ACIS NEWSLETTER

ACIS BOOK AWARDS FOR BOOKS PUBLISHED IN 1999

The American Conference for Irish Studies will sponsor four prizes for scholarly books on Irish subjects published worldwide in 1999. The awards serve to promote and recognize excellence in Irish Studies Scholarship.

Guidelines

* Books must be submitted for one prize only.
* All books submitted for the year 2000 awards must have a publication date of 1999.
* Copies of the books nominated must be sent to each of the members of the appropriate committee (listed below) by 1 May 2000.
* Fiction, poetry, and anthologies of literature are not eligible.

The prize-winning books will be announced in November 2000. Please do not send copies of books to ACIS officers. For more information contact ACIS President Nancy Curtin at curtin@fordham.edu

BOOK PRIZE COMMITTEES

The James S. Donnelly, Sr. Prize for a Book in History or Social Sciences

*Lisa Bitel (Chair), Department of History, 3001 Wescoe Hall, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045
*Elizabeth Malcolm, Institute of Irish Studies, University of Liverpool, 1 Abercromby Square, Liverpool L69 3BX, UK
*Marilyn Cohen [Montclair State University], 308 North Mountain Ave., Upper Montclair, NJ 07043.

The Michael J. Durkan Prize for a Book on Language or Culture

*Colin A. Ireland (Chair), Resident Director, Beaver College Center for Education Abroad, 6 Clare Street, Dublin 2, IRELAND
*William Kelleher, Department of Anthropology/109 Davenport Hall, University of Illinois, 607 S. Mathews Ave., Urbana, IL 61801
*Bill Williams, The Union Institute, 440 E. McMillan St., Cincinnati, Ohio 45206-1925

The Robert Rhodes Prize for a Book on Literature

*Michael Patrick Gillespie (Chair), Department of English, Marquette University, PO Box 1881, Milwaukee, WI 53201-1881
*Maureen Murphy, 243 Gallon Wing, Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY 11550
*Sandra F. Siegel [Cornell University] 218 North Corn Street, Ithaca, New York 14850

The Donald Murphy Prize for a Distinguished First Book

*Guinn Batten (Chair), English Department, Box 1122, Washington University, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130
*Vera Krellkamp, Humanities Division, Pine Manor College, 400 Heath Street, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167
*Sean Farrell Moran, Department of History, Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan 48309-4401

ACIS BOOK AWARDS - 1999 (for books published in 1998)

The James S. Donnelly, Sr. Prize
Jews in Twentieth Century Ireland (Cork University Press)
By Dermot Keogh

The Michael J. Durkan Prize
Decolonisation and Criticism (Pluto Press)
By Gerry Smyth

The Donald Murphy Prize
By Peter Hart
New Executive Committee has been hard at work preparing guidelines and new initiatives for your consideration at our next general meeting to be held at Limerick. You can now keep abreast of our latest developments at our web site - www.aicst.com. We decided to keep a permanent address to serve as a meeting point for new members. However, if you have more than welcome site proposals or queries should be submitted to Vice-President Michael Gillespie.

You will also see here that our book prizes have been awarded, and we most heartily congratulate the winners for their superbly defining excellence in Irish Studies. You will also note that a fourth prize has been awarded to an additional former president Maureen Murphy in honor of her mentor and equally esteemed former president Robert Rhodes.

Finally, I wish to thank all of you for being an executive committee that I have privileged to work with over the past half-year. We are striving to justify your confidence in us as responsible stewards of the organization. But to make sure we are on the right track, do keep tabs on us via the Web site - www.aicst.com.

You are, respectively, Nancy Curtin

LIMERICK PREPARATIONS

Preparations for ACIS Limerick 2000 (June 26–July 1, 2000) are now proceeding apace. The Program Committee is finalizing the selection of panels and individual papers. The President of Ireland, Mary McAleese, has agreed to be patron of the conference. She has been invited to perform the official opening on Tuesday evening, June 27th, prior to a gala concert in the University Concert Hall at UL featuring the Irish Chamber Orchestra, Professor Michael Golson of the Irish World Music Centre at UL, and a presentation of music and song associated with the life and work of James Joyce, introduced by Senator David Norris.

The plenary speakers (in order of appearance and with provisional titles of their papers) are: Jane E. Davidson, Jr., Professor of History, University of Wisconsin-Madison, on "The Troubled Contemporay Irish Catholic Church"; David Lloyd, Harry Burr Alexander Chair in the Humanities ("Catholic and the Taming of Times: National Maxivism and the Making Back of History"); Pat O'Connor, Professor of Sociology & Social Policy, University of Limerick, on "Ireland: a man's world?"; and Monica McWilliams, Professor of Social & Community Science, University of Ulster at Jordanstown, on "The Role of Women in Northern Irish Politics".

ACIS Limerick 2000 will commence with a reception on the evening of Monday June 26th and the final event will be a banquet in the Basserton Fitzpatrick Hotel on Saturday, July 1st at which the guest speaker will be Professor Gerard O' Tuathail of NUI, Galway, a distinguished and eloquent native of Limerick City, well-known to members of ACIS.

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**Conference of German Linguistics 2000**

The Centre for Applied Language Studies, University of Limerick, Ireland will be hosting the 25th Conference of German Linguistics na Gaedel on 14 and 15 April 2000, the fifth conference in the series. Papers would be welcome from scholars specialising in aspects of the linguistics of Irish, Scots, English, and German. The conference will focus on the linguistics of Germanic: Irish, Scottish or German. Any linguistic field is included. Abstracts are not to exceed 200 words and should include the title and a short summary (max. 300 words), in any of the three Germanic languages, English, or Irish. The Conference Secretary before 1 February 2000. Further information is available from the conference website: http://www.altd/seylam/consbdl.html and from the Conference Secretary, Prof. David O'flynn, Institute of Limerick and the Department of Linguistics.

**Canadian Association for Irish Studies, Conference 2000**

One of the themes of the 2000 Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities is "Globalization." We'd like to pick up on that, and propose "Globalization and Pluralism" as the theme of this year's Canadian Association for Irish Studies Annual Conference to be held on 25-27 May 2000, at the University of Alberta, Edmonton. We are open to a wide variety of presentations, from re-considerations of the influence of the French Revolution on the United States and Samuel Beckett's reception in France to the role of European unification. Irish politics or economics. We'd be especially interested in some of the following topics:

- *Ireland in the face of the European Union or other multinational consolidations*
- *Irish women's movements in the context of international feminisms*
- *Immigration/emigration and the transformation of Irish culture*
- *Irish/English translation into Quebec French, or Ireland's translation into Canadian English*
- *Writers, artists and other intellectuals in exile*
- *The internationalisation of the Irish national, cultural and sexual identities; new methodological approaches which cross the borders between traditional disciplines; border dialogues with writing from other countries. To mark its bicentenary, papers are particularly welcome which look at the literary consequences and treatment of the Act of Union. Proposal of no more than 300 words (max. 350 words) should be sent by 15 January to: Dr. Neil Sammler, Faculty of Humanities, Bath University, Bath University, Bath BA2 7JF, UK. Tel: 01225-875503; fax: 01225-875662; e-mail: n.sammler@bath.ac.uk.

Contact Summer School

Aug 7-11, 2000. Prof. Robert Welch, University of Ulster at Coleraine, and Senator David Norris, Dublin, will be the keynote speakers on Monday and Tuesday, respectively. Dr. Jack Johnathan Clogher Historian, will direct the Colerain Summer School on Thursday morning and afternoon. Leon MacAuley, poet and broadcaster, will provide the evening event, Your Book and Mine, on the 19th century novel on late afternoon. A harp recital and vocal events will be held at the historic Fort Chillingworth, adjacent to the conference hotel. Thursday evening, Gordon Brand speaks on Thursday morning. An evening of ballads, songs and readings will be held at Mc Sorley's Tavern, Clogher, on Thursday evening. Prof. Owen Dudley Edwards, University of Kent, will be the final key note speaker on Friday afternoon.

Interests: Latin may contact Dr. Robin Marsh, Director of the CSS, at 3 Viewfield, Maryville, Dunbeath BT71 6LP, N. Ireland, tel 011-44-1468-722964.

Central Euroean Conference on Language and Literature

The Central European Conference on Language and Literature will be held on Thursday, 19 November 2000 in Cortland, New York. The Chair of the following sessional panel of Irish interest are seeking papers from faculty and qualified graduate students. Journeys: travel memoirs, Modern Irish Drama. Kathryn Farley. 807 Church St. #509, Evansville IN 47712. Dr.K-Farley@evu.edu

Modern Irish Women. Sigrid M. King. 3161 Melwood Ave., Pittsburgh PA 15213. sking@carlow.edu

James Joyce. Del Janik. English Dept., Carlow College, SUNY, P.O. Box 200, Cortland NY 13045. janikd@carlow.edu

Irish American Women. Margaret A. Kennedy. Eng. 32 E Madison St., Ocmoowon WI 53066. slbenr@swm.net

Special-session proposals on Irish-literature subjects are welcome.

To receive an application sheet, please contact the director, Alex Conner, aconnor@cornell.edu Please note that there will likely be at least one session devoted to the Jewish time slot and that other sessions of related interest will be held, such as the Colonial and Postcolonial Literatures, AutoBiography, The Novel, etc.
constitutes the oldest vernacular literature in Western Europe and Irish writers have produced the richest literature in English in the twentieth century. Yet the terms Irish and English are both contested in Ireland because language, history, culture, and the very idea of nation are themselves contested as they are in many countries with a polarized history. This volume will explore continuities and fractures, linkages and displacements, across Ireland’s divided linguistic and cultural heritage. Submissions related to all facets of language, literature, history, and culture are welcome.

Topics may include folklore, multilingualism, transculturation, and translation. Celtic Studies topics and studies of literature in Irish of all periods related to these issues are especially encouraged, as are theoretical essays on questions ranging from the stability and evolution of tradition across linguistic boundaries to the definitions of history in a multicultural community.

Interested scholars are invited to send abstracts of 500-750 words -- articulating their intended arguments -- by May 1, 2000. Authors of selected abstracts will be expected to submit completed essays by Nov. 1, 2000 (Samhain). For further information, contact: Maria Tymoczko, 28 Pomeroy Terrace, Northampton, MA 01060, 413-586-3908, 413-584-5495 (fax), tymoczko@compil.umass.edu or Colin Ireland, Beaver College CEA, 6 Clare St., Dublin 2, Ireland, 353-1-676-8875, 353-1-676-4181 (fax), cireland@beaver.ie

Fellowships and Scholarships at QUB
The Institute of Irish Studies at The Queen’s University of Belfast, offers two, one-year senior visiting research fellowships open to researchers in any field of Irish Studies. Candidates must be established scholars of senior standing with a strong publications record. Senior fellowships have a current value of £16,500. Additionally, up to three one-year fellowships are available, with an annual value of £12,500, normally held by post-doctoral candidates continuing their studies to prepare materials for publication. The Mary McNeill Scholarship in Irish Studies, open to American or Canadian students enrolled in the one-year MA degree in Irish Studies at Queen’s carries a value of £2,500.

Summer School
Plans are firmly in place for an annual summer school in Irish Studies with an added dimension from a Northern Irish perspective. This 3-week summer school will be based at the Institute of Irish Studies, QUB and is expected to take place at the end of July to early August 2000. Please contact Ms. Catherine Boone, The Institute of Irish Studies, The Queen’s University of Belfast, 8 Fitzwilliam Street, Belfast BT9 6AW, Northern Ireland; phone 011-44-1232-273386, fax 01144-1232-439238; e-mail: irish.studies@qub.ac.uk; Web site: http://www.qub.ac.uk/iis