

BOSTON COLLEGE

CENTER FOR IRISH PROGRAMS

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IRISH STUDIES

Burns Visiting Scholar, Fall 2016 Semester



Louis De Paor

For the fall 2016 semester at Boston College, the Center for Irish Programs is delighted to welcome Louis de Paor as our Burns Visiting Scholar. Louis completed his doctoral research on the short fiction of Máirtín Ó Cadhain under the supervision of Seán Ó Tuama and was awarded a Ph.D. by the National University of Ireland in 1986 for his thesis, *Teicníocht agus aigneolaíocht san insint liteartha; anailís ar mhúnlaí teicníochta agus ar mhúnlaí tuisceana i dteanga na hinste i ngearrscéalta Mháirtín Uí Chadhain*. He spent time as a lecturer in Irish at University College Cork and Thomond College, Limerick, before moving to Australia in 1987, where he taught evening classes in Irish language and literature at Melbourne University and the Melbourne Council for Adult Education. He served as Visiting Professor of Celtic Studies at Sydney University in 1993 and Visiting Fellow in 1992. de Paor returned to Ireland in 1996 and was appointed director of the Centre for Irish Studies at NUI Galway in 2000. He was named Jefferson Smurfit Distinguished

Fellow at the University of St Louis-Missouri in 2002 and received the Charles Fanning medal from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale in 2009.

Professor de Paor's published works include a monograph on the work of Máirtín Ó Cadhain, *Faoin mblaoisc bheag sin: an aigneolaíocht i scéalta Mháirtín Uí Chadhain* (1991); an anthology of twentieth-century poetry in Irish, *Coiscéim na haoise seo* (1991), co-edited with Seán Ó Tuama; a bilingual edition of the selected poems of Máire Mhac an tSaoi, *An paróiste míorúilteach/The miraculous parish* (2011); a critical edition of the poems of Liam S Gógan, *Míorúilt an chleite chaoín* (2012); and *Leabhar na hAthghabhála* (2016), a bilingual anthology of twentieth-century poetry in Irish with English translations. His current research is on the Irish language element in the work of Flann O'Brien and he is teaching a class on Flann O'Brien at Boston College this fall.



## Irish Studies Fall 2016 Events

The Center for Irish Programs at Boston College is pleased to offer a variety of events that are free and open to the public:

**September 15** | Thursday, 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Theology & Ministry Library Auditorium  
**Gaelic Roots Performance**

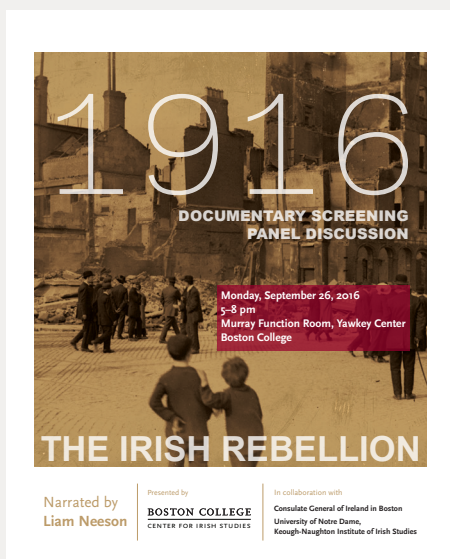
“*Seán Ó Sé: A Life in Song & Story*,” featuring Seán Ó Sé and Matthew Allen.



Seán Ó Sé & Matthew Allen

**September 26** | Monday, 5:00-8:00 p.m.  
Yawkey Center, Murray Room  
**Documentary Screening and Panel Discussion**

*1916: The Irish Rebellion*, presented in collaboration with the University of Notre Dame Keough-Naughton Institute of Irish Studies and the Irish Consulate of Boston. The screening of the documentary, which lasts 86 minutes, will be followed by a discussion and reception.



James Joyce

**October 15** | Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
Stokes Hall, 195 South  
**Conference**

“*Immersed in Tomorrow: Gaming, VR, and Digital Pedagogy*.” What’s the future for texts such as James Joyce’s *Ulysses*? Can we imagine a totally immersive 3D experience for the great modernist novel? This one-day conference led by Professor Joe Nugent considers these and other questions. Speakers Sarah McPhee (Winship Distinguished Research Professor, Emory University), Austin Mason (Assistant Director of the Humanities Center for the Digital Humanities and Visiting Assistant Professor of History, Carleton College), and Aaron Deevy (3D modeler, The Discovery Programme, Ireland). **This event is limited to registered participants. Consult the Irish Studies events website where registration details will be available in due course.**

**October 18** | Tuesday, 5:00-6:30 p.m.  
Devlin Hall, Room 101  
**Poetry Reading**

“*A Celebration of Contemporary Irish Poetry*.” A reading in celebration of Louis de Paor’s *Leabhar Na hAthghabhála: Poems of Repossession*, an anthology of Gaelic poems and English translations from the past 50 years. Louis de Paor, Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill, and other poets will participate in this event.



Len Graham & Brian Ó hAirt

**October 20** | Thursday, 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Theology & Ministry  
Library Auditorium  
**Gaelic Roots Musical Performance**

The Gaelic Roots series at Boston College presents the music of Len Graham and Brian Ó hAirt.

**October 27** | Thursday, 5:00 p.m.  
Connolly House, Andover Room  
**Lecture**



Ronan McDonald

Professor Ronan McDonald, School of Humanities and Languages, University of New South Wales, Australia, will present **“The Value of Beckett.”** Samuel Beckett is remembered as perhaps the greatest playwright of the late twentieth century and Boston College holds a major archive of his work. Professor McDonald is a leading authority on the works of Beckett and the literature of his time.

**November 2** | Wednesday, 4:00 p.m.  
Connolly House, Andover Room  
**Lecture**

Professor Jim Shanahan, Dublin City University, will present **“Suffering Rebellion: Ireland and the Roots of Gothic Fiction.”** The growing interest in Gothic fiction in recent decades has led to the discovery of how much Gothic literature is rooted in Irish experience and writing.

**November 9** | Wednesday, 4:30-6:30 p.m.  
Burns Library, Thompson Room with reception to follow in the Irish Room  
**Lecture**

The Burns Visiting Scholar for the fall 2016 semester, Professor Louis de Paor, National University of Ireland, Galway, will present **“Lethal in Two Languages: Flann O’Brien & Máirtín Ó Cadhain.”** Renowned poet and scholar of Irish-language literature, Louis de Paor speaks on two of Ireland’s most important twentieth-century writers.



Robbie O’Connell

**November 10** | Thursday, 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Cadigan Alumni Center  
**Gaelic Roots Musical Performance**

A concert of Irish music featuring award-winning musician Robbie O’Connell.

**November 12** | Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
Connolly House  
**Conference**

**“Joyce and the Energy of Modernism.”** Lecture and panel discussion with Professors Enda Duffy (University of California, Santa Barbara), Michael Wood (Princeton University), and Joseph Nugent (Boston College).

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Please share your e-mail address so we may keep you advised of upcoming news, events, and event details. You may send contact information to: [irish@bc.edu](mailto:irish@bc.edu).



## FALL 2016 IRISH STUDIES COURSES — Undergraduate

### Irish Language and Literature

ENGL 109301	Intro to Modern Irish I	M W F 10-10:50	Holmberg
ENGL 209701	Continuing Modern Irish II	M W F 8-8:50	Nugent
ENGL 220801	Explore the Irish: An Introduction to Irish Studies	M W F 1-1:50	Nugent
ENGL 453701	ATS: Analyzing James Joyce, A Digital Adventure	M 7-9:30	Nugent
ENGL 664701	Irish Gothic	T Th noon-1:15	Howes
ENGL 776401	20 <sup>th</sup> Century Irish Fiction	Tues 2-4:25	Smith
ENGL 108022	Literature Core	T Th 9-10:15	Murphy
ENGL 400501	Irish Comic Tradition	T Th 10:30-11:45	de Paor

### History

HIST 426901	Irish Revolutions, 1580-1916	T Th 3-4:15	O'Neill
HIST 428301	Disunited Kingdom	M W 3-4:15	Savage
HIST 482301	Ireland at War in the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century	T Th 10:30-11:45	Rafferty

### Music Performance

MUSP 160601	Tin Whistle/Beginner	Th 6:30-8	Noonan
MUSP 161501	Irish Fiddle/Experienced Beginner	Th 4:30-6:20	Falls Keohane
MUSP 162001	Traditional Irish Dance	W 3:30-5	Jordan
MUSP 260001	Irish Fiddle/Intermediate	Th 6:30-8	Falls Keohane
MUSP 260601	Tin Whistle/Intermediate	Th 6:30-8	Noonan

## Director of the Center for Irish Programs, 2016–2017



James H. Murphy

We are happy to announce the appointment of Professor James H. Murphy, CM, Ph.D., D.Litt, FRHistS, as interim director of Irish Programs and Visiting Professor of Irish Studies at Boston College for the 2016–17 academic year. Professor Murphy, who is also a professor of English at DePaul University, Chicago, is the author of five monographs and the editor of nine other books. He is a scholar of nineteenth-century Ireland whose work principally focuses on the political history and the history of fiction of the period. His books on political history trace the relationship between political culture and offices of constitutional affinity between Britain and Ireland and include *Abject Loyalty: Nationalism and Monarchy in Ireland During the Reign of Queen Victoria* (2001) and *Ireland's Czar: Gladstonian Government and the Lord Lieutenancies of the Red Earl Spencer, 1868-86* (2014).

His trilogy on the history of fiction consists of *Catholic Fiction and Social Reality in Ireland, 1873-1922* (1997), *Ireland, a Social, Cultural and Literary History, 1791-1891* (2003), and *Irish Novelists and the Victorian Age* (2011). This final volume was based on a reading of nearly 400 novels and greatly expanded the scope of research into Irish Victorian fiction, particularly fiction by women. It was published by Oxford in the same year as Dr. Murphy's edited work, the 700-page *Oxford History of the Irish Book, Volume 4: The Irish Book in English, 1800-91* (2011). He has also written on religion, education, gender, and sexuality.

Professor Murphy is a former president of the Society for the Study of Nineteenth-Century Ireland and has served on the Inner International Assessment Board for the Irish Research Council, Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship Scheme, and on the College of Reviewers for the Canada Research Chairs Programmes. He has held a visiting fellowship at Oxford University and served as the Burns Library Visiting Scholar in Irish Studies at Boston College. James has been widely employed as a member of dissertation committees, as an assessor of scholarly work for promotion and tenure, and as a reviewer of scholarly writing for academic journals and

academic and university presses. He has organized international conferences, such as the 2013 meeting of the American Conference for Irish Studies, and been a frequent recipient of research grants. He has taught in universities on both sides of the Atlantic.

At DePaul University, Professor Murphy directed the Irish Studies program and sat on the faculty's most senior committees, the University Board for Promotion and Tenure, the University Research Council, and the Quality of Instruction Council. He is a prolific reviewer of books for scholarly journals, is a member of the editorial board of the *New Hibernia Review*, and has been a keynote speaker at conferences on many occasions.

## John J. Burns Library for Rare Books, Special Collections, and Archives

### Fall/Winter Exhibition

“Irish Women Rising: Gender and Politics in  
Revolutionary Ireland, 1900–1923”  
October 17, 2016–February 11, 2017

In the struggle for national independence, Irish women had to fight both British imperialism and Irish sexism. They organized politically and militarily, fought alongside men, and went to jail and on hunger strikes. Featuring newly acquired, never-before-seen documents and artifacts, this exhibition tells their stories.



Photograph of Mollie Gill in uniform holding a handgun, c.1923.

It focuses in particular on the lives of Maud Gonne, Constance Markievicz, Margaret Skinnider, Kathleen Clarke, Hanna Sheehy-Skeffington, and Mollie Gill, and the organizations they founded and supported, especially *Inghinidhe na h'Éireann*, *Cumann na mBan*, and the Women's Prisoners Defence League. It reveals their connections through photographs, original letters, pamphlets, and other archival sources. Special highlights include a notebook containing Skinnider's firsthand account of the Easter Rising, subsequently

expanded in her 1917 book *Doing My Bit for Ireland*, and autograph books from women imprisoned during the Civil War for their anti-Treaty activism.

Many of the items on display are drawn from a collection on Irish women revolutionaries assembled by Loretta Clarke Murray, from whom Burns Library previously acquired a large archive of Cuala Press publications. The exhibition will feature an original 1916 Proclamation on loan from Strokestown Park National Irish Famine Museum and is curated by Irish Studies Librarian Kathleen Williams with assistance from Elizabeth Pingree, a doctoral candidate in history.

### Acquisition Highlight: Early Irish Histories

Burns Library is fortunate to have acquired three extremely scarce and notable seventeenth-century Irish histories. They were purchased in honor of the 80th birthday of our library's chief benefactor, Brian P. Burns, with generous support from Burns, his wife Eileen, and her four daughters. The volumes share a distinguished earlier provenance: all three were from the collection of rare books that William O'Brien bequeathed in 1899 to the Milltown Park Jesuit community in Dublin for its library, recently closed. An Irish judge, O'Brien is otherwise remembered for presiding over the Phoenix Park murder trials.

Published in 1621, **Philip O'Sullivan Beare's** *Historiae Catholicae Iberniae Compendium* offers the principal account of the Elizabethan wars in Ireland from a purely Irish or Catholic perspective, refuting English and New-English Protestant histories. Born in southwest Ireland, O'Sullivan Beare (1590–1660) was sent to Spain for his education in 1602 following the Spanish surrender of Kinsale and the end of armed Irish resistance to English rule during the Nine Years' War. His *Catholic History of Ireland*, although not always reliable in its details, nevertheless quotes many important contemporary documents, including a letter from his uncle, the Prince of Beare, to the King of Spain complaining about the terms of the Kinsale capitulation, and Florence Conry's compendium of Catholic grievances. In our copy, a previous owner has pasted a map of Ireland from Sir James Ware's *Antiquities and History of Ireland* on the leaf opposite the title page—a gesture to the much admired section on topography with which O'Sullivan Beare begins his work.

**Peter Lombard** (c.1555–1625), scion of a Waterford mercantile family, established his early reputation as a theologian through his studies and subsequent professorship at Louvain. In 1594, he began his



Peter Lombard's *De Regno Hiberniae sanctorum insula commentarius* (Louvain, 1632) pictured with Philip O'Sullivan Beare's *Historiae Catholicae Iberniae Compendium* (1621) and John Lynch's *Cambrensis Eversus* (1662). Photo by Gary Gilbert

ecclesiastical career as provost of the cathedral at Cambrai. A few years later he was called to Rome, where he gained the respect and favor of Pope Clement VIII, who appointed him Archbishop of Armagh in 1601. Clement also appointed him as his domestic prelate, thereby keeping him in Rome for the remainder of his life, safely away from the Protestant oppression of Ireland. Lombard thus wrote his well-known treatise on the Kingdom of Ireland, with its detailed analyses of geographical characteristics and civil and religious divisions, while removed from his native soil. *De Regno Hiberniae sanctorum insula commentarius* was published posthumously in Louvain in 1632. Charles I considered it so offensive that he gave special orders to his Irish viceroy, Thomas Wentworth, 1st Earl of Strafford, to suppress it.

More authoritative, yet still rarer than the foregoing works, is **John Lynch's** *Cambrensis Eversus*, printed in 1662, most likely in the northern French commune of St. Omer. Lynch (ca.1599–1677?) was born in Galway and attended its Jesuit school before continuing his studies at the Irish College of Rouen and the Sorbonne. He subsequently returned to Galway, but upon the surrender of the city to the Cromwellians in 1652, he fled to France, residing principally in St. Malo, where he wrote his most influential works, including his defense of Ireland against the slanderous attacks of Giraldus Cambrensis (the medieval Welsh monk), which he published under the pseudonym Gratianus Lucius and dedicated to Charles II.

The extreme scarcity of the volume is due in part to the fact that all of the copies sent to London for sale were lost in the great fire that ravaged the city in 1666. No copy of this edition can be traced in auction records, and only a half-dozen copies are held by libraries around the world, including, now, the Burns Library.

## Music to Our Ears: The Séamus Connolly Collection of Irish Music

Irish music followers worldwide will soon be able to view and listen to The Séamus Connolly Collection of Irish Music, a digital resource that will be published online by the Boston College Libraries on October 11. This exciting compilation features some of the best-known names in Irish traditional instrumental music and song, including many previously unreleased recordings.

The digital collection is the product of a three-year collaboration between the Boston College Libraries and master fiddle player Séamus Connolly. Originally from Killaloe in County Clare, Connolly directed Irish music, song, and dance programming at Boston College for 25 years, and served as Sullivan Artist-in-Residence from 2004 until his retirement in 2015. A 10-time All-Ireland fiddle champion, Connolly is a recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts' National Heritage Fellowship and Boston College Faculty Arts Award.

The collection offers a window on traditional music through Connolly's long experience as a performer and teacher. It reflects the work of many departments across the Libraries, with Connolly's own work on the collection beginning nearly 15 years ago. Thanks to the generosity of more than 100 musicians who contributed performances, the collection's 10 playlists—containing over 330 audio tracks that can be streamed and downloaded via SoundCloud, along with sheet music transcriptions, stories, and essays—will be freely accessible worldwide via The Séamus Connolly Collection of Irish Music website.





We invite you to preview the mobile-device-friendly website at [connollymusiccollection.bc.edu](https://connollymusiccollection.bc.edu), and to return again in mid-October when the full site will be launched.

## Boston College-Ireland

### The William B. Neenan, S.J., Visiting Fellowship at Boston College-Ireland

Applications are invited for the William B. Neenan, S.J., 2017 Visiting Fellowship, at Boston College-Ireland. The Fellowship is named to honor the work of Fr. Neenan, who came to Boston College in 1979 as the University's inaugural Thomas I. Gasson Professor. Neenan served as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1980 to 1987 before assuming the role of academic vice president and dean of faculties. From 1998, he served as vice president and special assistant to the president. During his tenure, the University established itself among the nation's top institutions of higher education. Sadly, Father Neenan passed away in 2014.

The Fellowship is open to a scholar working in the field of Irish Studies, and requires that a period of time be spent in Dublin while conducting research. It may be held at any time over the course of 2017, and must be held for a minimum of two months. The holder of the Fellowship will be awarded a stipend of €5000 and will have access to the Boston College-Ireland building, an office, and administrative support. In addition, Boston College-Ireland will work with the Visiting Fellow to organize a one-day symposium that will include a number of invited speakers and will be arranged around the research interests of the Fellow.

The closing date for application to the Fellowship is December 2, 2016. To apply, please send your curriculum vitae, including an explanation of the research you wish to undertake in Ireland, and details of proposed outputs to Professor Mike Cronin, [croninmr@bc.edu](mailto:croninmr@bc.edu).

### Century Ireland

Boston College-Ireland continues its work on Century Ireland ([www.rte.ie/centuryireland](http://www.rte.ie/centuryireland)), the online historic newspaper that charts the events of Ireland's Decade of Centenaries. After playing a central role in the commemorations of the 1916 Rising, including work with Google on their street-by-street guide to

the events of Easter week (<https://dublinrising.withgoogle.com/welcome/>), Century Ireland will continue to cover the events of a century ago.

Key events over the next few months will include the return of the Rising prisoners from British prisons, the rise of Sinn Féin and its success in Parliamentary by-elections, ongoing debates regarding the status of Home Rule, and the continued Irish involvement in World War One.

### Irish Studies at Boston College, 2015–16: A Student Retrospective

The Irish Studies program was particularly active during the 2015–2016 season. In the fall semester, Margaret Kelleher (University College Dublin) revisited the infamous Maamtrasna murders in the inaugural Adele Dalsimer Memorial Lecture, "Focla Déigheanacha (Dying Words): The Execution of Myles Joyce (Galway, 1882) and its Continuing Legacy." A one-day conference to celebrate the 150th anniversary of W.B. Yeats's birth featured talks by Michael Wood (Princeton University), Carrie Preston (Boston University), Paige Reynolds (College of the Holy Cross), and John Paul Riquelme (Boston University). In November, Declan Kiberd (Notre Dame), as part of the Lowell Humanities Series, spoke on "Militarism or Modernism? Intellectual Origins of the Easter Rising, Dublin 1916." James H. Murphy (DePaul University), the fall semester's Burns Scholar, delivered his lecture "Novelists and Politicians in Nineteenth-Century Ireland." On the creative side, the Irish Studies program brought novelists Paul Murray and Kevin Barry to celebrate the American publication of their new novels *The Mark and the Void* and *Beatlebone*.

In the spring semester, Connolly House hosted the launch party for Derek Pyle's *Waywords and Meanings*, an unabridged musical adaptation of *Finnegans Wake* that brings together musicians from around the world. In February, the Irish Studies program held a panel in honor of the 400th anniversary of Hugh O'Neill's death with presentations by Hiram Morgan (UCC), James O'Neill (UCC), Ruth Canning (UCC), and Malachy O'Neill (Ulster University). The spring semester's Burns Scholar, Colmán Ó Clabaigh (Glenstal Abbey), delivered his lecture "Fifty Ways to Cleave Your Brother: Mayhem, Mischief & Misfits in Medieval Irish Monestaries," and at the close of the semester, the Irish Studies program celebrated the publication of Ronan Fanning's (UCD) *Eamon de Valera, A Will to Power*.

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The semester also saw the centennial of the Easter Rising, and the Irish Studies program took this opportunity to invite a number of speakers and host a series of events that sought to interrogate this moment in Ireland's history. Mike Cronin, academic director for BC-Ireland, set the tone for the spring semester with his lecture "The Enemy in Dublin, 1916: Who Were the British?" In February, after months of preparation, the McMullen Museum of Art premiered their much-anticipated exhibit "The Arts and Crafts Movement: Making It Irish." Opening night was celebrated with a lecture by Paul Larmour followed by a tour around the gallery. Boston College also saw Fintan O'Toole present a lecture, "Culture and Society in Ireland, 1916," which helped to place the Arts and Crafts movement in the context of the changing face of Ireland at the dawn of the twentieth century.

In March, the critically acclaimed novelist Colm Tóibín delivered the lecture "The Knowledge and the Power: Writing and Violence" as part of the Lowell Humanities Series. In addition, Tóibín spoke at the international conference "Easter 1916: 'A Terrible Beauty is Born.'" Talks were also given by Alvin Jackson (Edinburgh University), Emily Bloom (Georgia State University), and Roisin Higgins (Teeside University). April saw a conference on religion in Ireland in the twenty-first century. Joe Nugent's annual conference on James Joyce, organized around the subject of "James Joyce and the Easter Rising," closed out the month with a keynote by the distinguished literary critic Michael Wood.

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## BOSTON COLLEGE CENTER FOR IRISH PROGRAMS

The Boston College Center for Irish Programs is headquartered in Connolly House on the University's Chestnut Hill Campus. The Center includes BC's Irish Studies Program, the Irish Institute, Boston College-Ireland on St. Stephen's Green in Dublin, and the Burns Library's Irish Collections.

In addition to providing administrative support and program coordination for each of these units, the Center also serves as an umbrella under which any Irish-related activities on each of the Boston College campuses may obtain resource assistance.

For more information, please contact: Irish Studies at Boston College, Connolly House, 300 Hammond Street, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467, 617-552-6396, or e-mail [irish@bc.edu](mailto:irish@bc.edu). See our Web site at [www.bc.edu/irish](http://www.bc.edu/irish). *Irish Studies* is edited by Joan Reilly.