Welcome to our new students!

We’re delighted to welcome to the School all new students who have registered with the university this month: nearly 180 undergraduates, over 60 MAs and 9 PhDs. You’re all very welcome to the History and Anthropology community and we hope you enjoy your time with us!

And an especially warm welcome to all our visiting International and ERASMUS undergraduate students. They are: Noemi Rohner, Fabienne Schwizer and Jonas Stockli (Basel), Sona Medvedova (Ostrava), Florian Darruyre (Bordeaux), Giannikopaulos Panagiotis (Athens), Giuliano Buzzao (Venice), Bjorn Ekdahl and Johanna Rosenblad (Stockholm), Zeynep Otuoglu (Istanbul), Danielle Bender (Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN), Heidi Kobor (Queen’s University, Kingston, Ontario), Kathryn Mitchell (Mills College, Oakland, CA), Carlie Sulpizio (Southwestern University, Georgetown, TX), Jessica Uzelman (University of Alberta) and Christina Winberry (Bryn Mawr College, PA). We hope you enjoy your time with us here in Belfast.

Staff news:

This semester we welcome three new members of staff to the School:

Dr Olwen Purdue joins the staff as temporary lecturer in Irish social and economic history. Olwen is a graduate of QUB and has previously been with the School as a research assistant on the ‘Welfare regimes under the Irish Poor Law’ project, and as a Fellow of the Institute of Irish Studies. She is the author of The Big House in the north of Ireland: land, power and elites 1878-1960 (Dublin, 2009), and is currently researching the welfare history of later 19th and early 20th-century Belfast and editing a volume on Belfast’s urban history.

Dr James Ward joins us as temporary lecturer in modern European history, with particular responsibility for teaching eastern European and Russian history. He holds his PhD from Stanford University in California and has taught previously at Stanford and De Pauw Universities. James is a specialist in the history of eastern Europe in the era of the second world war, and is preparing for publication his monograph on the clerical-fascist leader of wartime Slovakia, Josef Tiso.
Prof Des Bell, emeritus professor of film studies at QUB, joins the Institute of Irish Studies as research assistant on the AHRC-funded ‘Enigma of Frank Ryan’ documentary project, which is directed by Dr Fearghal McGarry. Des is an internationally renowned documentary filmmaker, and has recently caused a splash on campus by having the Whitla Hall draped with swastikas (as a stand-in for 1940s Berlin) as part of the film shoot.

September also saw the retirement from teaching of Liam Kennedy, who becomes our Professor Emeritus of Economic History. Liam has been teaching at Queen’s for thirty years, initially in the former Department of Economic and Social History, and has taught many generations of undergraduate and postgraduate students, as well as publishing widely in the economic and demographic history of modern Ireland, while finding time to play an active part in the political life of the city. We’re delighted that Liam will continue to be an active member of the School community as professor emeritus.

Student news:

Congratulations on Alan Russell (BA Ancient and Modern History, 2011; currently MA Ancient History), who has won the Undergraduate Awards for Ireland and Northern Ireland 2011 prize in Ancient and Classical Studies. Also to Dominic Henry (BA History and Politics), who has taken this year’s award in International Relations and Politics. These are major achievements and we are delighted to hear that Alan and Dominic have won the All-Ireland competition in their categories. They will be presented with their awards on 28 October by President Mary McAleese. Well done also to Catherine Lamont, Adam Cooke and Dominic Henry, all of whom were shortlisted in the Historical Studies category.

Congratulations to Amelia-Roisin Seifert (MA Social Anthropology), who has recently been awarded a small project research grant from Alcohol Research UK, to work with the School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work on a project entitled: ‘Feasibility Study: Cultivating new lives - investigating eco-therapy as a form of alcohol rehabilitation in Northern Ireland – An ethnographic assessment of existing provisions’

Joshua Montague-Munson (BA Modern History 2011) has been awarded a British Commission for Maritime History Prize for Undergraduate Achievement, for his dissertation on ‘The early years of the South Sea Company’. Well done to him.

Bree Hocking (PhD, Irish Studies) received the postgraduate essay prize of the Anthropology Association of Ireland, for her work on the reimagining of Derry/Londonderry’s Diamond War Memorial.

Many thanks to all the 3rd year students who have volunteered to take part in the new School Peer-mentoring initiative this semester. By their hoodies shall ye know them.

PhDs started:

Welcome to our incoming PhD students starting in September. They are:

- Lisa Bogert, ‘Investigating the semiotics of food and alcohol in the construction of Irish-American identity from the beginning of the 20th century’ (Supervisor: Dr Anthony Stononis)
- Leanne Calvert, ‘Gender and the 18th-century Ulster Presbyterian community’ (Supervisor: Prof Mary O’Dowd)
Hilary Foye, ‘Christianity, conflict and community: Expressions of faith, emotion and personhood in the contemporary church’ (Supervisor: Prof Fiona Magowan)

Stuart Irwin, ‘Belfast Corporation, 1880-1914: managing a mature industrial city’ (Supervisor: Prof Sean Connolly)

Raymond Lennon, ‘Emotions and conflict in Northern Ireland’, (Supervisor: Dr Maruska Svasek).

Patrick Leonard, ‘Missionaries and inculturated forms: a volatile and revealing relationship’ (Supervisor: Prof Fiona Magowan)

Grace McGrath, ‘Power, profit and plantocracy: the second earl of Belmore and Jamaican slavery’ (Supervisor: Prof Catherine Clinton)

Kerron Ó Luain, ‘The Fenians of 19th-century Ulster: their rise and fall’ (Supervisor: Prof. Sean Connolly)

Evanthia Patsioura, ‘Constructing selves through a musical diaspora: Experiencing music as a Nigerian immigrant in Athens’ (Supervisor: Dr Suzel Reily)

Research news:

Publications – books:


In 1947 the Bureau of Military History was established by the Irish government to record the experiences of those who took part in the fight for independence. In 1959, the results of this research – including 1,773 ‘witness statements’ – were placed in 83 steel boxes and locked into a strongroom in Government Buildings. *Rebels*, edited by one of Ireland’s top young historians, brings the best of the surviving accounts of the Easter Rising together into a comprehensive, accessible and thrillingly readable telling of that much-debated insurrection, the first in a series of events that brought about Irish independence. From the witnesses’ recollections of their schooling and other childhood influences to their accounts of what happened at Easter 1916, *Rebels* tells this famous story in a new and exhilarating way.

- The US paperback of Keith Jeffery’s *The Secret History of MI6* has been published by Penguin.

Publications – articles and chapters:


- Mary O’Dowd, editor (with Krassimira Daskalova and Daniela Koleva) of special issue of *Women’s History Review*, 20, no 4 (September 2011). Papers from the 2007 conference of the International Federation for Research in Women’s History held in the University of Sofia, Bulgaria.

- Paulo Sousa and Lauren Swiney (PhD, ICC), ‘Thought insertion: Abnormal sense of thought agency or thought endorsement?’, *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences*. (Online first publication, 21 September 2011)

Conferences, seminars and public lectures:

- **Dominic Bryan** spoke at the 2011 **EFACIS Conference** in Salford, giving the paper: ‘A St Patrick’s Day Carnival: shared ‘multicultural’ space in Belfast?’

- **Hastings Donnan** gave presentations on the impact of research assessment to the **Development Studies Association** meeting, University of Manchester, and to the **Association of Social Anthropologists of the UK and Commonwealth** meeting, University College London.

- **Bree Hocking** (PhD Irish Studies) gave a paper titled ‘**The aesthetics of peace: Policy, power and public art in “post-conflict” Northern Ireland**’ at the conference **From Conflict to Peace: Innovative Approaches to Peace Building** at Georgetown University, Washington DC.

- **Keith Jeffery** spoke at the **Chief of the Australian Army’s History Conference** in Canberra on 'The imperial conference and the committee of imperial defence and the continental commitment'; he gave a public lecture on MI6 and a lecture on terrorism and intelligence at the **Australian National University**; and a public lecture on MI6 at the **Lowry Institute for Security Studies**, Sydney. He also gave a keynote lecture at the **York University Cultural History Conference**, on 'Espionage and conspiracy'.

- **Justin Lane** (PhD, ICC) presented a poster at the second annual conference for **Complex Systems in Cognitive Science** entitled “**Ordo ab chao: Ritual Competence Theory as a cognitive model for the simulation of religious sociality**” in Boston, MA. (USA).

- **Sean O’Connell** was invited to a workshop at **St Hilda’s College, Oxford** to take part in a new interdisciplinary and international network examining social mobility, aspiration and inequality. The workshop produced a research project grant proposal. International collaborators include scholars from Monash University, Australia and the Free University of Brussels.

- **Jim O’Neill** (PhD History) presented a paper entitled ‘**Trailing pike and turning kern: Military acculturation in the Nine Years War**’ at the **Tudor and Stuart Ireland Conference**, held in UCD.

- **Mary-Kathryn Rallings** (PhD, Irish Studies) spoke on ‘**The role of space in conflict transformation: Competing narratives of space in Northern Ireland**’, at the conference **From Conflict to Peace: Innovative Approaches to Peacebuilding** held at Georgetown University, Washington DC.

- **Jonathan Skinner** gave a paper on ‘**Motility 21: senior citizen social inclusion through social dance**’ at the **EASA Medical Network Conference: Medical Pluralism, Techniques, Politics, Institutions**, at La Sapienza University of Rome, Italy. He also co-authored a paper on ‘**Dancing impatience/in patients: building a new aesthetic in dance through fusion of disability as capacity and wheelchair as creative technology**’ with Dr Jenny Elliott (CEO of Arts Care, NI charity), at the **ASA11: Vital powers and politics: human interactions with living things**, University of Wales, Trinity Saint David. He also gave an invited keynote paper on ‘**Imagination beyond the real**’. This paper was delivered blindfolded at the St Andrews Centre for Cosmopolitan Studies 2011 conference: The Imagination: A universal process of knowledge?, where he is an International Associate.

- **Paulo Sousa** gave a keynote address on “**The evaluative nature of the folk concepts of weakness and strength of will**” at the **Second Workshop of Experimental Philosophy** organized by the Experimental Philosophy Group, University of Sheffield.

- **Maruska Svasek** and **Amit Desai** co-presented the paper ‘**Copying in Kumbakonam: Creation, imitation and improvisation in a South Indian context**’ at the AAI conference in Belfast.

- Building on the collaboration begun with the 2009 Wiles Colloquium, **Todd Weir** convened a panel at the **German Studies Association AGM** in Louisville, KY, on ‘**The politics of immanence: Monism**’. 
Research projects:

- The HERA-funded Creativity and Innovation in a World of Movement (CIM) project, led by Maruska Svasek, intensified connections with two other HERA-funded consortiums, PhotoCLEC (PI Prof Elizabeth Edwards, De Montford University) and Memory at War (PI Prof Alexander Etkind, Cambridge University), preparing a HERA Knowledge Transfer project bid for a conference entitled Disturbing Pasts. Memories, Controversies and Creativity.

Maruska Svasek and Amit Desai also participated in the conference Materiality, Movement, Museum, organized by Prof Oivind Fuglerud at the Museum of Cultural History, Oslo as part of the CIM project, and enabled researchers from the different partner universities (QUB, Oslo, Utrecht, VU Amsterdam, Open University) to discuss ongoing research and exchange research findings with other scholars based in Norway.

Maruska Svasek also spoke at the public symposium ‘(Re)contextualising Art: Anthropology, Art History and the Museum’ in the Tropical Museum in Amsterdam, coordinated by the Amsterdam partners of CIM. She delivered the paper ‘The Global' in Art. A critical perspective from colonial and post-colonial India, and took part in the roundtable discussion with the anthropologist John Picton, (SOAS) and curators Anke Bangma (Tropical Museum, Amsterdam), Jelle Bouwhuis (Stedelijk Museum Bureau Amsterdam) and Georges Petitjean (Museum for Contemporary Aboriginal Art in Utrecht). Issues that were discussed included the modes of evaluation to judge, acquire and display art from “outside.” What tools and criteria should curators use? Is an intimate knowledge of the social and cultural settings in which artists operate essential in valuing their work, as anthropologists tend to argue? A growing number of anthropologists study contemporary art(ists) but what have their contributions been to the formation of new art historical discourses? In short: how can anthropologists, art historians and curators come to a more fruitful cooperation and exchange?

- Bree Hocking and Shawn Reming (PhD Irish Studies) were awarded postgraduate conference funding from QUB for a ROIE conference to be held in March 2012.

- Paulo Sousa has been awarded $150,000 by EOARD—European Office of Aerospace Research & Development, to direct a two-year ICC research project entitled ‘Toward an Understanding of Moral Judgments Concerning Violent Behavior’.

- The Belfast Telegraph featured articles on the AHRC-funded ‘Enigma of Frank Ryan’ project, led by Fearghal McGarry and Des Bell, 2 and 6 Sept. and carried a photo (right) of the Whita Hall standing in for wartime Berlin; the project was also featured in the Sunday Times on 11 September.

External appointments:

- Keith Jeffery was an external examiner for a University of London PhD.

- Fearghal McGarry was external examiner for a PhD thesis in NUI Maynooth.

- Suzel Reily was appointed to the editorial board of the Pacific Review for Ethnomusicology, a peer-reviewed publication edited and managed by Ethnomusicology graduate students at UCLA.

- Paulo Sousa has been appointed to the advisory board of the ESRC project ‘Ritual, Community and Conflict’.
Knowledge transfer / research impact:

- **Paul Corthorn** introduced *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy* at the **Queen’s Film Theatre** on 23 September.
- **Keith Jeffery** was interviewed on **ABC Canberra** (Australia) morning news programme, on his MI6 history.
- **Fearghal McGarry** appeared in the **RTÉ** Irish-language documentary series *'Reabhlóid'* on the killing of Francis Sheehy Skeffington during the Easter Rising of 1916, on 12 September. He was also interviewed about his new book, *Rebels*, on **Moncrieff** (Newstalk FM), **Talking History** (Newstalk FM), **Bookbound** (Dublin City FM) and **Today with Pat Kenny** (RTE Radio 1).
- **Mary O’Dowd** gave a series of presentations on **Culture Night** (23 September) in Dublin on the work and publications of the **Irish Manuscripts Commission**.
- With Ruairí O’Baoill from the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork (QUB), **Jim O’Neill** (PhD History) led walking tours of Belfast Cathedral Quarter as part of **Culture Night** on 23 September. The tours focused on the development of Belfast over 800 years, the layout of the streets and the major events that shaped the city as evidenced by the streetscape and remains uncovered by archaeological excavation.
- **Catherine Clinton** spoke on the legacy of the 9/11 attacks on America, on **BBC Radio Ulster** ‘Sunday Sequence’, 11 Sept. and also on **UTV Live**

International connections:

In addition to our incoming ERASMUS and international students from Canada, the Czech Republic, France, Greece, Italy, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the USA, we are delighted that thirteen students from this School will be spending part of this year on an ERASMUS exchange. They are: Samuel Cullen - **Kobenhavns Universitet**, Denmark; Ginta Elksne - **University of Malta**; Paul Brennan, Daniel McCary and Rachael O’Neil - **Europa-Universität Viadrina**, Frankfurt/Oder, Germany; Bethany Dodds and Deaglan Privilege - **Universiteit van Amsterdam**, Netherlands; Christopher Donnelly and Charles MacGinnis - **Universität Basel**, Switzerland; Alexander Newton and Jasmine Rowlands - **Aarhus Universitet**, Denmark; Patrick Wilson - **Universiteit Utrecht**, Netherlands; and Simon Worthington - **Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Bordeaux**, France. Contact Prof Marie Therese Flanagan if you’d like to take part in next year’s exchanges.

- **Oran Kennedy** (BA Modern History & Politics L2) and **Jessica Sleven** (BA French & Modern History, L3), spent part of June and July as a **Lincoln Intern at Gettysburg College**, Pennsylvania, as part of the School’s US history initiative. Oran commented: ‘This has been one of the most memorable experiences of my entire life’. They enjoyed their time as the third crop of QUB students to travel to Gettysburg to assist with the **Civil War Institute**, a favorite summer program for history buffs for nearly thirty years. Modern history
undergraduates in their first or second years should contact Prof Catherine Clinton (catherineclinton@mac.com) if they are interested in the program for Summer 2012.

Ethnomusicology will be hosting Yuxing Zhao, a Chinese Research Associate from the Center for Studies of Ethnic Minorities in Northwest China of Lanzhou University, throughout the 2011-12 academic year. Ms Zhao will use her time at Queen’s to further her research on the dissemination of the qin, a Chinese zither, outside China since the 19th century, including Ireland. She will also be providing workshops on the qin to ethnomusicology students and members of the Belfast Chinese community.

In order to deepen ties with our partner institution Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, the School has sponsored an exchange series of lectures. The first was given by Todd Weir, who spoke at Vanderbilt in September on ‘Secularism and the “Jewish Question” in late nineteenth century Germany’. We look forward to hosting a Vanderbilt historian at Queen’s later in the year.

Dominic Bryan led a QUB Institute of Irish Studies delegation to our partner institution Georgetown University in Washington DC, to participate in the conference: From Conflict to Peace: Innovative Approaches to Peacebuilding. Papers were given by Dominic, Mary-Kathryn Rallings and Bree Hocking (PhDs Irish Studies). Among other speakers were Senator George Mitchell, Ebrahim Rasool, South African Ambassador to the USA, and Northern Ireland’s own Dawn Purvis. Profs Shane O’Neill and Kieran McEvoy also spoke at the event.

Dom also gave a half-day seminar to students from the West Island College Class Afloat which visited Belfast on 21 September. The 50 students spend 6 months visiting ports and learning about the places they visit.

Student Societies:

The History Society has welcomed well over 100 new members at the Fresher's Bazaar. If any students (at all levels) want to find more about us/join us, they can email us at history-society@qub.ac.uk and/or ‘like’ us on our Facebook page at Facebook.com/qubhistsoc.

Alumni news:

- Jill Bouchillon (MA Modern History, 2009) has been accepted into the PhD program at the University of Stirling, where she recently won a bursary, as she pursues her doctorate in early American history.
- John Harris (MA Modern History, 2008) has secured a Presidential Fellowship at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, where he is pursuing his doctorate in US history.
- William McCorkle (PhD Cognition and Culture, 2007) has recently started as the Director of Experimental Research at Masaryk University's Department for the Study of Religion, in Brno, Czech Republic.
- Sarah Roddy (PhD History 2010), has been appointed to a postdoctoral research assistantship at the University of Manchester on the ESRC-funded project ‘Charitable consumption: innovation in compassion in Britain, 1870-1912’.
- Ioannis Tsoulakis (PhD Ethnomusicology, 2010) has been appointed to a lectureship in Ethnomusicology at University College Cork.
- The research of ICC PhD alumnus Dimitris Xygalatas on ‘Firewalking in Spain’ was shown on Daily Planet/Discovery Channel: http://watch.discoverychannel.ca/clip532082#clip532082

Former QUB Chancellor George Mitchell presides at the Georgetown Conference
Recruitment activities:

- Thanks to all the staff and students who gave their time and energy to make our Open Days on 8-9 September such a success. With over 12,000 sixth formers attending, the campus was certainly buzzing and great interest was shown in our disciplines of History and Anthropology.
- There will be a special Humanities Open Day event for parents and prospective students on Monday 7 November at 6pm in the Whitla Hall.

Forthcoming events in October:

- **First Mondays International Research Forum on Women**, 3.10@16.30 in McClay Auditorium: **Susie Brown** and **Ann Williamson**, ‘Getting out your message’.
- **Reception for School postgrads and staff**, 3.10@17.30 in Physics Building Reception Space.
- **Anthropology Seminar**, 4.10@16.00: **Elisabetta Viggiani** (QUB) ‘Talking stones: the politics of memorialisation in contemporary Northern Ireland’.
- **Booklaunch** of Crossman and Gray (eds) Poverty and Welfare in Ireland, 1838-1948 - by **Sean Connolly**, 6.10@17.30 at PRONI. All welcome.
- **History PG Seminar**, 7.10@16.00: **James Curry** (TCD): ‘More harm to the Big Fellow than any employer’ or ‘One of the most outstanding women of her time’? The issue of Delia Larkin’s historical legacy.
- **War & Memory Research Group seminar**, 10.10@17.00: Prof **Fransjohan Pretorius**, (Univ of Pretoria) ‘The Boer War in South African memory’.
- **Anthropology Seminar**, 11.10@16.00: **Dominic Bryan** (QUB), Controlling symbols, controlling space: the state and/of flags in Northern Ireland.
- **Anthropology Seminar**, 18.10@16.00: **Jaime Jones** (UCD) Singing through time and space: music and pilgrimage in Maharashtra, India.
- **History PG Seminar**, 21.10@16.00: **McKayla Sutton** (Marquette Univ., USA): ‘A lasting boom and blessing to the countryside’: Promoting the Shannon Hydroelectric Scheme.
- **Anthropology Seminar**, 25.10@16.00: **Pauline Garvey** (NUI Maynooth) Democratic design and the Ikea flatpack.
- **History PG Seminar**, 28.10@16.00: **John Reynolds** (Univ. of Limerick): ‘Violence and visionaries’ – The Templemore miracles, 1920

Please see the School website ‘News’ section (http://www.qub.ac.uk/mh/NewsandEvents/) for more information on events, or contact us by email/phone at the numbers on page 1.

**Caption competition:**

Email the editor (HOS) with your entries. First prize is a lifetime’s subscription to the School Newsletter.