

# American Conference for Irish Studies

## 33<sup>rd</sup> Western Regional Meeting

October 19-22, 2017

Davenport Hotel

Spokane, Washington



Sponsored by the American Conference for Irish Studies; Washington State University; Consulate General of Ireland, San Francisco

## **ACIS 2017 Conference Schedule**

### **Thursday, October 19**

6:00-7:00 p.m. Registration and Reception

7:00 to 8:00 p.m. **Film: Seamus Scanlon, *The Long, Wet Grass* (moderator: Brian McCabe)**

### **Friday, October 20, 2017**

8:00-9:00 Light Breakfast

9:00-10:30

#### **Panel 1 (Room A)**

##### **1. Political Work (Moderator: Caleb Wood Richardson, University of New Mexico)**

Ely M. Janis (Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts), “Henry George, Irish Americans Radicalism, and the 1886 New York Mayoral Campaign”

Patrick McGrath (Rutgers), Revolt and Reconciliation: Irish-American Radicals and Roman Catholicism in New York, 1880-1900

Kenneth L. Shonk (University of Wisconsin-La Crosse), *Ireland’s Love of Freedom*—Europeanization and Ireland’s Rejection of the ‘Shadow Metropole’”

Emily Lucitt (UCLA), “Something that Connolly would have liked”: Social activism and historical experience in Dublin, 2016

#### **Panel 2 (Room B)**

##### **“Dramatizing Labor” (Moderator: Sarah L. Townsend, University of New Mexico)**

Nelson Barre (University of Oregon), “Let’s now rehearse”: Enda Walsh’s *The Last Hotel* and Finding Identity in Death

Charlotte J. Headrick (Oregon State University), “Charabanc’s *Lay Up Your Ends*: Dramatizing Labor History”

Charles Andrews (Whitworth University), Executing Justice: Law and Grace at Work in Martin McDonagh’s *A Behanding in Spokane* and *Hangmen*

10:30-10:45 Break

10:45-12:00

#### **Roundtable I: “Union”: An Interdisciplinary Roundtable**

Moderator: Sarah L. Townsend (University of New Mexico)

Nick Harrington (Washington State University), Maria Szasz (University of New Mexico), John L. Murphy (DeVry University), Brian McCabe (Claremont Graduate University) and Caleb Richardson (University of New Mexico).

12:00-1:15: Lunch on your own

1:15-2:45

#### **Panel 3 (Room A)**

##### **The Working Class. (Moderator: Kenneth Shonk, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse)**

Kelly J. Hunnings (UNM), “Domestic Space, Transnational Subscription: Linking Mary Barber, Ireland, and the Laboring-Class Poetic Tradition”

Jeanne Armstrong (Western Washington University), “Voice of the 1890s Irish-American Working Class: Use of Oral Tradition by Finley Peter Dunne’s Fictional Bridgeport Bartender, Mr. Dooley, to Create a Living History of Bridgeport”

Camilla Groth (City University of New York, Bronx Community College), “After-Work Craic: Gentrification, Multi-Cultural Encounters, and Community in Irish Pubs in Queens, New York A Sociological Approach”

Maureen Curtin (State University of New York-Oswego), “Unearthing the Socialist Inheritance Buried in the Canon of Irish American Literature: Revisiting Jack Conroy’s *The Disinherited*”

#### **Panel 4 (Room B)**

##### **Irish Literature and Work. (Moderator: Heather Corbally Bryant, Wellesley)**

Miriam O’Kane Mara (Arizona State University), “Farming and the academy: “what work is” in contemporary Ireland”

Nolan Goetzinger (University of Wyoming), “I see you. For. What. You. Are.”: *A Girl Is a Half-Formed Thing* and Bill Brown’s “Thing Theory”

Sandra L. Sprayberry (Birmingham-Southern College), “Work in ‘The Stolen Child’”

2:45-3:00 Coffee Break

3:00-4:15 **Poetry Reading:** Heather Corbally Bryant (Wellesley College)

#### **4:15-5:15 Business Meeting**

**5:30-6:30. Plenary, David Brundage, "The Cause of Ireland is the Cause of Labour": Irish American Workers and the Irish Revolution, 1916-1923 (Moderator: Caleb Wood Richardson, University of New Mexico)**

**6:30 RECEPTION, sponsored by the Consulate General of Ireland, San Francisco, with thanks to Consul General: Robert O'Driscoll**



Dinner on your own

#### **Saturday, Oct. 21**

8:00-9:00 Light Breakfast

9:00-10:30

#### **Panel 5 (Room A)**

##### **Women’s Work (Moderator: Amy May, Washington State University)**

Heather Corbally Bryant (Wellesley College), Paying the Bills: Examining the Economic and Feministic Intersectional Space in the Later Works of Elizabeth Bowen

Donna Campbell (Washington State University), Performing Irishness: Winnifred Eaton (Onoto Watanna), Annie Batterman Lindsay, and Western Women’s Regionalism

Camille Harrigan (Concordia University), Through The Lens of Gender : Feminism, Sexism and Performativity in Louise O’Neill’s novels “Only Ever Yours” and “Asking For It”

Mary Power (University of New Mexico), “Tana French’s New Dublin Detectives: Murder Squad”

## **Panel 6 (Room B)**

### **The Work of Cooking and Consumption (Moderator: Audrey Eyler, Pacific Lutheran University)**

Mary Wack (Washington State University), “Beyond the Stereotypes: The Work of an Irish Boardinghouse Cook--Manual, Economic, Symbolic”

Michael Robinson (UC Riverside), Tensions of Hospitality and Liminality in James Joyce’s “Clay”

Michael Taylor (WSU), "The Figgy Duff and The Jigg's Dinner: How the Irish and The English learned to co-exist in Newfoundland."

Donna L. Potts (WSU), “Sacramental Subversion in Joyce’s *Dubliners* and Alexie’s *Smoke Signals*”

10:30-10:45: Coffee and tea break

10:45-12:00

**ROUNDTABLE II: “Why I Chose Irish Studies”** Chairs: Brian McCabe (Claremont Graduate University) and Kathy Heining (George Fox); Matt Horton (Berkeley); James P. Walsh (San Jose State University); Camille Harrigan (Concordia University)

12:00-1:15: Lunch

1:15-2:45

## **Panel 7. Irish America (Moderator: John L. Murphy, DeVry University)**

Tracey McHenry and Brian Donahue (Eastern Washington University), “Gaelic’s Influence in the American West”

Maria Szasz, (UNM Honors College), “JFK at 100: Reflections on the Profile in Courage Award.”

Anne Flaherty (Kehoe Foundation), “Pennsylvania's 'Molly Maguires': Fact vs. Fiction”

## **Panel 8. Colm Toibin’s *Brooklyn*: The Book, the Film, and the Postcolonial Dimension (Moderator: Donna L. Potts, Washington State University)**

Alex Hester (WSU), Madison Jackson (WSU), Sara Quenzer (WSU), Cameron Hawkins (WSU)

2:45-3:00 Coffee Break

**3:00-4:00: Plenary 2: Erin Wecker “The Trouble with Invisible Labor: Irish Women's Work beyond the Emotional, Communal, and Spiritual” (Moderator: Charlotte Headrick)**

**4:15-5:15: Moya Cannon**

**5:15-6:45**

**FILM: 1916: *The Irish Rebellion***

**7:00 BANQUET**

# Biographical Notes, Plenaries and Poetry Readings

## David Brundage



David Brundage is Professor of History at the University of California, Santa Cruz. A specialist in the areas of U.S. working-class and Irish diaspora history, he is the author of *The Making of Western Labor Radicalism: Denver's Organized Workers, 1878-1905* (University of Illinois Press, 1994) and a co-author of *Who Built America? Working People and the Nation's Economy, Politics, Culture and Society* (Pantheon, 1989-92). His most recent book, *Irish Nationalists in America: The Politics of Exile, 1798-1998* (Oxford University Press, 2016), was named by *Choice Magazine* as an “Outstanding Academic Title” of the year and

described by the *Irish Times* as a major work that “challenges us to rethink the history of Irish nationalism and its far-flung supporters, and to ponder its present and future.”

## Moya Cannon



**Moya Cannon** has published five collections of poetry. Her most recent collection, *Keats Lives*, was published by Carcanet Press, Manchester, in 2015 and her *Collected Poems* will be published by Carcanet Press in 2018.

She was born in Co. Donegal and now lives in Dublin. She was educated in Co. Donegal, at University College, Dublin, where she studied history and politics, and at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, where she was awarded an M. Phil in International Relations. For many years she taught in a special school for adolescent traveller children in Galway, Ireland. She has also been

Director of the International Writers' Course at the National University of Ireland, Galway.

Central to her writing is our ongoing dialogue with the earth and sea, as evidenced by her preoccupations with archaeology and geology. Her work sings of deep connections—the impulse to ritual and pattern that, across centuries, defines us as human, a web of interdependences that sustain the ‘gratuitous beauty’ of the planet. She has a deep interest in visual art and music and has collaborated and performed with traditional Irish singers Mairéad and Tríona Ní Dhomhnaill, with harper, Kathleen Loughnane and also with the Galway-based ConTempo String Quartet.

A winner of the Brendan Behan Award and the O'Shaughnessy Award, she has edited Poetry Ireland Review and was 2011 Heimbold Professor of Irish Studies at Villanova University, P.A.. She is frequently invited to read at international conferences and poetry festivals and her work has been widely translated. A bilingual Spanish/English edition of her poems, *Aves de Invierno, Winter Birds*, translated by Jorge Fondebrider, was published by *Pre-Textos*, Valencia, in 2015. A bilingual German/English selected poems *Ein privates Land/ A Private Country*, translated by Eric Giebel and Eva Bourke, will be published in September 2017 and a volume of Portuguese translations by Luci Collin will be published in Brazil during August, 2017.



## Heather Corbally Bryant



Heather Corbally Bryant (formerly Heather Bryant Jordan) teaches in the Writing Program at Wellesley College. She received her A.B. from Harvard, and her PhD from the University of Michigan. She has given academic papers and poetry readings in Ireland throughout the United States.

She published *How Will the Heart Endure: Elizabeth Bowen and the Landscape of War*, (University of Michigan Press, 1992). She also has six books of poetry either published or forthcoming: *Cheap Grace*, The Finishing Line Press, (2011); *Lottery Ticket*, The Parallel Press Poetry Series of the University of Wisconsin Libraries (2013); *Compass Rose*, The Finishing Line Press (2016). *My Wedding Dress*, her first full-length volume of poetry was published in 2017, and *Thunderstorm*, her second full-length volume, is forthcoming from The Finishing Line Press in 2017; later in 2017, The Finishing Line Press will publish her chapbook, *Eve's Lament*. Her work of creative non-fiction, *You Can't Wrap Fire in Paper*,

will be published in early 2018, as well as her new forward to the reissue of her grandmother's autobiography, *Assigned to Adventure*, originally published in 1938.

## Erin Costello Wecker



Erin Costello Wecker is an Assistant Professor of English and the Director of Composition at the University of Montana. She earned an M.A. in Irish Studies at Boston College and a Ph.D. in Rhetoric and Composition at the University of New Hampshire.

Dr. Wecker's research interests include: Irish Studies, Feminist Rhetorics and Pedagogies, Studies of Gender and Sexuality in Rhetoric and Composition, Survivance Rhetorics, and Trauma Narratives.

Professor Wecker is a member of Conference on College Composition and Communication, the Coalition of Women Scholars in the History of Rhetoric and Composition, the

National Council of Teachers of English, the Rhetoric Society of America, and the International Society for the History of Rhetoric.

Her digital project, "Conscious Cleansing: Rhetorics of Reconciliation and Ireland's Magdalen Laundries" was honored by the Coalition of Feminist Scholars in the History of Rhetoric & Composition in the best new work showcase of 2015.

Her publications include: "Reclaiming Magdalenism or Washing Away Sin: Magdalen Laundries and the Rhetorics of Feminine Silence." *Women's Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal* and "Fashion Forward? Misogyny in American Fashion and Beauty." (ABC-CLIO/Greenwood)

Dr. Wecker has presented her research on Ireland's Magdalen laundries at numerous conferences including: Feminisms and Rhetorics, the Rhetoric Society of America, and the International Society for the History of Rhetoric.

The I.W. W. hall below is still standing, at 821 1/2 W. Riverside Ave. The 2-story bldg. has "1892" at the top center.

