NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Regional Meetings

MIDWEST: September 30-October 1, 1988, University of Missouri-St. Louis. The theme of the conference will be “The Irish Abroad.” Inquiries to: Blanche Touhill, 408 Woods Hall, University of St. Louis-Missouri, 8001 Natural Bridge, St. Louis, Missouri 63121.

NEW ENGLAND: October 7-9, 1988, Salve Regina College, Newport, Rhode Island. The theme will be “The Irish and New England.” In addition to the papers, there will be a buffet dinner at Ochre Court, the administration building of the College, which is a replica of a French chateau. Note: the Monday following the conference is Columbus Day, so there will be time for touring. Inquiries to: Robert J. McKenna, Salve Regina College, Newport, Rhode Island 02840.

WESTERN: October 14-16, 1988, Saint Mary’s College, Moraga, California. There will be literature and history papers plus a special session on Eugene O’Neill; a reading by Belfast poet Ciaran Carson; and a viewing of “The Belfast Series” —relief sculptures by Douglas Holmes. Conference registration is $30; banquet is $25. Inquiries to Brother Ronald Gallagher, Box 3526, Saint Mary’s College, Moraga, California 94575.

ATLANTIC: November 4-5, 1988, Philadelphia. The theme of the conference will be “Cities and Towns.” The Rosenbach Museum and Library will hold a sherry reception, and the Rosenbach is mounting an exhibit of their Anglo-Irish manuscripts, including the original Ulysses, a Salome, and some selected Yeats papers, among others. Inquiries to: Lucy McDermott, Department of English, Villanova University, Villanova, Pennsylvania 19085.

Call for Papers


MLA – ACIS Panels

ACIS sessions at the December MLA meeting in New Orleans are as follows:

DECEMBER 28: “Landmarks in the Anglo-Irish Literary Tradition.” Chair, Christopher Griffin, Strayer College, Washington, D.C.

“Anglo-Irish Ideology and the Dublin University Magazine,” Wayne Hall, Univ. of Cinn.

“Realism as Exposure and Indictment: Maria Edgeworth and William Carleton,” Elizabeth Harden, Wright State Univ.

“Laying the Ghost: Elizabeth Bowen’s A World of Love,” Robert Tracy, Univ. of Calif., Berkeley.


DECEMBER 29: “Irish Writing in the Post-Colonial Era.” Chair, Michael Kenneally, Marianopolis College, Montreal.


New U.S. Distributor

Blackstaff Press has announced that they have switched their distribution from Longwood to Irish Books & Media in St. Paul.

Upcoming Poetry Reading

The Irish poet Medb McGuckian will be giving a reading at Swarthmore College on Monday, October 3 at 8:00 p.m. Details from Michael Durkan, Swarthmore College Library, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania 19081.

Requests for Information

Ellen Moore Quinn is collecting the verbal folk memories of Irish-Americans for her M.A. degree at Harvard University. The verbal collection includes Gaelic survival expressions, proverbs, expressions and lore about daily life, and idioms, tales, riddles, etc. Write to her at Sherbert Road, RR 2, Ashburnham, Mass. 01430.
**Treasurer's Report**

**May 15, 1987 — April 15, 1988**

**INCOME**
- Balance as of May 15, 1987: $14,695.00
- Membership Dues: $7,215.00
- Sale of pins and paperweights: $75.00
- Sale of labels and mailing lists: $75.00
- Dublin Conference Refund: $25.00
- Bank Interest: $12.50

**EXPENSES**
- Executive Committee:
  - Publications: $3,717.00
  - Newsletter: 5,222.45
  - Guide to Irish Studies: 3,495.55
  - Irish Literary Supplement: 9,216.64
- Membership:
  - Relations with Learned Societies:
    - Regional:
      - Florida: $1,900.00
    - Legal Services:
      - Printing, duplicating: $950.00
    - Bulk Mailing: $250.00
  - Bank Fees: $1,500.00

**TOTAL EXPENSES**:

**BALANCE (including $9,000 in CD)**: $27,150.00

---

**Annual General Meeting**

**Excerpts from the Minutes**

**Mary Helen Thruente, ACIS Secretary**

- Secretary Mary Helen Thruente reported that there were 1775 dues-paying members in 1987-88 and that there had been 655 dues-easing amendments to the slate of 1986. As of April 15, there were 1629 members.
- Treasurer Michael Durkan issued a report on expenses and revenue (see above).
- Jim Donnelly reported that 715 members had been recruited during the past year.
- Tony Cahill summarized the Committee on the Future Report and its recommendations, all of which were accepted by the Executive Committee. A copy of the Report will be mailed to each member this fall.

**Tom Hachey introduced a motion from the Executive Committee that the planning for the American Conference of Irish Studies be recorded.**

**Conor Johnston reported that the effort to have the word "Irish" added to the title of the second volume of the MLA bibliography had resulted in "British" being changed to "British Isles."**

**Emmet Larkin moved the acceptance of the Executive Committee recommendation that ACIS make a $500 annual contribution to the Friends of the National Library of Ireland. Passed unanimously.**

---

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Boston College English Department will make a tenure track appointment for the Fall of 1989. One of the fields to which the Department has given priority is Irish Literature, particularly within an interdisciplinary context. Full details will be published in the MLA Job Information List in October 1988.
1988 ACIS RESEARCH REPORT
Compiled by Yvette Jayson Sencer

PUBLICATIONS
Clark, Dennis and James Flynn, "Teaching and Researching Irish and Irish-American History: Case Studies from Philadelphia and Worcester, MA," "WIPS SS-3"
Douts, James E., "Woman and Goddesses in Early Celtic History, Myth and Legend," "WIPS 87-4/5"
Gonzales, Alexander G., "The Achievement of Darrell Figgis's Children of Earth: Reality and Folk Culture," "EI 22.3"
Harris, Ruth Ann M., "Characteristics of Irish Immigrants in North America Derived from the Boston Pilot 'Missing Friends' Data, 1831-1850," "WIPS 88-1"
Mahony, Robert, "Máirín Ó Gormáin and the Lords Lieutenant of Ireland," "Eirne," XXII
"The Pamphlet Campaign against Henry Grattan in 1797-98," "Eighteenth Century Ireland, II"
Malcolm, Elizabeth, "Asylums and Other 'Total Institutions' in Ireland: Recent Studies," "EI, Fall 1987"
McNamara, Leo F., "The Place of The Street in John Boyce's Collected Plays," "Theatre, Spring 1988"
Morison, Kristin, "William Trevor's 'Systems of Correspondences,'" "MR, Autumn 1987"
Patterson, Nerys, "Early Irish Kinship: The Legal Structure of the Agnatic Descent Groups," "WIPS, 1982-3"
"To learn to respect reality:" "Bernard Shaw's John Bull's Other Island," "Shaw: The Annual of Bernard Shaw Studies, 1988"

WORK IN PROGRESS
Chapman, Wayne K., Yeats and 18th-century Cambridge platonic and English Renaissance court writers. Textual bibliographic study of copy texts by Yeats.
Eyre, Audrey A., "The Fiction of Anthony West," "Fitzgerald, Margaret E. and Joseph A. King, The Uncrowned Irish in Canada and the United States"
Kennedy, Brian, Biography of Irish artist Paul Henry.
REQUESTS
For information about the Irish painter Dermot O'Brien (1865-1945), his training and development, drawings and paintings in private and public collections, letters, photographs, etc. Dr. Yvette J. Sencer, History of Art (B.S.(H), SUNY-FIT, 7th Ave. at 270th St., New York City 10001-5992. Information, letters, archival material, examples of work relating to Irish artist Paul Henry (1876-1958), Brian Kennedy, Institute of Irish Studies, Queens Univ., 8 Fitzwilliam St., Belfast BT16AW, Northern Ireland.

ACIS Regional Conventions

FALL 1988

ACIS Regional Conventions

MIDWEST — September 30 - October 1
WESTERN — October 14 - 16
NEW ENGLAND — October 7 - 8
ATLANTIC — November 4 - 5

PAGE 3
ACIS Elections for the Next Two Year Terms

At the ACIS Conference at the College of St. Thomas in St. Paul in April 1988, the Executive Committee appointed the following persons to serve on the nominations committee: Jim Donnelly (Chair), Martha Caldwell, Dot Finnegan, Joyce Flynn, Tom Hachey, Lucy McDiarmid, and Catherine McKenna.

The following positions are to be elected by the entire membership: Vice-President, who automatically becomes President at the 1991 national meeting, and six Discipline Representatives: History, Literature, Social Science, Celtic Studies, The Arts, and Irish Language. (Note the increase from three to six in the number of elected Discipline Representatives.) Beside the Secretary and Treasurer, who are appointed by the Executive Committee, the other members of the Executive Committee are the immediate Past President, one representative from each of the four established regions (New England, Atlantic, Midwest, and Western), each conducting their own elections before the 1989 annual conference; and the ACIS Newsletter Editor.

Currently, the Executive Committee is composed of the President, Maureen Murphy, who will remain on the new Executive Committee as immediate Past President; Vice-President James Donnelly, who will succeed to the Presidency in Spring 1989; Secretary, Mary Helen Thuente; Treasurer, Michael Durkan; History Representative, Kevin O'Neill; Literature Representative, Michael Kenneally; Other Disciplines Representative, Philip O'Leary; Irish Language Representative, Ken Nilsen; Past President, Robert Rhodes; ACIS Newsletter Editor, Robert Lowery; and the four regional representatives: Catherine Shannon (New England), Lucy McDiarmid (Atlantic), Thomas Hachey (Midwest), and Willard Potts (Western).

Those eligible to vote must be dues-paying members of ACIS as of December 1, 1988.

Any ACIS member eligible to vote may nominate any other eligible member, including Executive Committee members, for the positions of Vice-President or any of the Discipline Representatives. Nominations and elections for regional representatives will take place in accordance with the relevant regional bylaws.

ACIS members wishing to make nominations are to observe the following procedures:

- Nominations should be made to the Chair of the Nominations Committee, but they may be submitted to any member of the committee.

- Though a letter of nomination is not essential, it is preferred; some brief statement of the nominee's qualifications will be helpful to the committee in making its decisions.

- Secure the permission of the nominees before submitting a nomination.

Nominations should reach any of the members of the committee by December 15, 1988:

- James Donnelly, Jr., Dept. of History, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison WI 53706.
- Martha Caldwell, Dept. of Art, James Madison Univ., Harrisonburg VA 22807.
- Dorothy Finnegan, LaRoche College, 900 Babcock Blvd., Pittsburgh PA 15237.

- Thomas Hachey, Dept. of History, Marquette Univ., Milwaukee WI 53233.
- Lucy McDiarmid, 1931 Panama St., Philadelphia, PA 19103.
- Catherine McKenna, Dept. of English, Queens College, Flushing NY 11367.

Early in 1989, the Nominations Committee will post to every eligible member a letter carrying notices of the nominees and other election information, and a ballot on a postcard addressed to the Chair of the committee. The deadline for the receipt of ballots will be April 1, 1989.

Any questions about eligibility, procedures, or other matters should be directed to Jim Donnelly at the address above.

ACIS to Support National Library

The following letter was sent by ACIS President Maureen Murphy to An Taoiseach Charles J. Haughey on July 20, 1988.

Dear Mr. Haughey:

At our annual general meeting, the American Conference for Irish Studies voted to appropriate the sum of $500 to the National Library of Ireland Society as a collective gift of thanks for the support the Library has received in the development of Irish Studies in the United States and for the many kindnesses to our members over the years. In addition to the ACIS gift, many individual members are pledging their own gifts following the example of Past ACIS President Emmet Larkin who opened the list with his gift of $50. These gifts are a measure of the value we place on the National Library as Ireland's most vital scholarly resource.

It is, then, with real distress that we learned of the Library's staffing crisis, a crisis that may result in curtailing services during the evening and on Saturdays. For most of us, research time in Ireland these days is a matter of a few weeks during the summer or as part of a short research trip during an academic leave. Curtailed hours at the National Library would constitute a real hardship to scholars whose time is limited.

We realize the demands from all quarters on national finances; however, we feel the National Library of Ireland is in a class of its own and deserves special support to keep its resources available to the Irish people as well as to the international community of scholars.

Yours sincerely,
Maureen Murphy, President

American Conference for Irish Studies
114 Paula Blvd.
Selden, New York 11784

First Class Mail