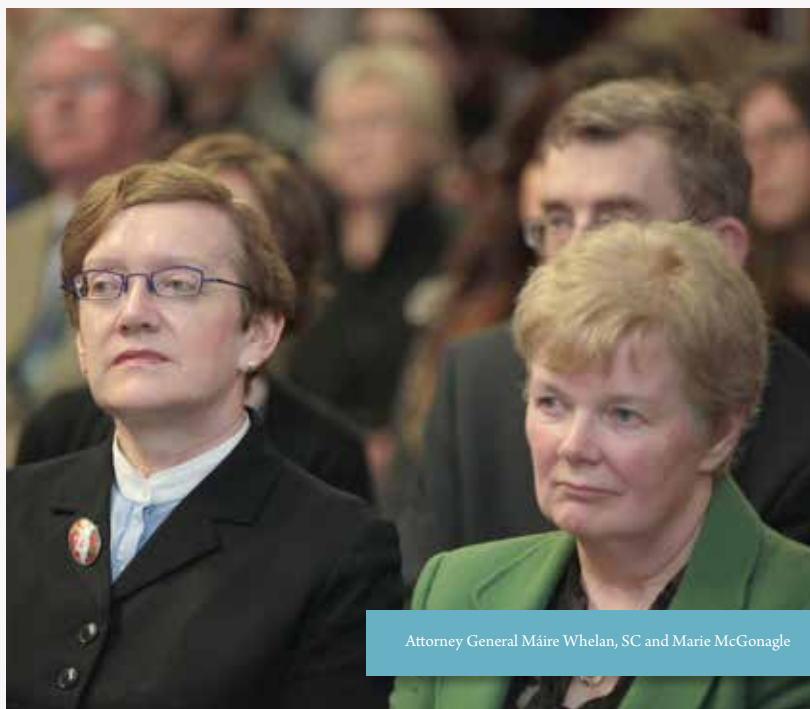
Deirdre Callanan, Caterina Gardiner and Dr Ciara Smyth



Dr Ekaterina Yahyaoui-Krivenko



Tom O'Malley



Attorney General Máire Whelan, SC and Marie McGonagle



Ursula Connolly, Dr Conor Hanly, Rónán Kennedy, Anna-Louise Hinds and Dr Lucy-Ann Buckley

Previous speakers in the Annual Distinguished Lecture series include: Professor Christopher McCrudden of Oxford University; Judge John T. Noonan of the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; Professor Neil Walker of Edinburgh University; Baroness Brenda Hale of the UK Supreme Court; and Mrs. Justice Catherine McGuinness of the Irish Supreme Court. The event is held on an annual basis to mark the end of the academic year and is open to students and graduates of the School of Law, NUI Galway as well as interested members of the public.

# Doctoral Programme

The School of Law and its research centres – the Irish Centre for Human Rights and the Centre for Disability Law and Policy – admitted twelve students to the PhD programme in 2013-14 bringing the current number of doctoral candidates in the School to over sixty.

The School of Law now fully participates in the University's structured PhD programme. The

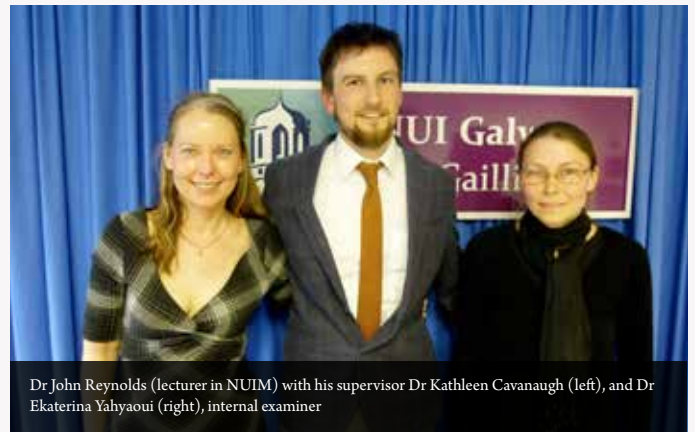
structured PhD programme enables students to enhance their research by undertaking, and getting credit for, a programme of education, training, research, personal and professional development activities. There are a large number of University-wide modules that PhD students can take as part of the structured programme and this year the School of Law has added three law-specific modules to the suite: 'Law Research Skills 1- Preparation,

Presentation & Discussion'; 'Law Research Skills 2- Engaging in Scholarship and Debate'; and 'Legal Opinion or Advice', in which students can obtain credit for providing legal opinion or advice to an international organisation, NGO or court. Furthermore, the School has plans to develop a Law Methodology module in 2014-15.

## Recent Doctoral Completions

A high number of doctoral candidates in the School and Centres have successfully defended their theses in the past academic year. Congratulations to each of them and their supervisors:

- Dr Aoife Duffy (supervised by Dr Kathleen Cavanaugh, ICHR)
- Dr Brian Farrell (supervised by Dr Kathleen Cavanaugh, ICHR)
- Dr Noelin Fox (supervised by Dr Padraic Kenna)
- Dr Connie Healy (supervised by Marie McGonagle)
- Dr Maeve Hosier (supervised by Professor Laurent Pech, formerly of the Law School)
- Dr Mary Keogh (Co-supervised by Dr Nata Duvvury & Professor Gerard Quinn)
- Dr Helen McDermott (supervised by Dr Shane Darcy, ICHR)
- Dr Fiona Morrissey (supervised by Dr Mary Keys)
- Dr Aisling de Paor (supervised by Professor Gerard Quinn)
- Dr Aisling O'Sullivan (supervised by Dr Kathleen Cavanaugh, ICHR)
- Dr Natalya Pestova (supervised by Professor Vinodh Jaichand, formerly of the ICHR)
- Dr John Reynolds (supervised by Dr Kathleen Cavanaugh, ICHR)
- Dr Derek Shortall (supervised by Professor Laurent Pech, formerly of the Law School)
- Dr Charles O'Mahony (supervised by Dr Mary Keys)
- Dr Tara Smith (supervised by Professor Ray Murphy, ICHR)



Dr John Reynolds (lecturer in NUIM) with his supervisor Dr Kathleen Cavanaugh (left), and Dr Ekaterina Yahyaoui (right), internal examiner



Dr Noelin Fox, the first graduate of the Ph.D programme at the CDLP, with her supervisor Dr Padraic Kenna



Dr Mary Keogh and family



Dr Charles O'Mahony, Dr Mary Keys (centre, supervisor for both) and Dr Fiona Morrissey



Dr Connie Healy with her supervisor Marie McGonagle



Dr Aisling de Paor



(L to R) Dr Aisling O'Sullivan and Dr Natalya Pestova





## ICHR Doctoral Fellow awarded EJ Phelan Fellowship

Congratulations to ICHR PhD candidate and Doctoral Fellow, Amina Adanan, who has been awarded the EJ Phelan Fellowship in International Law by the National University of Ireland.

The Fellowship is funded by a special bequest from the late Mr. and Mrs. Edward J Phelan and is intended to encourage and support a doctoral candidate of proven academic excellence towards a doctoral degree in any area of International Law, in a constituent university of the NUI. The award is named after distinguished diplomat Edward J. Phelan, one of the first international civil servants at the International Labour Organisation, who later became the ILO's fourth Director and first Director-General.

## Doctoral Fellowships Awarded

In the past year doctoral candidates in the School of Law and its affiliated Centres have enjoyed great success in winning funded fellowships both externally and within the University.

Silvia Gagliardi (supervised by Dr Kathleen Cavanaugh, ICHR) was initially awarded a School of Law Fellowship and went on to be awarded an Irish Research Council (IRC) Doctoral Fellowship. Charlotte May-Simera (co-supervised by Prof Gerard Quinn, Director of the CDLP and Dr Mary

Keys), who was a successful applicant under the NUIG Hardiman Fellowship Scheme, was also awarded an IRC Fellowship. Congratulations also to Sally-Anne Corcoran (supervised by Prof Michael O'Flaherty, Director of the ICHR) on her success in being awarded an IRC Fellowship. This year's prestigious IRC awards reflect particularly well on the ICHR and CDLP. Congratulations to the successful students and their supervisors on this excellent result.

The current School of Law Fellowships holders are: Nicolas McMurray (supervised by Dr Shane Darcy, ICHR); Mariamalia Rodríguez-Chaves (supervised by Professor Ronán Long); and Tatiana Kelly (supervised by Dr Joe McGrath). Sandra Murphy (supervised by Dr Padraic Kenna) is the current holder of the Hardiman Fellowship and Mike O'Flanagan (supervised by Marie McGonagle) is the recipient of the RDJ Glynn Fellowship sponsored in memory of the late Michael MacNamara.

# RDJ Glynn and the School of Law

The School of Law is very grateful to the firm of RDJ Glynn Solicitors for its strong support of postgraduate offerings and Clinical Legal Education for a number of years.

The RDJ Glynn Doctoral Fellowship, sponsored in memory of the late Michael MacNamara, has recently been awarded to a PhD candidate, Mike O'Flanagan, whose doctorate is supervised by Marie McGonagle. This fellowship was

originally established to support the LL.M in Law, Technology & Governance. It is now awarded to a PhD candidate whose doctoral research has a clear relevance to commercial or professional application. Mike's thesis is on the legal rights and responsibilities of commercial photographers. It is concerned with whether, how and to what extent the opportunities arising from developments in communication technologies pose challenges and

threats to the existing legal rights of photographers, their clients, the public and the traditional media.

Many of our students taking the Clinical Legal Education electives have been privileged to work as interns with RDJ Glynn where they receive invaluable professional training and experience supervised by the practitioners of great expertise and dynamism.



Padraic Brennan, Partner, RDJ Glynn Solicitors



Mike O'Flanagan, recipient of the RDJ Glynn Doctoral Fellowship sponsored in memory of the late Michael MacNamara



RDJ Glynn on campus during the annual Law Week

# Staff News

## President's Awards

Congratulations to Anna-Louise Hinds, who received one of the President's Awards for Teaching Excellence in 2013-2014. These awards recognise the outstanding efforts of teaching staff to ensure NUI Galway students receive the highest quality learning experience and represent an ideal opportunity to demonstrate our appreciation of the efforts and commitment of our colleagues. Anna-Louise will be presented with her award at a conferring ceremony in the new academic year.

Congratulations also to Dr Shane Darcy of the Irish Centre for Human Rights who was awarded one of the inaugural President's Awards for Research (Early-Stage Researcher Award Category) and who received his prize at the NUIG Research Showcase held at the start of July.

Dr. Eilionóir Flynn of the Centre for Disability Law & Policy, came first in the Euro Million Project Pitch for her ERC VOICES project which coincided with the Research Showcase event. It was a competition run by the NUIG Research Office with €20,000 prize fund to support the development of a grant application for projects by early stage researchers (maximum eight years post-PhD). Seven competitors from across the university were shortlisted and pitched their ideas in an eight-minute 'Dragon's Den'-style presentation, with two minutes for questions. Eilionóir's project has also qualified for the second stage ERC evaluation in October 2014 which, in itself, is a highly creditable achievement.

## Dr Ciara Smyth receives prestigious Human Rights Award



Dr Ciara Smyth was presented with a prestigious Max van der Stoel Human Rights Award in Tilburg in January 2014. Nominated by the Law Faculty Board of Leiden University, where she graduated with a doctorate in 2013, she received the award for her PhD thesis on 'The Common European Asylum System and the Rights of the Child: An Exploration of Meaning and Compliance'.

The Max van der Stoel Human Rights Award was established in 1995 as an incentive for students and PhD students who have written a thesis or any other academic work in the field of human rights. The award was an initiative of the Law Faculty and Studium Generale of Tilburg University and was joined by the School of Human Rights Research as of 1998. Since 2002, the Human Rights Award is named after Max van der Stoel, the former OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, in honour of his work in that field.



President Jim Browne and Dr Shane Darcy

## Anna-Louise Hinds receives Teresa Brannick Medal 2013



Anna-Louise is pictured with her supervisor Professor Imelda Maher, Professor Bill Roche, both of UCD and with Mr. Eddie McIllduff

Anna-Louise Hinds, who is completing a doctorate at UCD, was awarded the inaugural Teresa Brannick Medal 2013 by the Michael Smurfit Business School, University College Dublin for the module 'Approaches and Techniques in

Qualitative Research'. The medal commemorates the contribution to UCD of Dr Teresa Brannick-McIllduff, who lectured in research methods to generations of undergraduate and postgraduate commerce and social science students.

## Staff PhDs

Diarmuid Griffin passed his PhD viva in UCD in April 2014. His thesis was an empirical project that examined the factors influencing parole decision-makers when deliberating on the release of life sentence prisoners. This was first empirical project conducted on parole in Ireland. The thesis was supervised by Professor Ian O'Donnell, UCD and examined by Nicky Padfield (Master of Fitzwilliam College, University of Cambridge) and Dirk van Zyl Smit (Professor of Comparative and International Penal Law, University of Nottingham).

Charles O'Mahony was awarded a PhD in June 2014 by NUI Galway. Charles undertook his doctorate at the Centre for Disability Law and Policy under the supervision of Dr Mary Keys. The title of his thesis was 'Diversion: A Comparative Study of Law and Policy Relating to Defendants and Offenders with Mental Health Problems and Intellectual Disability'. His doctoral research was funded under the Higher Education Authority's PRTL scheme.



## Brehon Law U.S./Ireland Symposium 2013

Larry Donnelly, Professor Ronán Long and Dr Joe McGrath represented the School of Law at the third annual U.S./Ireland Legal Symposium of the Brehon Law Society that took place in Westport, Co. Mayo on September 25-27, 2013. Attendees included Irish and American legal practitioners, business consultants and businesses operating in both Ireland and the United States. The theme of the Symposium was 'Doing Business in the U.S. / Ireland / Europe – Critical Legal Issues for U.S. and Irish Companies'.



(L to R) Joanne Grehan (Mayo County Enterprise Board), Professor Ronan Long and Peter Hynes (Mayo County Manager)



## Brian Tobin gives expert testimony before Oireachtas Committee



In April 2014 Brian Tobin, one of the newly-appointed lecturers in the School of Law, appeared before the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Justice, Defence & Equality to contribute to the pre-legislative scrutiny of the General Scheme of the Children and Family Relationships Bill 2014.

## Maureen O'Sullivan becomes Fellow at Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics

Maureen O'Sullivan has recently been made a Fellow at the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics, which is dedicated to advancing the ethical status of animals through academic research, teaching, and publication. Academics, both from the sciences as well as the humanities, who are researching or intending to research in the field are eligible for consideration. Only a small proportion of those nominated are eventually selected following a rigorous and painstaking selection process, and individuals appointed have to have made or be capable of making an outstanding contribution to the field.

## Administrative staff appointments

Patricia Conroy has been working as Interim Director of Administration & Process Development in the School of Law since the retirement of Des McSharry with a particular focus on supporting the School Executive Committee and facilitating the completion of a new Strategic Plan.

Carmel Flynn has recently been promoted and now has responsibility for those areas previously supported by Geraldine O'Rourke, who is on a one-year career break. Christina Mulgannon has joined the administrative support team in the School of Law in July, having previously worked in the University Accounts Office.

## New book on Mental Health in Ireland

A major new book, 'Mental Health in Ireland - Policy, Practice and Procedure', to which Dr Mary Keys, lecturer at the School of Law and member of the Mental Health Commission of Ireland is a contributing author, has recently been published by Gill and MacMillan. Pictured at the launch of the book in the College of Nursing and Midwifery, Trinity College Dublin is Dr Keys (centre) with Dr Karol Balfé, Dr Shari McDaid, Professor Agnes Higgins and Dr Liz Brosnan.



# Conferences and Events

## Convention on the Constitution public meeting in NUI Galway



(L to R) Professor Donncha O'Connell, Tom Arnold, Chairperson and Art O'Leary, Secretary of the Convention on the Constitution

The Convention on the Constitution held its first meeting west of the Shannon in NUI Galway last October. The meeting was one of nine public meetings held across Ireland in October and November 2013 intended to help set the agenda as the Convention selected a number of constitutional issues to look at in the final module of its work programme. Prof Donncha

O'Connell delivered a paper at the NUIG meeting on the constitutional recognition of socio-economic rights. This issue was later considered by the Convention in its concluding phase with the adoption of a proposal to give constitutional recognition to specified socio-economic rights.

## Revisiting Brown v. Board of Education: 60 years on

In February, on the 60th Anniversary of the seminal case of *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954), the Centre for Disability Law and Policy in association with Leuven Institute for Human Rights and Critical Studies (LIHRICS) hosted a conference on inclusive education raising the question, "Is it time for the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision to be applied to children with disabilities?"

A separate student conference took place the previous evening which address issues related to Article 24 of the UNCRPD with students participating from Syracuse University, Cardiff University and the University of Leeds as well as NUI Galway



Dr Kristen Maglieri (TCD), Shivaun Quinlivan (School of Law) and Professor Gerry Whyte (TCD)

## LLM in Public Law 3rd Annual Conference



LLM in Public Law students, staff and invited speakers

The 3rd Annual Conference for the LLM in Public Law took place in the Burren College of Art, Ballyvaughan in October 2013. This conference was supported by the NUI Galway EXPLORE initiative. Students on the LLM in Public Law and staff contributing to the programme worked

together in planning, organising and publicising this conference. Speakers included: Dr Ciara Hackett (Queen's University, Belfast), Eilis Barry, B.L., Judge Colin Daly and Dr Carol Coulter (Child Care Law Reporting Project).



## Local Authority Solicitors' Bar Association (LASBA) Annual Conference, September 2013



Dr Padraic Kenna, Conference Organiser; Marie McGonagle, Director of the LLM in Public Law; Professor Donncha O'Connell, Sandra Murphy, (Solr) and Chairperson of the Conference; Terence O'Keefe, President, LASBA and Mairead Cashman, Senior Solicitor, Dublin City Council

The School of Law hosted the Annual Conference of the Local Authority Solicitors Bar Association (LASBA) on Friday 27th September, linking academics and practitioners in a review of current issues in local government law. The Association represents in-house solicitors employed by the

local authorities in Cork City and County, Dublin City, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal, County Galway, County Kerry, South Dublin, and County Wicklow. LASBA is officially recognised by the Law Society of Ireland as a representative Bar Association.

## New Ombudsman Peter Tyndall delivers his first public lecture at NUI Galway



Ombudsman & Information Commissioner, Peter Tyndall

The newly appointed Ombudsman and Information Commissioner, Peter Tyndall delivered his first public lecture since taking up office at NUI Galway. The lecture, hosted by the School of Law to mark the first ten years of its LLM in Public Law, took place on Wednesday 19th February at 8pm at the Aula Maxima (lower).

The event was chaired by the former Supreme Court judge, Mrs. Justice Catherine McGuinness, Chairperson of Udarás na hOllscoile and Adjunct Professor of Law at NUI Galway, who has been associated with the LLM in Public Law since its inception. The title of Mr. Tyndall's lecture was: 'The Ombudsman and Information Commissioner: Delivering Fairness and Transparency'.



(L-R) President of NUI Galway, Dr Jim Browne; Marie McGonagle of the School of Law; Judge Ombudsman and Information Commissioner Peter Tyndall; Catherine McGuinness, former Supreme Court judge and Adjunct Professor of Law at NUI Galway and Professor Donncha O'Connell, Head of the School of Law.

## Disability Legal Information Clinic Seminar



Judge Mary Faby, Tom O'Malley, Teresa Blake, and Larry Donnelly spoke at the Access to Justice and Reform of Legal Aid seminar hosted by NUI Galway Free Legal Advice Centre and the Disability Legal Information Clinic in January 2014.

## A Franco-Irish discussion on marriage equality at NUI Galway



Deputy Erwann Binet

The School of Law, in association with the French Embassy in Ireland, hosted a Franco-Irish discussion on marriage equality in April. The keynote speaker was Erwann Binet, Deputy of the French National Assembly. Deputy Binet was the rapporteur for the French "Mariage Pour Tous" (Marriage Equality) Bill in 2013 and spoke on the political challenges faced in passing the bill through the French parliament.

The event provided an insight on the shared experience of Ireland and France in undertaking legislative and constitutional reform in controversial areas of family law. The event was chaired by Dr Lucy-Ann Buckley of the School of Law, a family law specialist, who also highlighted relevant aspects of family law reform in Ireland. A formal response was provided by Dr Eoin Daly of the School of Law, a specialist in constitutional law, who discussed how similar challenges are being faced in Ireland in relation to marriage equality and highlighted key aspects including differences of the Irish constitutional context.

## CI Arb Arbitration Forum in NUI Galway

Lughaidh Kerin of the School of Law organised the 11th Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Monthly Forum on the topic of Adjudication in association with CI Arb and the Chartered Engineers of Ireland - Western Branch. This was the first such forum held outside Dublin. National experts on dispute resolution and adjudication such as Níav O'Higgins (partner at Arthur Cox) & Ciaran Faby (former Chairperson of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators - Irish Branch) addressed the large gathering, followed by insightful presentations on this developing area of dispute resolution in light of the recent Construction Contracts Act 2013.



## Secondary Schools' Summer Camp 2014



Summer camp participants and School of Law staff

Dr Charles O'Mahony organised a Law School Summer Camp for secondary school students on the 5th and 6th of June 2014. The Summer Camp provided participants with an insight into the different subjects they would study as part of a law degree. Professor Donncha O'Connell gave a warm welcome to the students and an honest appraisal of what studying law involved. The summer camp was interactive with students broken into small groups. Dr Conor Hanly introduced students to criminal law, Ms. Ursula Connolly explored topical issues in tort law and Dr Ciara

Smyth examined immigration law and the Irish asylum system. The secondary school students also had an opportunity to meet with current students of the School of Law and learn about the different undergraduate law programmes on offer. Dr Máire Áine Ní Mhainín from the Department of French provided information about the opportunities to study law with languages at NUI Galway. A former student, Emer Squires, contributed to the Summer Camps by sharing her insights on the student experience of studying law at NUI Galway.



Ursula Connolly with students

## International Criminal Court Summer School 2014

The annual Summer School on the International Criminal Court took place at NUI Galway in June 2014. The event was organised by the Irish Centre for Human Rights and was attended by over sixty participants from all over the world. Lectures on the workings of the ICC and related issues in international criminal law were given by: Dr

Fabricio Guariglia and Dr. Rod Rastan of the Office of the Prosecutor at the ICC; Dr Mohamed M. El Zeidy of the ICC; Professor Ray Murphy, Dr Noelle Higgins and Dr Shane Darcy of the Irish Centre for Human Rights; Professor William A. Schabas, Dr Nadia Bernaz and Professor Don Ferencz of Middlesex University; Mr. John McManus of the

Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Section Canadian Department of Justice; Professor Megan Fairlie of Florida International University; Dr Mohamed Elewa of Northumbria University; and Dr Kwadwo Appiagyei Atua of the University of Ghana.



Staff and participants at the International Criminal Court Summer School





Staff and participants at the DREAM Conference

## DREAM Conference

The final conference of the EU Marie Curie Disability Rights Expanding Accessible Markets (DREAM) network took place in June. The conference, 'Disability Policy Entrepreneurship in the 21st Century - Toward New Scholarship Supporting Change' was opened by Minister Kathleen Lynch, with EU Research Commissioner Máire Geoghegan-Quinn and US Senator Tom Harkin presenting via video link. The conference marks the final stage of this €3.7m project.

## Law of the Sea Conference 2014



Secretary-General Satya Nandan CBE (International Seabed Authority) and Hans Corell, former Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and Legal Counsel of the United Nations

An international conference, "Challenges of the Changing Arctic: Continental Shelf, Navigation, and Fisheries", ran in Bergen, Norway from 25-28 June 2014. This international conference on contemporary legal issues pertaining to the Arctic was co-convened by the School of Law, NUI Galway in conjunction with the University of Bergen Faculty of Law, the Center for Oceans Law and Policy at the University of Virginia, the Law of the Sea Institute of Iceland, the Shanghai Jiao Tong University, the Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore, the K.G. Jebsen Centre for the Law of the Sea at Tromsø, the Korea Maritime Institute, and the Nordic Council of Ministers.

## 6th International Disability Law Summer School



Dr Eilionóir Flynn, Centre for Disability Law and Policy; Donal Toolan, disability activist; and Professor Amita Dhanda, Nalsar University, Hyderabad, India.

The 6th International Disability Law Summer School, hosted by the Centre for Disability Law and Policy, took place from the 16-20 June 2014. Entitled 'Access to Justice and Political Participation', the summer school focused on facilitating access to justice for all and encouraging political participation.

This year's School was, as always, an especially international event with thirty-eight countries represented in the one-hundred plus participants attending. The whole week's proceedings, fully captioned, can be viewed on the CDLP YouTube Channel.

## LLD (honoris causa) recipients 2014



President Jim Browne, Dr Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, EU Commissioner for Research, Innovation & Science and Professor Donncha O'Connell, Head of the School of Law who introduced Dr Geoghegan-Quinn at the conferring ceremony

On 27th June 2014, degrees of Doctor of Laws (honoris causa) were conferred on Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, EU Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science and Lt. Gen. Sean McCann, retired Chief of Staff of the Irish Defence Forces. Introducing Dr Geoghegan-Quinn at the conferring ceremony, Professor Donncha O'Connell said: "As EU Commissioner with responsibility for Research, Innovation & Science she has led the development of Horizon 2020, a pivotal funding instrument that seeks to catalyse research leading to



Professor Chris Curtin, Vice-President for Performance & Innovation, who introduced Dr Seán McCann at the conferring ceremony

solutions as opposed to research for its own sake. This orients academics and other partners towards impact and not merely added-value, and invests Europe's key intellectual assets in the challenge of economic and social renewal. In this context, universities function as corporate citizens enhancing the democratic dividend. Máire Geoghegan-Quinn's legacy as EU Commissioner is to have sown that seed of societal renewal and economic regeneration."

# Alumni News

## Garda John Gallagher – winner of the Garda Jerry McCabe Fellowship Exchange Programme



"I have always been a firm believer in continuous professional development and in 2011 having served for 4 years in An Garda Síochána I decided to build on the wide practical knowledge I had attained at that time and to add to it with a wider theoretical knowledge of the law. I found the LLB programme provided by NUI Galway to be a perfect match to my self-development requirements.

It was very flexible in the modules and areas of study it offered. The support by all staff throughout the programme was second to none. Despite the obvious challenges in combining full-time employment with the study required to complete the LLB I received great encouragement and assistance from management in An Garda Síochána which allowed me to complete the programme to a very high standard.

I completed the LLB in May of this year and I have already seen many benefits from my learning in a professional capacity. On top of this my decision to go back and complete this programme has opened up many previously unavailable avenues to me in my professional and educational capacity. I have been successful in obtaining one of two places on the Jerry McCabe Fellowship Exchange Programme between An Garda Síochána and John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York. I will be commencing a Master in Arts in Criminal Justice at John Jay College at the end of August 2014 which is an ideal progression for me both in terms of my professional and educational self-development."

## Katie Cadden



LL.M in Public Law graduate, Katie Cadden, was appointed by the Minister for Justice and Equality to the new Charities Regulatory Authority. Katie brings a range of expertise to the role, with particular expertise in corporate governance and ethics. She sits on the Charity Services Committee which oversees the provision of charity services provided by the new Authority. A qualified solicitor now based in Mayo, Katie also holds a Bachelor of Corporate Law Degree and a LL.B. Degree from NUI Galway.

## Maghnus Collins-Smyth



Maghnus Collins Smyth, a First Class Honours graduate of the BCL and LL.M in Public Law, has been to the fore in some very challenging charitable activities as an adventurer with a strongly philanthropic drive with his partners in Sand2Snow. This has taken him to the furthest corners of the earth – running and cycling – on trips such as 'Silk Roads to Shanghai' to raise funds (of over €33,000) for charities such as Self Help Africa. He now works as CEO of Cycle Against Suicide.

For further information on Maghnus's activities see: <http://www.sand2snowadventures.com/>

## Judge Gráinne O'Neill



Judge Gráinne O'Neill and her father, Terry O'Neill

Congratulations to our alumna, Judge Gráinne O'Neill, who has become the youngest judge in the state after her appointment to the District Court in April 2014. The Athlone-based solicitor was previously involved with the Rape Crisis Centre and the Free Legal Advice Centres (FLAC) and worked mainly in the areas of family law, criminal law and civil litigation.

## Catriona Moloney



Catriona Moloney, one of our PhD students and a graduate of the LL.M in Public Law, was appointed to the Board of EPIC, the advocacy organisation for children in care in November 2013. This adds to her other excellent community work with groups such as Jigsaw, which aims to provide tailored community-based help for young people's mental health needs. Catriona is currently undertaking a Ph.D in the area of child, youth and mental health law at the Centre for Disability Law and Policy, supervised by Dr Mary Keys and is a member of the Centre's Mental Health Law and Policy Research Group. She was a full-time legal researcher for the Law Reform Commission from 2008-2010 and worked on the programme on Statute Law Restatement.



## Peter Feeney



Peter Feeney is a graduate of NUIG (Bachelor of Corporate Law 2003 and LL.B 2004). Peter also represented NUIG in gaelic football and hurling. After leaving NUIG, he worked as a paralegal for a Supreme Court Judge in New York where he was involved in a variety of commercial court cases. He returned to Ireland to work as a trainee solicitor with Byrne Wallace Solicitors and later qualified as a solicitor through the Law Society of Ireland.

Post qualification, Peter worked as a solicitor in the Corporate Department of Byrne Wallace where he was mainly involved in corporate structuring and restructuring, joint ventures and in the sale and purchase of private companies including assisting in advising in all aspects of advising an Irish company in its \$44 million acquisition by a US NASDAQ quoted company. Peter further worked with the Legal Aid Board obtaining experience in client representation in the District, Circuit and High Court.

Peter then joined UCD where he worked for two years as University Solicitor providing legal support and advice to the University community. He worked closely with the University Research Office leading the negotiation, drafting and conclusion of a variety of multiparty high value contracts. As part of his role, he also worked with the UCD Records Management and Freedom of Information Unit and was a member (together with senior academics) of a number of University policy groups. He separately tutored in negotiations in the Law Society of Ireland.

In 2014, Peter was hired by NUIG as the University Solicitor.

## Declan Higgins



Congratulations and best wishes to BA (Legal Studies) graduate Declan Higgins, on his election as President of the NUI Galway Students' Union for 2014/15. Declan had served previously as Vice-President / Welfare Officer.

## Harry McGee



(L-R): Hon Mrs Justice Catherine McGuinness, chair of Údarás na hOllscoile; Gearóid Ó Conluain, Rúnaí na hOllscoile; and Harry McGee.

Congratulations to The Irish Times Political Correspondent and NUIG law graduate, Harry McGee, who was nominated to the Governing Authority of NUI Galway by the former Minister for Education, Ruairi Quinn, TD on 29 January 2014.

## Judge Mary Faherty



Congratulations to Judge Mary Faherty on her appointment as Fifth President of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal. She is currently a Judge of the Circuit Court and was a Member of the Mahon Tribunal of Inquiry. Mary was previously appointed Chairperson of the Employment Appeals Tribunal in 1995 having served as a Vice Chairperson of the same Tribunal from 1989 – 1995. From 1999-2000 she was President of the European Association of Labour Court Judges.

Judge Faherty graduated with a BA degree in Law and German in 1982 with an LLB in 1984. She was called to the Bar of Ireland in 1986 and to the Bar of England and Wales in 1996.

She took silk in 2001. In 2006 she received the NUIG Alumni Award for Law, Public Service and Government.

## Mark Jordan



Mark Jordan, who graduated with a B.Corp. Law in 2010 and an LL.B in 2011, is now a Tenlaw Research Fellow at the University of Southampton. As well as teaching Land Law to second year students on the LL.B programme at the University of Southampton, Mark works under the supervision of Professor Peter Sparkes when drafting reports on housing in Ireland and Scotland for the European Commission as part of the EU Tenlaw project. In 2013 Mark presented a paper on security of tenure in hybrid public-private leasing arrangements at the ENHR conference in Tarragona. Prior to beginning work at Southampton, Mark worked as a researcher at the Office of the Attorney General and at Ballymun Community Law Centre, during which time he also tutored Land Law, Company Law and Business Law at NUI Galway.

## Bachelor of Civil Law Reunion

On 9th November 2013, Dr Conor Hanly and Prof Donncha O'Connell attended a ten-year reunion of the first intake on the BCL programme in The Westwood Hotel. The event was well attended and those grads present – most of whom are enjoying tremendous career success – were very positive about the School and their wish to remain connected. It was organised by Fiona Kilgarrieff and Peter Feeney with the support of the Alumni Office.

## Kevin Moore



Kevin Moore is a graduate of the NUIG (B.Comm 2000, LL.B 2002) and is currently practising as a Solicitor with Galway-based firm, M.G Ryan & Co. In 2012, Kevin was selected to participate in the BioInnovate Ireland Fellowship in medical device innovation. This programme is affiliated with the prestigious Stanford Biodesign Fellowship and is supported by Enterprise Ireland. Corporate sponsors include Medtronic, Boston Scientific and Lake Region Medical.

Kevin was recently awarded an M.Sc in Medical Device Innovation and now offers focused resources and capabilities in the corporate

representation of both start-up and high-profile life-science and healthcare companies. Covering regulatory and intellectual property matters, he specialises in commercial contracts for the sector.

Kevin's efforts to acquire an in-depth knowledge of the sector in which his client's operate points to the way forward for Solicitors looking to create a niche expertise, offering a 'value-added service' for the medical device and bio-science sectors, which are critical to the economy of the West of Ireland.



Deirdre pictured on her first day at DG Comp (front row, third from left)

## Deirdre Carroll

Deirdre Carroll, B. Corp. Law graduate, completed a stage this year in DG Competition. She has recently been awarded a scholarship for the LL.M. programme at the College of Europe in Bruges.

## Future Voices Ireland

Future Voices Ireland is a highly innovative youth empowerment/human rights charity working with disadvantaged teenagers who may feel distanced from the world of courts and lawyers. Its leadership team includes a number of NUIG grads: James Mulcahy, Emer Lyons, Gráinne Hassett and Shona Marry. The organisation works with talented young people who attend the lowest performing DEIS schools in areas of Dublin. These schools have the lowest rates of progression to Third Level education making them underrepresented in Law Schools and the legal profession. The Transition year students participating in the program have no history of anyone attending university in their families. All students are individually selected following an application and interview process. The approach taken is participatory and empowering and involves a long-term commitment to genuinely changing the lives of participants.

The flagship project of Future Voices Ireland has a specific human rights law focus allowing the students to explore some of the burning and most controversial issues of today including the debate on the introduction of abortion legislation, children's legal rights as well as human rights relating to marginalised groups including Travellers, refugees and disabled persons. The curriculum has been very carefully designed using the FVI approach to ensure that the students will develop an array of skills, through dynamic workshops which will also incorporate a focus on areas such as debating and advocacy skills, research skills and career guidance sessions. The project also contains opportunities for professional development and chances to increase



'Selfie' taken by Dr Liam Thornton, UCD with the judges for the final presentations by Future Voices Ireland participants (L to R) Professor Donncha O'Connell, Mairead Healy (Director of FVI), Gareth Noble, (KOD Lyons Solicitors (sponsors)), Dr Liam Thornton (UCD), Emily Logan (Ombudsman for Children and Chief Commissioner Designate of the Irish Human Rights & Equality Commission) and Mr. Justice Frank Clarke of the Supreme Court.

practical skills and self-esteem as the students will undertake a legal work placement in a law firm following completion of the six month programme. Support has been provided by various Law Schools including NUIG. Prof Donncha O'Connell spoke at the inaugural event of FVI in the Law Society in 2013 and was one of the judges for the final project presentations held recently in the Sutherland School of Law, UCD.



# Staff in the media

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**Column: One year on, we remember the lives lost and forever altered by the Boston bombings**

It is unfortunate that, sometimes, it takes a tragedy of the magnitude to which 9/11 occurred and to remind us of our common humanity, writes Larry Donnelly

Apr 18 8:55 AM 5,277 Views 27 Comments 7 Shares 20 Likes 20 Email 18

**TWELVE EXTRAORDINARILY FAST** months have passed since a day on which thousands at home and around the world will forever remember exactly where we were and what we were doing. On this date last year – April 15, 2013 – our city and its people were shaken to their core by two bombings at the Finish line of the Boston Marathon. The marathon always takes place on the uniquely Massachusetts Patriot Day holiday and coincides with an unusual

**Professor Donncha O'Connell on Prime Time**

Analysis

**Jury's out on whether we'll see more white-collar crime cases**

Joe McGrath PUBLISHED 19/04/2014 10:30

**Is it time for 'ordinary' crime to get the white-collar treatment?**

Opinion: The practice of using imprisonment to deal with first-offenders continues unabated

**Why does 'life' now mean a much longer sentence?**

Opinion: political discussion that allowed sentencing in 1970s now aids in service of security

**Garda tapings could lead to an avalanche of legal challenges to convictions**

Opinion: Were conversations between suspects and assistants recorded?

**Disclosure of criminal trial evidence a difficult dilemma**

**Change One Thing: School admissions overhaul must address religious discrimination**

Treatment of non-Catholics is an urgent human rights issue, writes law lecturer Donn Daly

**Besieged Bedouin camp a microcosm of Israeli occupation and settlement policy**

The Bedouins are under constant pressure to move but are determined to remain

**Allegations in Guerin Report of significant public concern**

Opinion: Police misconduct must be effectively detested

**Collective cabinet responsibility is an idea whose time has passed**

**Whistleblower row could be wasted if we learn nothing**

Northern Ireland provides a template for an accountable, modern police force

**A quiet revolution occurred this month: sentencing guidelines were introduced**

Consistency in sentencing is laudable, provided there is flexibility to cater for exceptional cases

*In the past year, law school staff have featured prominently in the print and broadcast media writing and speaking on a wide variety of issues.*





## YouTube

### Annual Distinguished Lecture



You can find videos of some of our events on our YouTube channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/NUIGSchoolofLaw>

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**LinkedIn Alumni Group:** <http://linkedin.com/groups?home=&gid=281866>

**Address:** School of Law, National University of Ireland,  
Galway, University Road, Galway, Ireland.

**Tel:** +353 (0)91 524411, **Direct:** +353 (0)91 492389, **Fax:** +353 (0) 91 494506

**Compiled by** Michael Coyne

**Design by** Allen Designs

## School of Law Newsletter



NUI Galway  
OÉ Gaillimh