

IRISH FULBRIGHT NEWS

Newsletter of the Irish Fulbright Alumni Association

Number 17

Spring 2005

From the Editor

Welcome to the Spring 2005 edition of Irish Fulbright News. Included here are dates for your diary over the coming months, brief reports on the Association's activities in the period since the last newsletter as well as Fulbrighters in the News.

Having signalled to the Committee during 2004 that I wished to step down as newsletter editor after serving in the role for the last three years, this is my last newsletter as editor. I have enjoyed my role as editor and look forward to future Fulbright events. Items for the newsletter can be sent to me for the moment as I will be working with the new editor, John O'Loughlin-Kennedy, to ensure a smooth transition. John has some excellent ideas for the development of the newsletter and I wish him the very best in the role.

Beir bua agus beannacht.

Dr. Ciarán Ó hÓgartaigh
DCU

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Dates for your diary

DCU-Fulbright seminar The Helix, 3rd March 2005

On Thursday, 3rd March, DCU will host a seminar as part of its Innovation and the Public Space Series. The seminar entitled 'Innovation and Regulation' will be presented by Professor William Murphy of the Pierce Law Center, New Hampshire, with Lia O'Hegarty, Fulbright alumna and legal advisor to the Houses of the Oireachtas in the Chair. Further details of the seminar are enclosed.

The seminar will begin at 7 p.m. and will be followed by a wine reception. For those arriving early, refreshments and sandwiches may be purchased in the Helix Bar.

Fulbright Annual Dinner, Dublin Castle, Friday 10th June

The Annual Fulbright Dinner is planned for Dublin Castle on Friday, 10th June. Further details will be circulated in due course.

IFAA AGM

The Association's AGM is currently in the pall. Details of date and venue will be circulated to members in due course.

Fulbright Centenary Concert and Art Exhibition: 31st March 2005

Background: In April we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of US Senator J William Fulbright, founder of the flagship international Fulbright Educational Exchange Programme. To mark the occasion, the Fulbright Commission, in association with the Irish Fulbright Alumni Association, is planning a *Fulbright Centenary Concert and Art Exhibition* to showcase the Irish and American Fulbright artists, musicians and poets who have participated in the Programme. Many of these are now established international artists and we are very pleased with their level of interest and commitment to participate in the event. They have all agreed to participate without any fees.

Date and Venue: The concert will take place on the evening of **Thursday 31st March 2005** in the **RHA Gallagher Gallery**, Ely Place. We

expect around 200 guests to attend the concert and the opening of the art exhibition, including representatives from the higher education sector, public representatives, sponsors of Fulbright Programmes, Irish and US Fulbright alumni, and the media. The art exhibition, on the theme **TRANS-ATLANTIC**, will remain in situ in the RHA for an additional number of days and will be open to the general public.

Expected Participants:

Musicians: The following musicians have agreed to participate in the concert:

- Mr Donal Bannister - Trombone
- Ms Padraigin Caesar - Harp
- Professor Therese Fahy - Piano
- Ms Catherine Leonard - Violin
- Ms Gabriela Mayer - Piano
- Ms Riona O'Dunnin - Flute
- Mr Nicholas O'Halloran - Piano
- Ms Anne Marie Phelan - Violin
- Mr Gerald Peregrine - Cellist
- Ms Rachael Quinn - Piano

Professor Therese Fahy, Royal Irish Academy of Music, will co-ordinate the musical performance. It is proposed to have two pianos and to have a series of duets ad

chamber groups in order to accommodate all of the musicians.

Artists: The following artists have agreed to participate:

- Mr Paul Gregg
- Mr Brendan Earley
- Mr Brian Kreydatus
- Mr Darragh Hogan
- Ms Katie Holten
- Mr Eamon O'Kane

Mr Paul Gregg will act as curator for the art exhibition.

Poet: Trevor Joyce, member of Aosdana

Eamon Lawlor of Lyric FM will act as MC for the evening.

Asian Tsunami disaster

On the initiative of the Association's President, Professor John Hurley, the IFAA sent a note of sympathy and solidarity to our sister associations in Sir Lanka, Thailand and Indonesia stating, in part, that 'our Fulbright alumni and scholars here in Ireland send our condolences to current grantees from the regions affected, and to those with family members still among the missing and we offer our prayers for their safety. Our deepest and most compassionate thoughts are with you all.'

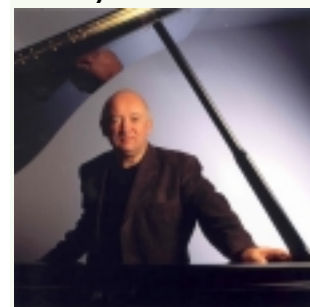
News and events

National Concert Hall, 18th October, 2004

The Association's opening event for the year was the John O'Connor Concert in the National Concert Hall. John played the Beethoven Piano Sonatas wonderfully and our large attendance enjoyed it immensely.

We attended as guests of the National Concert Hall and we are very grateful for this important gesture of support by the NCH for the Fulbright Programme in Ireland.

Beethoven Piano Sonata Series 2004/2005



John O'Connor, piano

Fulbright Lecture on US Presidential Election

Mr Jerry Hagstrom presented a lecture on the US Presidential Election in the boardroom in Brooklawn House on 13th October. Mr Hagstrom is a journalist, book author and commentator on American government

and political life. He pioneered the coverage of the polling and media consulting industries for National Journal, and he has lectured extensively in the US and internationally on modern U.S. political campaigns.

The event was attended by representatives from the higher education sector, the public service, Irish Fulbright alumni and current US Fulbright students and scholars.

Reception for Fulbright Patrons and Friends

On Tuesday 7th December a reception for Fulbright Patrons and Friends was held at the residence of Mr Jonathan S Benton, DCM, US Embassy and his wife Mrs Anne Simmons-Benton. The guest of honour was the US Ambassador to Ireland, H.E. James C Kenny. The event was very well attended by representatives of the Irish higher education sector, sponsors, Fulbright alumni and the current US Fulbright

students and scholars. We are very appreciative of the generosity of Mr Benton and his wife for making their beautiful home available for the occasion.

Annual Thanksgiving Dinner

The Annual Thanksgiving Dinner, kindly organised by Dr. Maeve Martin (NUIM), was held in the historic Pugin Hall at NUI Maynooth on 26th November, 2004. Fifty Fulbright alumni, scholars and friends celebrated in great spirits.

The dinner was attended by Professor John Hughes, President of NUI Maynooth. Preceded by a wine reception, the dinner consisted of traditional fare including pumpkin soup, followed by turkey with sweet potato on the side. A dandy time was had by all and the guests left in a suitably thankful mood.

Alan Zimmerman at DIT



Pictured above at the Zimmerman launch (l to r): Prof. Brian Norton (President, DIT), Mr. Paul O'Sullivan (Director, Faculty of Business, DIT), Prof. Alan Zimmerman, Ms. Carmel Coyle (Fulbright Commission) and Dr. Frank McMahon (Director, Academic Affairs, DIT).

Marketing at the global level was the focus of two events centring on the work of Prof. Alan Zimmerman (CUNY-Staten Island and 2004 Visiting Fulbright Scholar at DIT-Aungier Street). 24th November marked the launch of Alan and co-author James Blythe's (Glamorgan University) book, titled *Business Marketing Management: A Global Perspective*. Growing out of their collective academic and practical experience, the book is the first in the business-to-business field with an international orientation. Alan also delivered a public lecture on market entry to the US in which he provided an illuminating picture of the US economy from an Irish perspective.

Paul Donnelly, DIT



Pictured (left) at the Thanksgiving Dinner: Professor John Hurley (President, IFAA), Professor John Hughes and Dr. Maeve Martin (NUI Maynooth).

Fulbrighters in the News

Photographed below: *Lia O'Hegarty and John MacMenamin on the occasion of their wedding in Rome.*

Photo by
www.marknixon.com



Donal O'Mahony
appointed director of
major SFI Telecomms
Research Center.

Prof. Donal O'Mahony, a 1998 Fulbrighter from the Computer Science Department in Trinity College, was recently appointed director of the Centre for Telecommunications Value Chain Research (CTVR). This is a very significant centre funded to the tune of €20 million

over a 5-year period and represents the largest award for research work made to-date by Science Foundation Ireland. It will involve a team of some 80 PhD students and postdoctoral researchers across 8 Irish universities and third-level institutes. The centre is closely associated with an IDA-backed initiative to establish a branch of the world-renowned Bell Labs in Ireland in Dublin. Professor O'Mahony credits his Fulbright experience at Stanford University in 1998/99 as being hugely important in preparing him for the task of creating this centre with its major links to the U.S. research community.

Donal can be contacted at Donal.OMahony@cs.tcd.ie. The Centre's website is <http://ctvr.tcd.ie>.

Items for Fulbrighters in the News are always welcome: please forward details to ciaran.ohogartaigh@dcu.ie.

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