



Ollscoil na hÉireann
National University of Ireland

Inside

NUI

Triennial Report 2018-2020

CONSTITUENT UNIVERSITIES

OLLSCOIL NA HÉIREANN



University College Dublin

An Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath

www.ucd.ie



University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

University College Cork

Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh

www.ucc.ie

* including IMI, Irish Management Institute



RECOGNISED COLLEGES OF NUI

COLÁISTÍ AITHEANTA OLLSCOIL NA HÉIREANN



RCSI

Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

Coláiste Ríoga na Máinleá in Éirinn

www.rcsi.ie



Institute of Public Administration

An Foras Riaracháin

www.ipa.ie





Maynooth University
 Ollscoil Mhá Nuad
www.maynoothuniversity.ie



NUI Galway
 Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh*
www.nuigalway.ie



* including Shannon College of Hotel Management



COLLEGES LINKED WITH CONSTITUENT UNIVERSITIES
 COLÁISTÍ CEANGAILTE LEIS NA COMH-OLLSCOILEANNA



Burren College of Art
 Coláiste Ealaíne
 na Boirne
www.burrencollege.ie



Institute of Banking
 An Institiúid Baincéireachta
www.iob.ie



**St. Angela's College,
 Sligo**
 Coláiste San Aingeal,
 Sligeach
www.stangelas.nuigalway.ie



**National College
 of Art and Design**
 Coláiste Náisiúnta
 Ealaíne is Deartha
www.ncad.ie





Opening Remarks



Founded in 1908 as a single university with colleges, the National University of Ireland has evolved into the loose federation it is now, with

campuses spread across the country. The federation comprises four independent constituent universities, two NUI recognised colleges and a number of other niche institutions associated with the constituent universities. Taken as a whole, NUI is a major element in Ireland's expanding university system. Increasingly the University has an international reach, as our member institutions expand their activities overseas.

At the centre of the federation, NUI, from its offices in Merrion Square, provides a range of services to our institutions and acts as a focal point for their interaction. We are dedicated to promoting research and scholarship at the highest levels across the full range of disciplines studied in our universities and colleges. As a designated awarding body, we assure comparable, high academic standards for degrees and qualifications awarded by NUI. More generally, we proudly undertake activities to advance higher education, and to contribute to the civic, cultural and intellectual life of Ireland. We have a particular commitment to supporting the Irish language and the rich and diverse culture of our nation.

In 2018, the NUI set out a new strategic plan for the period 2018-22, following a period of extensive consultation with our stakeholders: member institutions, members of the NUI Senate, internal staff and others from the Irish higher education sector.

The new strategy sets ambitious goals to complement our mission, positioning NUI to undertake a more visible discursive role not only in support of higher education but also to advance the interests of wider civic society and the public good. Being aware of our limitations as a small organisation, we know that we can travel further towards achieving these goals when we collaborate with our member institutions and with other bodies in Ireland and further afield. This edition of *Inside NUI* reflects what we have achieved half way through the plan.

In addition to chairing the NUI Senate, the Education and Society Committee and the Honorary Degrees Committee, I represented NUI at many functions, hosted NUI events and participated in conferrings and honorary conferrings in Ireland and overseas as Chancellor the University. I was particularly proud to chair the inaugural NUI Léacht de hÍde/Hyde Lecture in 2018 in honour of the first President of Ireland Douglas Hyde, who served on the NUI Senate as well as being Professor of Irish in UCD. We were greatly honoured when President Michael D. Higgins agreed to give the first lecture.

We also continued with our programme for the Decade of Commemorations, holding a number of events during the period. As part of the programme, we are embarked on an ambitious range of publications which will provide an enduring legacy of the decade. We were pleased to collaborate with the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation and the International Labour Organisation in organising a major conference to celebrate the centenary of the ILO.

When the COVID-19 pandemic struck, we had rapidly to adapt to a changed world, learn new ways of doing things, working remotely, meeting online and getting used to the realities of virtual living. We managed to complete the Seanad Éireann election in March 2020, safely and working within public health guidelines. Our programme of actual events was seriously disrupted with some things having to be postponed and others going online. We held our first online webinar as part of the Education and Society Seminar Series and our Awards ceremony for 2020 was also online.

Overall we are satisfied that in spite of challenging circumstances, we have made progress over the period from 2018 to 2020. This edition of *Inside NUI* highlights the achievements of NUI, and the staff and students of our member institutions, in those years. We are pleased to share it with you.

Dr Maurice Manning
CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY



Ollscoil na hÉireann
National University of Ireland

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Registrar's Report



As the title suggests, *Inside NUI* gives an account of the range of activities and projects undertaken by NUI from our home in 49 Merrion Square, Dublin. As an organisation, we are dedicated to advancing higher education, serving our member institutions and providing support for their students, graduates and staff. We are pleased to present this textual and visual narrative to demonstrate our work and communicate our contribution to Irish higher education.

In November 2018, NUI launched its strategic plan for 2018-2022. It set the following five strategic goals for the organisation during this period:

add demonstrative value to NUI's constituent universities, recognised colleges and associated institutions

support Irish higher education and advocate for its advancement at home and abroad

develop and capitalise on the NUI brand national and internationally, for the benefit of members and the wider sector

make a meaningful contribution to Irish civic society

enhance NUI's staff skills-base and its enabling support structures.

Outlining the progress made towards achieving our strategic goals in each of the three years covered, this edition of *Inside NUI* takes us to the mid-way point in the implementation of the plan.

Inside NUI also gives details of the membership of the NUI Senate, which is our governing body and includes other core information on the structure and governance of the University. Each new issue gives updates information on our schemes and programmes and on the public events we have organised, in some cases in partnership with other organisations. This is our invitation to you to discover what NUI is about and what we seek to achieve. We hope you will find it of interest.

Dr Attracta Halpin
REGISTRAR

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www.nui.ie

Student and Graduate Services



Matriculation Requirements and Exemptions

The NUI Senate has statutory responsibility for setting basic matriculation

(minimum entry) requirements for NUI universities and colleges; these are administered centrally by NUI in consultation with the constituent universities and recognised colleges. The increasing diversity, mobility and internationalisation of the student intake into our institutions adds new layers of complexity to the matriculation process. While maintaining admission standards, NUI and its member institutions are called on to consider a growing variety of qualifications and combinations of qualifications and complex educational circumstances among students seeking admission. Where students are eligible for exemptions from matriculation requirements or need special consideration in relation to combining previous qualifications, NUI liaises with students, parents, guidance counsellors and schools, providing information and support throughout the exemption application process. Between 2018-2020, NUI processed just over 3,000 applications per year for exemptions and special consideration of exceptional circumstances per year.

- ▶ 2018: 3,119
- ▶ 2019: 3,210
- ▶ 2020: 3,113

Find out more about matriculation requirements at www.nui.ie/college.

Conferrings

NUI produces parchments and certificates for all conferring ceremonies in the NUI constituent universities, recognised and associated colleges.

- ▶ In 2018, **39,068** parchments and certificates were printed by NUI, to be distributed at **211** conferring ceremonies held across the University community.
- ▶ In 2019, NUI printed **43,369** parchments and certificates for **277** conferring ceremonies.
- ▶ In 2020, NUI printed **36,624** parchments and certificates, though conferring ceremonies were postponed or conducted virtually.

In 2018 and 2019, these ceremonies included conferrings held overseas, in Singapore, Hong Kong, Bahrain, Malaysia, Spain, China, and Sri Lanka, amongst other countries. The NUI Conferring Unit produces customised parchments in connection with the awarding of joint degrees and for degrees based on other partnership arrangements both in Ireland and abroad.

Back L-R: Dr Moling Ryan, Dr Denis O'Brien; Middle L-R: Dr Michael Mulreany, Dr Marian O'Sullivan, Mr Ray Dolan, Dr Lucy Fallon-Byrne, Dr Christopher Sibley; Front L-R: Mr Martin O'Halloran, Dr Attracta Halpin, Mr Brendan White (IPA Professional Certificate in Housing Studies Prize), Dr Maurice Manning, Mr Laurence Bond, Mr Aidan Horan at the 2019 IPA conferring ceremony.



Document Services for Graduates

The degrees and other qualifications awarded by NUI constituent universities and recognised colleges are degrees and qualifications of the National University of Ireland. In addition to providing all original parchments for NUI institutions, NUI also provides the following document services for graduates:

- ▶ Duplicate NUI Degrees and Diplomas (issued as English A4 sized documents)
- ▶ Duplicate Testimonia (issued as Latin A3 sized documents)
- ▶ Duplicate Certificates
- ▶ Authentication of copies of NUI documents

There was a similar number of requests for document services in 2018 and 2019: 4,889 and 4,827, respectively. The number of requests was slightly lower in 2020: 4,127.

Application forms for these services are available from the NUI website: www.nui.ie/services.

Qualifications and Quality Assurance

NUI is empowered under its charter to award degree and other qualifications in its recognised colleges. This role was further strengthened in 2012 when NUI became a Designated Awarding Body under the provisions of the Quality and Qualifications (Education and Training) Act 2012.

In its role as an awarding body, and informed by the academic policies and practices of our constituent universities, NUI has developed a suite of policies, procedures and guidelines to ensure the quality of the qualifications it awards. We engage actively in sectoral quality assurance and enhancement activities that support our recognised colleges.

NUI's documentation on academic policy and quality assurance is all publicly accessible from our website: www.nui.ie/about/gvrnce.asp.

The Institute of Public Administration

In the 2018-2020 period, NUI was delighted to welcome back the Institute of Public Administration (IPA) as a recognised college and 'linked provider' of the University. The IPA is Ireland's leading provider of education and training for the public service, and offers a wide range of NUI-accredited degree, diploma and certificate courses that are placed on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ). In implementing its quality assurance policies, NUI works closely with the IPA in the approval and periodic review of programmes towards ensuring high academic standards, the best possible learning environment and an optimal student experience.

Extern Examiners

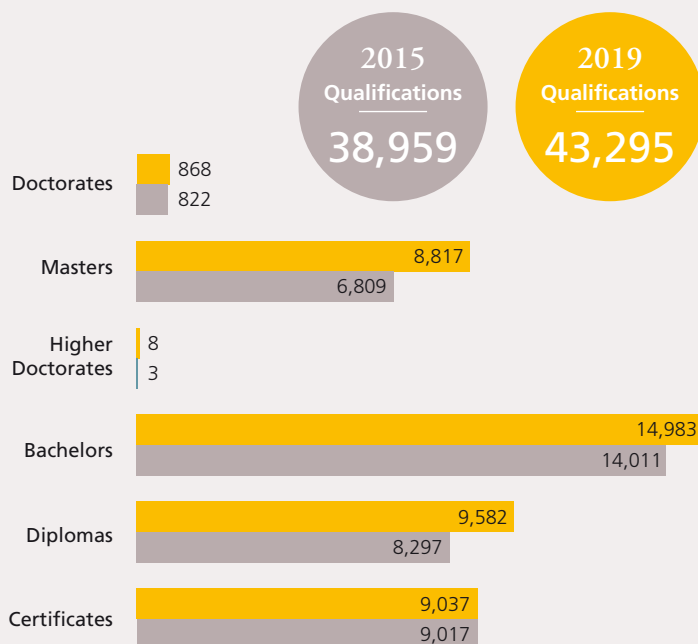
NUI Senate is responsible for appointing extern examiners to the constituent universities, on the recommendation of the constituent universities, and for determining the functions of those examiners, in agreement with the universities. The Senate continued to fulfil this role in 2018, 2019 and 2020. While the administration of extern examiner appointments has been devolved to the constituent universities, the reports of extern examiners are forwarded to NUI. High-level reports on these are presented to Senate and later circulated to Academic Councils identifying common issues arising in the course of examinations across the institutions. NUI fully administered the extern examiner system for its recognised colleges, RCSI and the IPA, during this period.

NUI Qualifications 2015-2019

Over the five-year period 2015-2019, the numbers of NUI qualifications increased overall by just over 11%. While not evenly spread, the increase occurred in all award categories.

The number of certificates awarded between 2015 and 2019 remained steady, with a 1.5% increase mostly in the category of professional certificates. The numbers of Bachelors Degrees increased by 7%. The numbers of doctoral degrees (including higher doctorates) awarded also increased by 6%.

The highest increases were seen in diplomas and masters degrees. The numbers of diplomas awarded increased significantly (by 15%) from 2015-2019, with a huge increase in the category of professional diplomas (up 24%). The greatest (30%) was in masters degrees. No professional masters were awarded in 2015 but 572 were awarded in 2019.





Dr Pádraig Yeates with Dr Maurice Manning



Prof Santiago Sia, Prof Micheal O'Flaherty, Professor Philip Nolan and Dr Attracta Halpin

Higher Doctorate Degrees on Published Works

Degrees on published work are the highest qualifications awarded by the University. They are awarded to scholars of international distinction for published work considered to be of the highest order of scholarship, and which has added new knowledge to a defined area of enquiry. NUI administers the process of awarding higher doctorates, which is overseen by a committee appointed by the Senate. In 2019, following a review of the process and the governing regulations, the NUI Senate adopted recommendations from the committee designed to streamline the regulations and enhance the evaluation process.

2018

Dr Pádraig Yeates	DLitt
James Ryan	DLitt
Dr Pui-Ying Iroh Tam	DMed
Professor James O'Gara	DSc
Professor J.F. Hilary Humphreys	DSc

2019

Professor Noel Gerard McElvaney	DSc
Professor Kevin Cashman	DSc
Sinead McCool	DLitt
Professor Santiago Sia	DLitt
Dr Philipp Rosemann	DLitt
Mr Brendan Moran	DMed
Dr Mark Healy	DEng
Professor Michael O'Flaherty	LLD

2020

Dr Paul Garrett	DLitt
Dr Antonio An Tung Chuh	DSc
Professor George Shorten	DSc
Professor Peter McHugh	DSc
Dr Austin Duffy	DMed
Professor Peter Lawlor	DMed

Honorary Degrees

Like most other universities, NUI has a long-established tradition of awarding honorary degrees to individuals of exceptional distinction. In the main, these degrees recognise outstanding academic distinction; in addition, the University honours those 'who, whether in their personal or representative capacities, through their energies, service and actions, have contributed significantly to public life'. While honorary degrees were conferred in 2018 and 2019, no conferring took place in 2020, due to COVID-19 restrictions.



Dr Jean-Claude Juncker

Honorary Degrees 2018

Michael Earley DMed For his contribution to children's health and wellbeing in developing countries	Winnie M. Li LLD For her contribution to arts and as an advocate for women's rights
Jean-Claude Juncker LLD In recognition of his leadership role at a crucial time for the European Union	Joe Schmidt DArts For his contribution to Irish life through the sport of rugby
Vera Kreilkamp DLitt For her contribution to scholarship in Irish Studies, literature and the visual arts	

Honorary Degrees 2019

Michael J. Conry DLitt For his exceptional contribution to Irish Folklore and heritage	The Hon Ms Justice Mary Laffoy, Chair of the Citizens' Assembly LLD For her contribution to public life and the betterment of society
Ann Cleare, Composer DMus For her contribution to Music.	Abigail O'Brien, President Royal Hibernian Academy DFA For her contribution to the visual arts
David Donoghue, Former Ambassador LLD For his contribution, among other things, to the agreement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals 2030	Professor Bernard O'Donoghue DLitt For his contribution to literature, both as a poet and an academic
Brian Mooney DEd For his contribution to Higher Education	



Awards and Scholarships

The promotion of scholarship and the recognition and nurturing of academic distinction continue to be central to the mission of NUI. The University identifies, supports and gives public recognition to scholars at the highest level of achievement across all of the member institutions. These awards are offered at every stage of academic study from undergraduate to senior academics with a total value in excess of €1,000,000 per year.

NUI's extensive range of awards and grants are set out below.

The Chancellor of the University, Dr Maurice Manning, presents the awards to students, graduates and staff at an annual ceremony. The ceremony was held in the Mansion House, Dublin in 2018 and in the Aviva Stadium in 2019. Restrictions imposed under Covid-19 meant that the NUI Awards ceremony was held virtually for the first time in 2020. The ceremony can be viewed on our website:

www.nui.ie/news/2020/Awards2020/Ceremony.asp

Early Career and Post-Doctoral Level	Postgraduate Level	Graduate Level	Undergraduate Level
<p>NUI Grant Scheme for Early Career Academics</p> <p>NUI Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the Humanities</p> <p>NUI Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the Sciences</p> <p>NUI Dr Garret FitzGerald Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the Social Sciences</p> <p>Fulbright-NUI Scholar Award</p>	<p>DOCTORAL LEVEL</p> <p>NUI Travelling Doctoral Studentships in the Humanities and Social Sciences</p> <p>NUI Travelling Doctoral Studentships in the Sciences</p> <p>NUI Dr Peter Sutherland Travelling Studentship in European Studies</p> <p>NUI Denis Phelan Scholarship</p> <p>NUI E.J. Phelan Fellowship in International Law</p> <p>NUI Dr Mary L. Thornton Scholarship and Prize in Education</p> <p>MASTERS LEVEL</p> <p>NUI Scholarship and Prize in Education</p> <p>Duaiseanna an Dr T.K. Whitaker sa Ghaeilge</p>	<p>Pierce Malone Scholarship in Philosophy</p> <p>Scoláireacht agus Duais Chiste Theach an Ardmhéara sa Ghaeilge</p> <p>Mansion House Fund Scholarship and Prize in Irish History</p> <p>NUI Art and Design Prize</p> <p>NUI Club London Scholarship</p> <p>French Government Medals and NUI Prizes for Distinction in Collaborative Degrees</p> <p>French Government Medals and NUI Prizes for Proficiency in French</p> <p>Spanish Embassy and NUI Prize for Proficiency in Spanish</p>	<p>NUI Dr H.H. Stewart Literary Scholarships and Prizes</p> <p>NUI Dr H.H. Stewart Medical Scholarships and Prizes</p> <p>Publication Prizes</p> <p>Irish Historical Research Prize</p> <p>Publication Prize in Irish History</p>

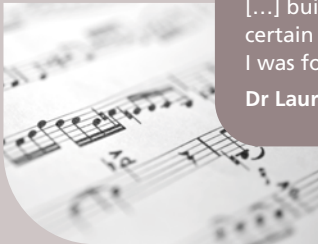
Awards alumni profiles can be viewed on our website:
www.nui.ie/awards/Awards_Alumni_Profiles.asp

The NUI Grant Scheme for Early Career Academics

Following a successful pilot in 2018-19 (almost 120 applications and 21 grants awarded), the NUI Senate has approved an on-going grant scheme to support early career academics in developing conference- and symposium-organisation skills and in generating international networks and partnerships for future research. The grant scheme is open to academics in all disciplines.

'The conference was a very important opportunity for me to develop and strengthen connections in my own field [...] enabled me to learn about new developments in my field [...] build my own profile in the academic community. I am certain that the experience was favourably regarded [...] and I was fortunate to secure a permanent lectureship at UCD.'

Dr Laura Anderson (Assistant Professor in Musicology, UCD)



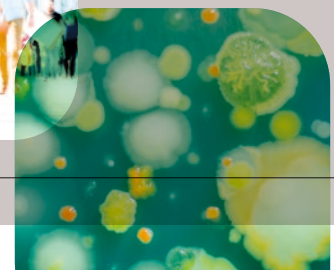
'Being awarded this grant was very important for me as [...] it adds to my track record and proves that I have the ability to secure external funding [...] Organising this workshop [...] significantly improved my management and communication skills. [...] I applied for a lecturer's job, which I finally got. It expanded my scholarly network and the potential of future collaborations.'

Dr Fangzhe Qiu (Assistant Professor in School of Irish, Celtic Studies and Folklore, UCD)



NUI Funded Research Topics 2018-20

As illustrated below, NUI funds research across the full spectrum of disciplines, including interdisciplinary research, through a number of post-graduate and post-doctoral schemes.



For further details, see www.nui.ie, email awards@nui.ie or follow NUI on Twitter @NUI Merrion Sq or on Facebook @NationalUniversityofIreland.

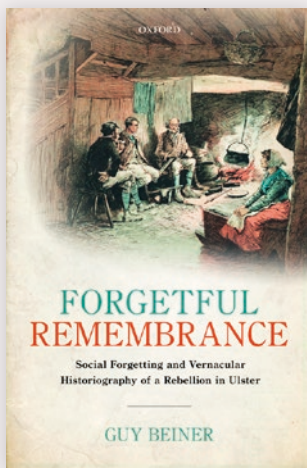


L-R: Dr Ruth Canning, Dr Ciarán McCabe, Dr Maurice Manning, Professor Guy Beiner, Dr Michael Dwyer



Irish Historical Research Prize 2019

Professor Guy Beiner was awarded the Irish Historical Research Prize 2019 for *Forgetful Remembrance: Social Forgetting and Vernacular Historiography of a Rebellion in Ulster* (Oxford University Press, 2018). Professor Beiner is professor of modern history at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Israel and was the Burns Scholar for 2019-2020 at Boston College. He completed his PhD in modern Irish history at UCD where he was an Irish Research Council scholar. Professor Beiner's research mainly focusses on remembering and forgetting in the late-modern era.



Irish Historical Research Prize Lecture 2019

In 2019, NUI continued the recently established tradition of marking the Irish Historical Research Prize with a lecture by the recipient. Professor Guy Beiner delivered his lecture, 'Forgetting in the Decade of Commemorations: New Directions for Irish Historical Research,' on 27 November 2019 in NUI offices at 49 Merrion Square. Professor Beiner examined the concept of memory intertwined with forgetting, focusing on the original concept of 'social forgetting', challenging standard notions of 'collective memory', drawing attention to limitations in what historians can do in helping us to understand the past and pointing to the contributions of other disciplines, such as sociology and anthropology, for a more complex understanding of the interplay of history and memory.

Prof James Kelly (DCU) provided a response.



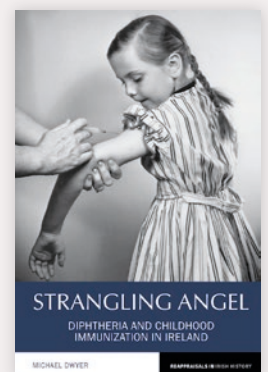
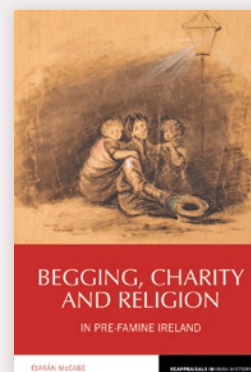
NUI Publication Prize in History 2019

Dr Ruth Canning was awarded the NUI Publication Prize in History 2019 for her book, *The Old English in Early Modern Ireland: The Palesmen and the Nine Years War, 1594-1603* (Boydell and Brewer, 2019). The book examines the socio-political impact of war on identity formation amongst Ireland's minority Old English population.

Special Commendations

Dr Michael Dwyer
Strangling Angel: Diphtheria and Childhood Immunisation in Ireland (Liverpool University Press, 2018).

Dr Ciarán McCabe
Begging, Charity and Religion in Pre-Famine Ireland (Liverpool University Press, 2018).



Seanad Éireann

2020 Seanad Éireann Election

The circumstances surrounding the organisation of this election were unprecedented due to the Covid-19 outbreak and associated government restrictions. While NUI started to prepare for the election in January, confirmation that it should proceed was received from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government only on Saturday 28 March 2020.

At a late stage, following discussion with the Department, the Senate appointed the Registrar as Returning Officer since because of government restrictions, the Chancellor was unable to be present in the Hall.

The count took place on 31 March and 1 April 2020 with a much-reduced number of staff compared with previous counts. The entire event was live-streamed via the NUI website which allowed proceedings to be observed from a distance. Election candidates and agents were discouraged from attending and the majority stayed away. Ongoing communication was maintained with candidates. NUI social media was a useful means of broadcasting count updates in real-time.

NUI was proud to carry out its constitutional role of administering the Seanad Éireann election, maintaining an unbroken tradition of representation of the University that predates the foundation of the State. Following the postal ballot, the election count in the NUI constituency was completed in early April 2020 when the and the following senators were duly elected to Seanad Éireann:



Senator Rónán Mullen



Senator Michael McDowell



Senator Alice-Mary Higgins

NUI and Seanad Éireann

NUI is required constitutionally to maintain the NUI Seanad Éireann electoral register, published on 1 June each year and containing the name, address and qualification details of all graduates registered by 26 February in the given year.

The deadlines for elector registration and publication of the annual register are determined by national legislation, the 1937 (as amended) Seanad Éireann (University members) Act.

Every person who is a citizen of Ireland and has received a degree (other than an honorary degree) from the National University of Ireland is entitled to be registered as an elector in the NUI register of electors.

NUI graduates are required to register once to claim their right to vote. After that, it is important that they inform NUI if they change the address at which they wish to receive their postal ballot at election time.

An Important Civic Role

NUI's role in maintaining the Seanad Éireann register and organising elections is an important contribution to civic society. The election to fill the university seats (NUI and Trinity College Dublin) in Seanad Éireann remains the only national election in which the Irish diaspora can cast their ballots.

Promoting the right to vote

NUI works closely every year with the conferrings offices and the alumni relations offices in the member universities and colleges, to promote the 'right to claim the Seanad vote' among graduates.

The Numbers

In 2018, 2,107 graduates were added to the register, 61 names were removed (requested, deceased or duplicate record) and over 9,000 records were updated. The 2018 Register had a total of 108,251 electors. In 2019, 4,077 voters were added to the Register and 112 were removed to bring the total number of registered voters to 112,216. During the pandemic, only 1,543 electors were added to the register but over 8,000 records were updated. 3,603 names were removed bringing the total number of graduates on the 2020 Seanad Éireann Register to 110,156.

Find out more at www.nui.ie/elections/seanad-register.asp.

NUI EVENTS



Lord John Alderdice

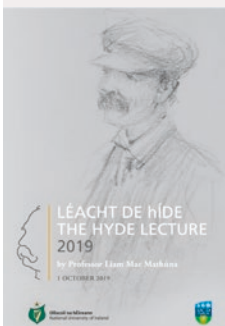


Professor Liam Mac Mathúna



Back: Dr Emer Purcell, Dr Attracta Halpin, Mr John Sheehan, Dr Ragnhalla Ó Floinn, Mr Kenneth Milne, Prof Alf Tore Hommedal, Prof Howard Clarke, Mr Owen Kegan, Dr Ruth Johnson. Front: Dr Maurice Manning, Dr Irene Baug, Her Excellency Else Berit Eikeland, Lord Mayor Nial Ring, Liv Helga Dommansens.

Léacht de hÍde/The Hyde Lecture



In 2018, Michael D Higgins, President of Ireland, delivered the inaugural NUI Léacht de hÍde/Hyde Lecture, arranged in partnership by NUI with the UCD School of Irish, Celtic Studies and Folklore and UCD, on 24 September 2018 in UCD. This lecture was published in 2019.

The second lecture, 'Douglas Hyde's American Tour, 1905-1906,' was given by Professor Liam Mac Mathúna on 1 October 2019 in UCD. Professor Mac Mathúna highlighted the success of Douglas Hyde's American tour, which sought to increase awareness in the US of the language revival, raise funds for Conradh na Gaeilge/the Gaelic League but also to influence the Irish-American community's relationship with Ireland as 'ideologically, it moved cultural nationalism towards the centre of Irish-American political thinking, at least for a time'. Professor Regina Uí Chollatáin (UCD) provided a response.

The lecture can be viewed on our website: www.nui.ie/news/2019/HydeLecture/postevent.asp



Douglas Hyde Stone Arch Postcard, courtesy of the Aidan Heavey Library

Dr Garret FitzGerald Memorial Lecture

As a memorial to its former Chancellor, NUI established the Dr Garret FitzGerald Memorial Lectures, a series of lectures by distinguished speakers on topics of national and international importance.

The sixth lecture in the series, 'Brexit and the Belfast Agreement: mitigating the return to disturbance in our historic relationships,' was delivered by Lord John Alderdice (Speaker of the Northern Ireland Assembly 1998-2004) in College Hall, RCSI in October 2018. Senator Michael McDowell gave the response.

The Dr Garret FitzGerald Memorial Lecture for 2020 was postponed and then reconfigured for COVID times, as an online event in January 2021.

NUI and the Dublin Festival of History

NUI partners with Dublin City Council and Scandinavian institutions to present lectures, seminars and symposia in celebrating the Viking history of Dublin and links to historical Viking communities in Northern Europe.

In 2018, the NUI, Dublin City Council, the Royal Norwegian Embassy and the University of Bergen collaborated on two events on shared Viking-Irish history. A symposium, *Our Friends from the North? Irish and Norse in the Viking Age*, on 4 October 2018 featured plenaries from Professor Alf Tore Hommedal (University Museum of Bergen) and Dr Ragnhalla Ó Floinn (former Director of the National Museum of Ireland) and contributions from Irene Baug (University of Bergen), John Sheehan

(University College Cork), Linzi Simpson (Archaeologist) and Catherine Swift (Mary Immaculate College). A lecture, 'The Legend of St Sunniva and its representation of Christianization of Norway' was given by Professor Jan Erik Rekdal (University of Oslo) at the Mansion House on 5 October 2018.

In 2019, the NUI, Dublin City Council, Dublinia and the Royal Norwegian Embassy collaborated on two events in association with the Friends of Medieval Dublin at the National Museum of Ireland. Dr Tom Birkett (UCC) delivered a lecture, 'Stories for Our Times? Retelling the Norse Myths,' at the Royal Irish Academy on 11 October 2019. On 12 October 2019, *The Viking Age: Dynasties, Digs and Discoveries* symposium featured scholars from Ireland, Britain and Scandinavia discussing recent excavations and significant archaeological at the Wood Quay Venue, Dublin City Council Offices. Speakers included Clare Downham (University of Liverpool), Elna Siv Kristoffersen (University of Stavanger), Unn Pedersen (University of Oslo), Anna Helena Petersén (Norwegian Institute of Cultural Research) and Håkon Reiersen (University of Stavanger).

In 2020, Professor Søren M Sindbæk (Aarhus University, Denmark) presented an online lecture, 'The beginning of Viking Age towns: new excavations in Ribe, Denmark' for the third collaboration between the National University of Ireland and Dublin City Council for the Dublin Festival of History. Professor Sindbæk discussed the discoveries from the excavation at Ribe in Denmark, which was the first town to emerge in Scandinavia at the dawn of the Viking Age.



L-R: Dr Maurice Manning, Prof Simon Marginson, Dr Attracta Halpin, Prof Aidan Mulkeen



L-R: Prof Michael Brophy, Prof Pat O'Shea, Dr Attracta Halpin, Prof Celeste Kinginger and Prof Mary Gallagher



Prof Peter Maassen

NUI Education and Society

The NUI Education and Society Series

The Senate sub-committee on Education and Society supports the University in developing its role in civic engagement and achieving its strategic goal of advancing Irish higher education at home and abroad. It does this particularly by promoting dialogue and debate on the wide-ranging role of universities in the 21st Century. Four events in this series took place during 2018-2020.

The Kantian University: Worldwide Triumph and Growing Insecurity

On 7 November 2018, Simon Marginson, Professor of International Higher Education at the University of Oxford delivered the lecture at the College of Anaesthetists, 22 Merrion Square. In his lecture, Professor Marginson discussed his concept of the 'multiversity'; identifying a number of insecurities that arise from a desire to be a multiversity, serving an ever-expanding range of social imperatives. Professor Aidan Mulkeen (Maynooth University) responded.

Foreign Language Learning 'Languages Connect' Strategy: A Symposium on Perspectives for Higher Education

The challenges for Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) posed by government's strategy for foreign language learning were the focus of an intensive day-long symposium organised by NUI, in collaboration with and hosted by UCC's School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, on 30 November 2018. Ireland's strategy for Foreign Languages in Education (2017-2026), Languages Connect, clearly identified 'the mistaken belief that English is enough'.

Speakers included Professor Celeste Kinginger (Penn State University), Dr Jenny Bruen (DCU), Professor Michael

Brophy (UCD), Dr Martin Howard (UCC), Professor Leigh Oakes (Queen Mary College, London), Dr Clive Earls (MU), Dr Éamon Ó Cofaigh (NUI Galway) and Professor Mary Gallagher (UCD).

Ireland's Progress in Implementing the Bologna Objectives: Greater Mobility, HE Co-operation and Better Outcomes for Students

Ireland's progress in implementing the Bologna Process was assessed in a half-day seminar on 8 May 2019, organised by NUI in collaboration with the Irish Universities Association and held in the Goethe-Institut in Dublin.

The keynote, 'Developments in the EHEA: The Case of Ireland,' was delivered by David Crosier, a higher education researcher from the Eurydice Network of the European Commission and Co-Chair of the BFUG Working Group on Monitoring. Aaron Frahil (VP Education, UCCSU) provided a student's perspective, while Maeve McElwee (Director Employer Relations, Ibec) provided employers' perspectives. A panel discussion was led by Dr Deirdre Lillis (TU Dublin and member of Senate) with contributions from Professor Pól Ó Dochartaigh (Registrar & Deputy President, NUI Galway), Barbara Kelly (Director, QQI) and Dr Aline Courtois (NUI Post-doctoral Fellow in Social Sciences 2016-18).

On Good Authority: Perspectives on Institutional Governance in Irish Higher Education

The NUI and the Irish Universities Association (IUA) jointly hosted a webinar, *On Good Authority: Perspectives on Institutional Governance in Irish Higher Education*, on 20 November 2020. This event was chaired by Professor Colin Scott (UCD). Professor Peter Maassen (University of Oslo) delivered the keynote address on 'Good institutional governance in higher education: The act of balancing academic, economic, organisational, socio-cultural and political objectives and realities'. There were contributions from Professor Pat Clancy (UCD), Dr Catherine Day (Chair, UCC Governing Body), Professor Pat O'Connor (UCD & UL) and Cameron Keighron (former SU member, NUI Galway Governing Authority).

The webinar can be viewed on our website: www.nui.ie/news/2020/PostEventHEGovernanceSeminar.asp

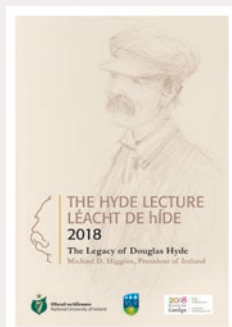


L-R: Ms Patricia Maguire, Dr Martin Howard, Prof Chris Williams, Dr Attracta Halpin

Publications

All publications
are available from

[www.nui.ie/
publications/](http://www.nui.ie/publications/)



Léacht de hÍde/ The Hyde Lecture 2018: The Legacy of Douglas Hyde

Michael D. Higgins,
President of Ireland,
delivered the inaugural
NUI Hyde Lecture, hosted
by University College
Dublin on 24 September

2018. President Higgins spoke of Ireland's first president and his enduring legacy for the Irish language, Irish culture and Irish education through his involvement in Conradh na Gaeilge, UCD, the National University of Ireland and the government of Ireland after independence.

The President was introduced by Prof Andrew Deeks, President of UCD and the Chancellor of the NUI, Dr Maurice Manning, provided a reflection.

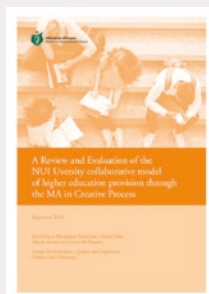
Dr Garret FitzGerald Memorial Lecture 2016/17



Professor Brigid Laffan,
Director of the Robert
Schuman Centre for
Advanced Studies
(European University
Institute, Florence)
delivered the fifth
Dr Garret FitzGerald
Memorial Lecture in
September 2016 at
College Hall, RCSI.

Professor John FitzGerald responds to the lecture 'In Defence of the State: Fractious Politics in Hard Times'. The lecture was published by NUI in 2018.

A Review and Evaluation of the NUI Uiversity Collaborative Model of Higher Education Provision through the MA in Creative Process



Uiversity was a
recognised college
of the National
University of Ireland
from 2013-2018
and, during this
period, worked
in partnership
with 24 leading
higher education

institutions on the island of Ireland to offer a Master of Arts (MA) in Creative Process. This degree programme was delivered to international students for three academic years from 2014-2017. NUI published this report based on research by the team at EQI (The Centre for Evaluation, Quality and Inspection) at the Institute of Education, Dublin City University.

The Kantian University: Worldwide Triumph and Growing Insecurity



Published in 2018,
this is the first
issue of the NUI's
Education & Society
Series. Professor
Simon Marginson
(University of
Oxford) argues
that today's
universities are

dealing with insecurities that arise from a desire to be *multiversities*, delivering on an ever-expanding range of fronts for society. In his view there is a risk of inefficiency in this model, and a concern that the *multiversity* may lose command of its own destiny as it becomes accountable to a growing number and range of stakeholders. Professor Aidan Mulkeen (Registrar and Vice-President, MU) provides a response.

Foreign Language Learning and Ireland's 'Languages Connect' Strategy: Reflections following a Symposium on Perspectives for Higher Education



In the second
publication in the
Education & Society
Series, a range
of contributors
from Higher
Education provide
perspectives on the

challenges posed by *Languages Connect: Ireland's strategy for foreign languages in education 2017-2026*. This publication follows a one-day NUI symposium organised in collaboration with the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures at University College Cork (UCC) in November 2018.



Éigse: A Journal of Irish Studies



Éigse: A Journal of Irish Studies is a publication devoted to the cultivation of research in the field of Irish language and literature. Many previously unpublished

texts in prose and verse ranging from Old Irish to Modern and including items from oral narration have appeared in its pages. *Éigse* regularly features important contributions on grammar, lexicography, palaeography, metrics, and the history of the Irish language, as well as on a wide variety of Irish literary topics. Originally funded by a bequest from Adam Boyd Simpson, the publication of *Éigse* is now funded through the NUI Publications Scheme and its development overseen by the Publications Committee. *Éigse* Volume 40 published in 2019, contains (among many others) two articles on cursaí Gaeilge and Independence:

- ▶ ‘Ó Cheiliúradh go Critic: Nualitricht na Gaeilge agus Éirí Amach 1916’ by Máirín Nic Eoin
- ▶ “The Turning of the Tide,” Craobh an Chéitinnigh agus Coimhlint na Gaeilge i 1916’ by Regina Uí Chollatáin

More information on *Éigse* is available at www.nui.ie/eigse/.

Lorg na Leabhar: A Festschrift for Pádraig A. Breatnach



Edited by Caoimhín Breatnach, Meidhbhín Ní Úrdail and Gordon Ó Riain, *Lorg na Leabhar* contains a collection of essays to honour the enormous

contribution by Professor Pádraig A. Breatnach to learning in a diverse range of fields including Medieval Latin, Early Modern Irish, palaeography, literary history, eighteenth-century verse, and Modern Irish literature and language. The contributors engage with written material relating to Early, Medieval and Modern Irish as well as with oral traditions in Gaelic-speaking areas of Ireland, Scotland and the Isle of Man.

This collection of essays, published by the National University of Ireland in 2019, honours Professor Pádraig A. Breatnach who was Editor of the NUI journal *Éigse: A Journal of Irish Studies* from 1986 to 2010.

Grants towards Scholarly Publications

The NUI Publications Scheme aims to promote and encourage publications and scholarly research by academic staff in the Constituent Universities and recognised colleges. The scheme is open to full-time and part-time staff of the NUI Constituent Universities and recognised colleges. NUI provides grants-in-aid twice annually towards scholarly publications by staff of the NUI constituent universities and recognised colleges, on the basis of individual applications to the Senate. Under the scheme, grants of up to €3,000 may be awarded.

Publications grants totalling over €76,851 were awarded for publications between 2018-2020: €28,655 in 2018, €17,896 in 2019 and €30,300 in 2020.

Ireland's Education Yearbook

NUI has co-sponsored the publication of *Ireland's Education Yearbook* by Education Matters since it was first published.

€28,655

Publication grants awarded in 2018

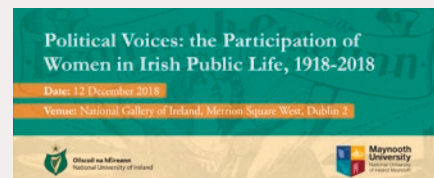
€17,896

Publication grants awarded in 2019

€30,300

Publication grants awarded in 2020

Decade of Commemorations



Political Voices: The Participation of Women in Irish Public Life, 1918-2018

In December 2018, NUI in collaboration with Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute with funding from the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, held a symposium as part of NUI's Decade of Commemorations. Justice Catherine McGuinness delivered the keynote address, 'Reflecting on the Participation of Women in Irish Public Life, 1918-2018'. There were contributions from Professor Senia Pašeta, Dr John Borgonovo, Dr Margaret Wood, Ms Claire McGing, Dr Caitríona Beaumont, Dr Pádraig Yeates, Professor Linda Connelly, and Dr Ailbhe Smyth.

John Redmond and the Irish Parliamentary Party: A Centenary Symposium

On the centenary of John Redmond's birth, the symposium *John Redmond and the Irish Parliamentary Party: a Centenary Symposium* was held on 6 March 2018 in the National Gallery of Ireland. Jointly organised by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, the National University of Ireland, the Royal Irish Academy and the School of History UCD, as part of the John Redmond State commemorative programme, the symposium set out to reassess John Redmond and the achievements of the Irish Parliamentary Party under his leadership. In this the Decade of Centenaries, it considered issues and events relevant to the IPP such as Home Rule, World War 1, Women's Suffrage and parliamentary democracy.

including Dr Conor Mulvagh (UCD), Dr Martin O'Donoghue (NLI and NUI Galway), Dr Colin Reid (Sheffield) and Dr Michael Wheatley (independent scholar). A Royal Irish Academy Discourse with Professor Alvin Jackson (Edinburgh) finished the event.

Grandchildren and great-grandchildren of John Redmond, John Dillon and other IPP members were in attendance.

Commenting on the event funded by her department, then Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Josepha Madigan said 'I am delighted to support events such as this, which facilitate the exchange of views about our shared history and provide a new generation with the opportunity to explore John Redmond's life and complex legacy – a legacy that has, until now, often been misunderstood and overshadowed'.

The Ceann Comhairle, Seán Ó Fearghail, TD, delivered the opening address. Dr Margaret O'Callaghan (QUB), Dr Margaret Ward (QUB) and Professor Paul Bew (QUB) gave keynotes. Former Taoiseach John Bruton chaired the opening session. There were papers from scholars based in Britain and Ireland,



L-R: Barbara Lockyer, John Green and Mary Green, great-grandchildren of John Redmond with Dr Maurice Manning



L-R: Dr Caitríona Beaumont, Dr Emer Purcell, Dr Attracta Halpin, Prof Senia Pašeta, Justice Catherine McGuinness, Prof Philip Nolan, Ms Josepha Madigan, TD, Dr John Borgonovo, Dr Maurice Manning, Prof Linda Connolly, Dr Margaret Ward, Senator Alice-Mary Higgins, Dr Pádraig Yeates, Dr Sarah-Anne Buckley, Ms Claire McGing



John Redmond

Centenary of the ILO



Mr Danny McCoy, Mr Guy Ryder, Ms Heather Humphreys, TD, Mr Kailash Satyarthi, Mrs Sumedha Satyarthi, Ms Patricia King, Prof Philip Nolan, Dr Attracta Halpin

The Declaration of Philadelphia Revisited

To celebrate the centenary of the International Labour Organisation, the National University of Ireland (NUI), the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the Department of Business Enterprise and Innovation (DBEI) collaborated in organising a day of celebration in Dublin in September 2019.

The centrepiece of the celebration was a national conference in the Hibernia Conference Centre, Dublin Castle, on the theme 'The Declaration of Philadelphia Revisited,' in reference to the original Declaration of Philadelphia principally authored by Edward J. Phelan (then Director General of the ILO). President Michael D. Higgins opened the conference. The three plenary lectures were delivered by Guy Ryder (Director General, ILO), Professor Virginia Doellgast (Cornell University) and Mark Connaughton (Senior Counsel).

Edward J. Phelan Lecture 2019

The National University of Ireland and the International Labour Organization collaborate in organising the Edward Phelan Lecture Series, established in 2013 to honour Edward J. Phelan. Born in Ireland, Edward Phelan had a distinguished career at the International Labour Organisation. On 17 September 2019, Kailash Satyarthi, Nobel Peace Laureate, delivered the fourth NUI/ILO Edward J. Phelan Lecture: 'Globalisation of Compassion for a Child-friendly World'. The lecture was held in the Hibernian Conference Centre, Dublin Castle. There were responses from Guy Ryder, ILO, Heather Humphreys, TD, Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation, Danny McCoy, IBEC, and Patricia King, ICTU.

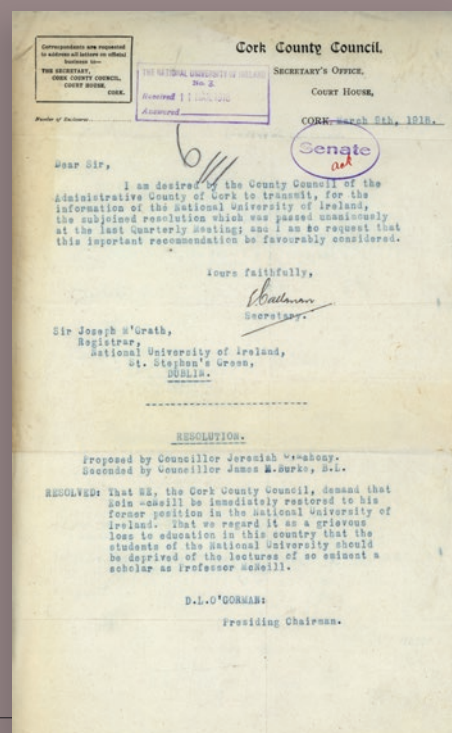


Archives

NUI houses the archives of the National University of Ireland (and the earlier Royal University of Ireland). There is ongoing work to store, maintain and protect archival material for the future. The archives continue to generate sustained interest among scholars and genealogists. They are also of continuing importance to NUI itself and are consulted regularly.

The archive is a significant repository of primary source material and is available for consultation by appointment. Some of our work on the archive has been delayed due to the extraordinary circumstances of 2020 but documents from the archive relating to the Decade of Centenaries 1912-1922 will form part of a new online Digital Repository, which will make the material accessible to the wider academic community and the general public.

Letter to the Senate of National University of Ireland from Cork County Council demanding that Eoin MacNeill be restored to his professorship at University College Dublin [9 March 1918] (NUI Archives). NUI centenary publication *Eoin MacNeill: the Pen and the Sword*, edited by Conor Mulvagh and Emer Purcell, will be published by Cork University Press in 2021.)





Facts and Figures 2018-2020

Awards and Scholarships

2018: over €1 million awarded in 135 scholarships, grants and prizes

2019: over €1 million awarded in 153 scholarships, grants and prizes

2020: over €1 million awarded in 141 scholarships, grants and prizes

Honorary Degrees awarded

2018: 5

2019: 7

2020: conferring deferred

Degree parchments and certificates printed

2018: 39,068

2019: 43,369

2020: 36,624

Conferring Ceremonies held across the NUI community

2018: 211

2019: 277

2020: 199 (mostly virtual)

Requests for Document Services

2018: 4,889

2019: 4,827

2020: 4,127

Matriculation exemption cases processed

2018: 3,119

2019: 3,210

2020: 3,113

Higher Doctorate Degrees on Published Work awarded

2018: 5

2019: 8

2020: 6

Events held by Member Institutions

2018: 89 events held in NUI

2019: 64 events held in NUI

2020: 12 events held in NUI

Grants awarded towards Scholarly Publications

2018: €28,655

2019: €17,896

2020: €30,300

Graduates on the NUI Seanad Éireann electoral register

2018: 108,251

2019: 112,216

2020: 110,156

Facts and Figures across the Federation

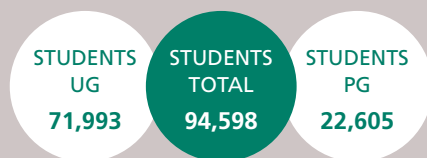
The statistics on student numbers below refer to NUI's four constituent universities and the colleges linked with these universities, the RCSI, University of Medicine and Health Sciences and the Institute of Public Administration (IPA), both recognised colleges of NUI.

Graduates from all of these institutions receive qualifications of the National University of Ireland. In the case of the constituent universities and their linked colleges, graduates are conferred by the constituent universities. The NUI Chancellor officiates at conferrings in recognised colleges.

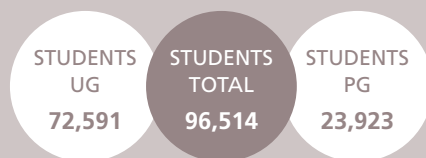
The numbers below include students who are studying towards NUI qualifications at member institutions in Ireland. The numbers do not include students on Continuing Professional Development/training courses not leading to NUI qualifications. Approximately 1,000 students are registered on programmes delivered by NUI member institutions overseas, and these also lead to NUI qualifications, but are not included in the table below.

Student Numbers 2018-20

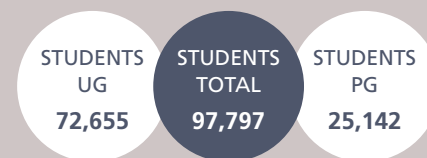
2017-18



2018-19



2019-20



Academic Year	Degree Level	UCD	UCC	NUIG	MU	RCSI	IPA	NCAD	St Angela's College, Sligo	Burren College of Art	Irish Management Institute	Institute of Banking
2017-18	UG	18,394	15,511	14,077	10,216	2,341	1,328	997	876	-	-	8,253
	PG	8,114	4,513	4,288	2,071	1,209	302	148	516	15	616	813
	UG & PG	26,508	20,024	18,365	12,287	3,550	1,630	1,145	1,392	15	616	9066
2018-19	UG	18,236	15,821	14,221	10,451	2,453	1,247	1,064	964	-	-	8,134
	PG	8,498	5,157	4,449	2,160	1,327	382	134	477	13	574	752
	UG & PG	26,734	20,978	18,670	12,611	3,780	1,629	1,198	1,441	13	574	8,886
2019-20	UG	18,256	16,035	14,590	10,742	2,661	1,402	1,129	992	-	-	6,848
	PG	8,766	5,662	4,716	2,263	1,262	471	135	540	14	532	781
	UG & PG	27,022	21,697	19,306	13,005	3,923	1,873	1,264	1,532	14	532	7,629

Students in the NUI constituent universities, recognised colleges and linked colleges (figures available for St Angela's College, Sligo and NCAD) for which the HEA keeps records represented 37% of the total students in Irish higher education in 2017-18, 36% of the total students in Irish higher education in 2018-19 and 37% of the total students in Irish higher education in 2019-20.

Sources: HEA 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20: UCD, UCC, NUIG, MU, RCSI, St Angela's College, Sligo, NCAD – all FTE where 1.0 FTE represents a student enrolled in 60-ECTS of curriculum content in a given academic year. Figures for the IPA, IMI and Institute of Banking are received from the relevant institution directly. IPA, IMI and Institute of Banking figures represent student headcount where 1.0 student represents 1 student, regardless of the volume of ECTS being studied.

49 Merrion Square



The Board Room



The Billiard Room

49 Merrion Square: Meeting & Event Venue for Member Institutions

Our location in the centre of the capital city makes NUI an ideal location for meetings and events. One of our objectives in meeting the first goal in our Strategic Plan 2018-22 – add demonstrable value to NUI’s constituent universities, recognised colleges and associated institutions – was to enhance facilities for meetings and small conferences at 49 Merrion Square. In 2019, the number of events, seminars and meetings held at the NUI was reduced to allow for a major renovation project. In 2020, we hoped our members would enjoy the newly refurbished facilities but in-person events were significantly curtailed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, 89 events were hosted by the constituent universities in 2018, 64 events in 2019 and just 12 events in 2020.

NUI has three rooms available for meetings, vivas, launches, receptions and other events: the Billiard Room, the Board Room and the Phelan Room. All rooms have touchscreen AV, video-conferencing facilities and an electronic whiteboard; the two larger rooms have radio and roaming mic facilities and the largest room has a loop system.

The rooms are accessible and can be set up to facilitate the needs of our guests:

The Billiard Room

(38m²) is set up boardroom-style, accommodating up to 12.

The Board Room

(52m²) can be arranged in boardroom-, classroom- or theatre-style to accommodate 25-30.

The Phelan Room

(77m²) comfortably seats 40 in boardroom- or classroom-style and 60 in theatre-style.



The Phelan Room

INSIDE NUI

NUI STAFF

Registrar

Dr Attracta Halpin

Senior Administrative Officers

Head of Finance and Administration

Mr Denis Dowling

Computer Services

Mr Eric Lamb (till July 2019)

Head of ICT

Mr Aidan McNamara
(from November 2019)

Head of Academic Services and Registry

Ms Patricia Maguire

Administrative Officers

Ms Ann Milner

Ms Andrea Durnin

Ms Maura Tierney

Senior Executive Assistants

Mr Neil Brennan

Ms Sarah Connolly
(Leave of absence, May 2020)

Ms Karyn O'Brien

Mr Gerry Penston

Dr Emer Purcell

Ms Helen Scanlon

Mr Eddie Smyth

Dr Sorcha Uí Chonnachtaigh
(from Oct 2020)

Executive Assistants

Mr Myles Kehoe

Ms Audraí O'Driscoll (part-time)

Ms Annamarie O'Sullivan

Receptionist

Mr Gerry Maher

Services Officer

Mr Darren Fallon

History

Origins

Queen's University of Ireland

In 1845 the Queen's College Act established three new colleges 'for the Advancement of Learning in Ireland': Queen's College Cork, Queen's College Galway and Queen's College Belfast. These Colleges were opened for teaching in 1849, and in 1850 were linked together under the umbrella of the Queen's University of Ireland, established by Royal Charter.

Catholic University of Ireland

A Papal rescript issued in 1847 condemned the Queen's Colleges as 'detrimental to religion,' and proposed to the Irish bishops the foundation of a Catholic University, modelled on Louvain. A decree of the Synod of Thurles in 1850 accepted the proposal. On 12 November 1851, John Henry Newman was appointed first Rector of the Catholic University, an institution founded and funded independently of the State. The Catholic University was formally opened in November 1854.

The Royal University

The University Education (Ireland) Act, 1879 provided for the formation of a new University in Ireland, afterwards styled the Royal University of Ireland, whose examinations were open to all candidates, whether they had attended College lectures or not. The Charter of the Royal University was granted on 27 April 1880 and the Queen's University was dissolved on the 3 February 1882.

The foundation of the Royal University provided an opportunity to improve the position of the Catholic University students, to whom recognised University

degrees had not hitherto been available. St Patrick's House (now Newman House, St Stephen's Green) changed its title to University College, Dublin, and took over, under the control of the Jesuit Fathers, all the work of the Catholic University, except the teaching of medicine, which continued in Cecilia Street, under the title of the Catholic University Medical School.

The Queen's Colleges in Cork, Galway and Belfast continued to exist as constituted by the Act of 1845, but had no special status in relation to the Royal University, nor any effective share in framing its policy or drawing up its courses.

NUI 1908-2018

The Irish Universities Act, 1908 established two new Universities – the National University of Ireland and the Queen's University of Belfast and dissolved the Royal University on 31 October 1909. Under this Act, the National University became a federal University with its seat in Dublin and with three Constituent Colleges established by Charter: University College, Dublin; University College, Cork; and University College, Galway. The Queen's Colleges in Cork and Galway were given an entirely new status and title. The Jesuit University College, Dublin, was given a new constitution and was merged with the Catholic University Medical School.



NUI Letters Patent, 1912

The Act empowered the University Senate to recognise courses of study in other institutions for the purpose of degrees.

The Universities Act, 1997, which came into effect on 16 June, 1997, redefined the nature and role of the National University of Ireland. The Act also reconstituted the three Constituent Colleges of the National University of Ireland, and the recognised college, St Patrick's College, Maynooth as Constituent Universities.

The Qualifications and Quality Assurance (Education and Training) Act 2012, which came into effect in November 2012, defined the University as a 'designated awarding body'. As such, the Act requires the University to establish quality assurance arrangements in respect of 'linked providers' that deliver educational programmes leading to awards of the University. The Act also provides for periodic review of the University's quality assurance procedures by Quality and Qualifications Ireland, the Authority established under the Act to oversee quality assurance of further and higher education and training in Ireland.

Governance



The NUI currently comprises four constituent universities, two recognised colleges and five colleges of a constituent university. Each institution within the NUI federation has its own Governing Authority; the overall Governing Authority of the University is the NUI Senate and headed by the Chancellor. The Universities Act, 1997, which came into effect on 16 June 1997, redefined the nature and role of the National University of Ireland. It reconstituted the Senate, which is the Governing Body of the University, with a membership of thirty-eight, as follows:

- ▶ The Chancellor
- ▶ The Chief Officers of the Constituent Universities
- ▶ The Registrar of the University
- ▶ Four members nominated by the Government
- ▶ Four persons elected by each of the Constituent Universities
- ▶ Eight members elected by Convocation
- ▶ Four co-opted members

Under the Act, the Senate of the National University of Ireland has functions and responsibilities in relation to the following: determining basic matriculation requirements; reviewing the content and teaching of courses; appointing external examiners; awarding degrees and other qualifications.

The Senate

Under the provisions of the Charter of the National University of Ireland, the Governing Body of the University is styled 'The Senate'. Much of the work of the Senate is done through its sub-committees:

- ▶ The Standing Committee
- ▶ The Finance Committee
- ▶ The Investment Advisory Committee
- ▶ The Committee of Registrars (Sub-Committee of the Admissions Officers)
- ▶ The Education and Society Committee
- ▶ The Honorary Degrees Committee
- ▶ The Publications Committee
- ▶ The Committee for Higher Degrees on Published Work

NUI Convocation

Convocation of the National University of Ireland consists of the Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor, the Members of Senate, the Professors and Lecturers and the Graduates of the University. In accordance with the provisions of the University's Statutes, NUI is obliged to maintain a register of all graduates of the university, known as the Convocation Register. Convocation provides an opportunity for NUI graduates to become involved in the governance and decision-making of the university. The election of eight members to the NUI Senate by Convocation takes place every five years, the most recent of which was in 2017. All graduates are automatically entitled to vote, they simply have to request their ballot papers.

Finance

The Finance Committee meets in advance of each Senate and as such held three meetings in each of the years 2018-2020. Each May, NUI financial statements are presented for the approval of Senate and then, once approved by the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General (OCAG) they are filed with the Higher Education Authority (HEA) and Department of Education and Skills (DES). The University's Financial statements are available on our website at www.nui.ie/about/finance.asp.

MEMBERS OF SENATE 2020

Chancellor

Dr Maurice Manning MA, DLitt

Registrar

Dr Attracta Halpin, BA (NUI), MSc (Dub), MBA (Lond), LLD jure officii

Chief Officers of the Constituent Universities

University College Dublin:
Professor Andrew J. Deeks, BE, MEngSc, PhD (UWA), FIEAust, Vice Chancellor, President

University College Cork: Professor Patrick G. O'Shea, PhD, FIEEE, FAPS, FAAAS, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, President (until September 2020); Professor John O'Halloran, BSc, PhD, DSc, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Interim President (from Sept 2020)

National University of Ireland, Galway: Professor Ciarán Ó hÓgartaigh, BComm, DipPrAcc, PhD (Leeds), CA (Ireland), Pro-Vice-Chancellor, President

Maynooth University: Professor Philip Nolan, MB BCH BAO, BSc, PhD, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, President

Nominated by the Government

Professor Patrick Clancy
Dr Barbara Doyle Prestwich
Mr John Hurley
Dr Deirdre Lillis

Elected by the Governing Authority, University College Dublin

Professor Joe Brady
Professor Pat Guiry
Professor Imelda Maher
Professor Dermot Morgan

Elected by the Governing Authority, University College Cork

Mr Owen J. Dinneen
Dr Marian McCarthy
Dr Valerie Mannix Boyle
Mr Dermot Breen

Elected by the Governing Authority, NUI Galway

Professor Pól Ó Dochtartaigh, PhD
Dr Pat Morgan BSc, PhD
Mr Brendan O'Looney
Dr Eric Mortimer

Elected by the Governing Authority, Maynooth University

Professor Jim Walsh
Professor Marian Lyons
Dr Joe Larragy
Professor Marie McLoughlin

Elected by Convocation, 03 October 2017

Mr James Doorley
Ms Cliona de Bhaldráithe Marsh
Mr Tommy Francis
Dr Helen Gallagher
Ms Catherine Harney
Mr Noel McGrath
Mr John P. O'Donovan
Ms Linda M.P. O'Shea Farren



Co-Opted

Professor Mark Rogers, B.A. (Mod) Nat Sci., Ph.D. Registrar/Deputy President, University College Dublin

Professor John O'Halloran, Registrar/Deputy President, University College Cork (until Sept 2020); Professor

Stephen Byrne, Interim Registrar, University College Cork (from November 2020)


Professor Aidan Mulkeen Vice-President Academic, Registrar and Deputy President, Maynooth University

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