

Spring 2009 Lecture & Cultural Outreach Series

Welcome to our Spring 2009 program of events!

Join us for our cultural events and become a Friend of the Center for Irish Studies or a member of our Cultural Outreach Forum!

- The events are first-come, first-served. No RSVP; no tickets sold.
- All lectures are free. Cost for concerts are as stated below.
- Parking is available for \$2 in the Moran Center at West Alabama at Graustark.

For more information, contact the Center Director, Lori Meghan Gallagher, J.D., at 713-525-3592 or irishstudies@stthom.edu.

Suggestions for Topics and Speakers

Do you know a speaker well recognized in his or her field who we could invite to speak on a topic? Contact Lori Gallagher at 713-525-3592 or irishstudies@stthom.edu.

Sponsors: Center for Irish Studies Cultural Outreach Forum, The Irish Society and additional sponsors as noted below

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

From Protest to Peace: A Lecture by Bogside Artist Tom Kelly from Derry, Northern Ireland
7:30 p.m.

Cullen Hall, 4001 Mt. Vernon

Free and open to the public; No RSVP or advance tickets

Additional Sponsor: UST Social Justice Committee

Bogside Artists Website: <http://www.bogsideartists.com>

Thursday, March 12, 2009

A Lonestar Stout Evening with Celtic Musician Jed Marum and Special Guest, Hugh Morrison
7:30 p.m.

Cullen Hall, 4001 Mt. Vernon, UST Campus

\$10 for adults at the door; students free

No RSVP or advance tickets sold except for groups of 10 or more

Additional Sponsor: UST Music Department

Jed Marum Website: <http://www.jedmarum.com>

Tuesday, March 17, 2009

University of St. Thomas Center for Irish Studies

St. Patrick's Day Celebration with His Eminence Daniel N. Cardinal DiNardo

When: 10 a.m. Mass; breakfast to follow Mass

Where: Mass: Chapel of St. Basil, 3802 Yoakum St., UST

Breakfast: Jerabeck Gymnasium, 4000 Mt. Vernon St., UST

Cost of Breakfast: \$15 cash or check at the door made payable to the University of St. Thomas

RSVP for Breakfast: Friday, March 6, 2009; contact Lori Meghan Gallagher, J.D., at 713-525-3592 or irishstudies@stthom.edu

Liturgical Music by the de Burgo Ensemble

April 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 29th, 30th May 1st and 2nd, 2009

The Drama Program of UST's Fine and Performing Arts Department Presents

The Importance of Being Earnest

8:00 PM

Location: Jones Theatre (upstairs), UST Campus, 3910 Yoakum

Cost:

\$5 for UST students, faculty and staff

\$10 for non-UST students and seniors

\$15 for the general public

Tickets: Contact Prof. Claire McDonald at 713-525-3522 or mcdonald@ssthom.edu

Additional Sponsors: UST Center for Irish Studies Cultural Outreach Forum and The Irish Society Groups are encouraged to contact Professor McDonald in advance to ensure space availability

Friday, October 23, 2009

Annual Irish Gala

6:30 p.m.: Silent Auction

Dinner and Program thereafter

Houstonian Hotel, 111 North Post Oak Lane

Honorees: Colleen and George McCullough

Chairs: Gayle and Bob Longmire

Benefiting the Center for Irish Studies

Individual Tickets: \$250

Tables: \$2,500, \$3,500, \$5,000, \$7,500 and \$10,000

For reservations or more information, contact Abigail Showalter at 713-525-3173 or

schleua@stthom.edu

Join the Honorary Host Committee by April 7 and show your support for the McCulloughs, the Longmires and the Center for Irish Studies!

Gather with the Friends of the University of St. Thomas Center for Irish Studies for the 2009 Annual Irish Gala celebrating honorees Colleen and George McCullough, who are Ambassador Members of the University of St. Thomas Cultural Outreach Forum and Friends of the Center for Irish Studies and the University. George McCullough also serves on the Center for Irish Studies Advisory Board. Gala chairs are their good friends and University benefactors, Gayle and Bob Longmire.

Tables of 10 range from \$2,500 to \$10,000 and individual tickets sell for \$250. Funds raised support the UST Center for Irish Studies academic, cultural and study abroad programs.

Irish Club/Club na hÉireann

The Center for Irish Studies and club members invite students to join the Irish Club/Club na hÉireann to celebrate Irish heritage and culture. Students gather to attend cultural events hosted by the Center for Irish Studies and to attend Irish musical and dramatic performances. Club members also march in the St. Patrick's Day Parade and gather for meals, film, Irish language conversation and other events on and off campus.

Club na hÉireann is an official University of St. Thomas Club recognized by the Council of Clubs.

We have several professors and students from Ireland and Northern Ireland who join in the activities, including Aoife Ní Ghloinn, who teaches formal, accredited Irish language courses (*Irish Language and Culture I, Irish Language and Culture II, Intermediate Irish Language and Culture I* and *Intermediate Irish Language and Culture II*) and *Celtic Notes: Traditional Irish Music*.

The Center for Irish Studies, located at 4110 Mt. Vernon, serves as a gathering place for the Irish Club/Club na hÉireann, students in the Irish Studies courses and students who are interested in Irish-related topics.

Many students are members of the Irish Club/Club na hÉireann. The Director of the Center for Irish Studies, Lori Meghan Gallagher, J.D., serves as the Club Advisor.

The Center for Irish Studies Highlights Irish Language and Music Visiting Scholar Aoife Ní Ghloinn from Ireland

Dia Duit! Learn Irish from the experts! Now is your chance to learn Irish and promote Irish heritage and culture!

Visiting Scholar Aoife Ní Ghloinn from Carlow, Ireland, will teach Irish Language and Culture I, Irish Language and Culture II, Intermediate Irish Language and Culture I and Intermediate Irish Language and Culture II in Fall 2009. Irish I classes begin on Monday, August 24, 2009. These courses are available for credit or audit. Professor Ní Ghloinn also will teach Irish Language and Culture I, Irish Language and Culture II and Intermediate Irish Language and Culture in Spring 2010.

Professor Ní Ghloinn taught several courses in Irish language and music in 2008-2009. Her students continuously praise her enthusiasm and excellent performance as a professor and a linguist!

She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Irish language and music from the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, and a Master's degree, with distinction, in Irish and Celtic Studies from Queen's University in Belfast. She has been selected not only for her Irish language skills, but also her cultural talents in music and singing.

Scholarships are available for credit-seeking students. Contact the Director, Lori Meghan Gallagher, J.D. at 713-525-3592 or irishstudies@stthom.edu, or Professor Ní Ghloinn at 713-525-3121, ext. 3 or ghloina@stthom.edu!

Spring 2008 Irish Lecture & Cultural Series

Welcome to our 2008 program of events! 2008 promises to be a great year!

Join us for our free cultural events and become a Friend of the Center for Irish Studies!

The events are first-come, first-served. No RSVP; no tickets sold. Parking is available for \$2 in the Moran Center at West Alabama at Graustark. For more information, contact the Center Director, Lori Gallagher, J.D., at 713-525-3592 or irishstudies@stthom.edu.

Suggestions for Topics and Speakers

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Sponsors: Center for Irish Studies Cultural Outreach Forum and The Irish Society

Spring 2008 Lecture and Cultural Series

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Dr. Richard Rankin Russell, Baylor University

The Beauties of Bernard MacLaverty's "Grace Notes"

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Cullen Hall, 4001 Mt. Vernon, UST

Reception: Lecture followed by a reception in Cullen Hall

Thursday, February 28, 2008

The Reel Thing: Traditional Music by the Brock McGuire Band from the West of Ireland

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Cullen Hall, 4001 Mt. Vernon

Co-Sponsor: University of St. Thomas Music Department

Thursday, March 13, 2008

2008 B.K. Smith Lecture in History

Prof. Charles Doherty, University College, Dublin, School of History and Archives

The Early Irish Church: The City of God in Early Ireland

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Scanlan Room, Jerabeck Center, 4000 Mt. Vernon

Primary Sponsor: University of St. Thomas History Department

Co-sponsor: University of St. Thomas Center for Irish Studies

Friday, March 14, 2008

His Eminence Daniel N. Cardinal DiNardo

St. Patrick's Day Celebration

When: 10 a.m. Mass; brunch to follow Mass

Where: Mass: Chapel of St. Basil, 3802 Yoakum St., UST

Brunch in the Jerabeck Gymnasium, 4000 Mt. Vernon St., UST

Saturday, April 12, 2008

An Evening with The Makem and Spain Brothers

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Cullen Hall, 4001 Mt. Vernon, UST

Fall 2008: Save the Date

Friday, November 14, 2008

2008 Annual Irish Gala

When: Silent Auction and Reception: 6:30 p.m.

Dinner: 8 p.m.

Where: Houston Hotel,

111 North Post Oak Lane, Houston

Honorees: Honorary Consul of Ireland John B. Kane and Alayne Kane

Archived 2007 Events - Spring 2007 Irish Lecture & Cultural Series

Welcome to our 2007 program of events! 2007 promises to be a great year!

Join us for our free cultural events and become a Friend of the Center for Irish Studies!

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Suggestions for Topics and Speakers

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Contact Lori Gallagher at 713-525-3592 or irishstudies@stthom.edu.

Sponsors: Center for Irish Studies Cultural Outreach Forum and The Irish Society

Thursday, February 1, 2007

Dr. Joseph McFadden

The Irish Celtic Tiger: Where It Came From and How It Works

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Cullen Hall, 4001 Mt. Vernon, UST

Reception: Lecture followed by a reception in Doherty Library hosted by the Friends of Doherty Library

Thursday, March 1, 2007

An Evening with Irish Harp and Guitar Masters

Máire Ní Chathasaigh and Chris Newman
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Cullen Hall, 4001 Mt. Vernon, UST

Saturday, March 17, 2007

St. Patrick's Day Mass and Breakfast
When: 9:30 a.m. Mass; breakfast to follow Mass
Where: Mass: Chapel of St. Basil; breakfast in the Scanlan Room, 4000 Mt. Vernon, UST

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Archaeologist Caimin O'Brien
Archaeological Survey of Ireland
National Monuments Service
Irish Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government
Stories from a Sacred Landscape, from Pagan Country to Christian Ireland
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Cullen Hall, 4001 Mt. Vernon, UST
Co-Sponsor: Irish American Cultural Institute

Thursday, April 26, 2007

Joe Mac Donnacha, Academic Coordinator
Academy for Irish-medium University Studies
National University of Ireland, Galway
The Irish Language: The Successes and Challenges of Language Planning in Ireland and the Future of Irish in a "Globalized World"
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Cullen Hall, 4001 Mt. Vernon, UST
Co-Sponsor: Irish American Cultural Institute

See details of events below

Thursday, February 1, 2007

Dr. Joseph McFadden
The Irish Celtic Tiger: Where It Came From and How It Works
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Cullen Hall, 4001 Mt. Vernon, UST
Reception: Lecture followed by a reception in Doherty Library hosted by the Friends of Doherty Library

Dr. Joseph McFadden, Professor of History and President Emeritus of University of St. Thomas, will present his research on the Irish Celtic Tiger of the 1990s. Not only was the Celtic Tiger an economic boom for the Irish state, it was an economic revolution precipitated by Ireland's induction into a globalized economy. The Celtic Tiger transformed Ireland from an historically provincial state into one of the most globalized nations in the world.

Dr. McFadden's presentation will focus on the most important factors that account for the success of the Celtic Tiger, as well as highlight the extent of economic improvement under the Celtic Tiger. Dr. McFadden also will present a "micro" study of just how the Celtic Tiger works today. Ireland has targeted shipping/logistics as a new industry. Through interviews with those involved in maritime development and prospective clients in that industry, Dr. McFadden will illustrate how the factors that led to Ireland's success operate in the transnational market. The lecture will conclude with Dr. McFadden's suggestion that the success of the Irish Celtic Tiger provides a model for other developing nations.

Dr. McFadden earned his Ph.D. from Northern Illinois University in American History with a minor in Modern European History and Russian History. He has traveled extensively in Ireland and taught at Mary Immaculate College in Limerick, Ireland. He has been with UST since 1988, teaching as a history professor since 1997, and serving as president between 1988 and 1997 and again as interim president in Spring 2004.

Thursday, March 1, 2007

An Evening with Irish Harp and Guitar Masters
Máire Ní Chathasaigh and Chris Newman
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Cullen Hall, 4001 Mt. Vernon, UST

Back by popular demand! Those who attended the April 2006 harp performance and lecture by Máire Ní Chathasaigh on the Irish harp, its history and repertoire, will be pleased to know that she will perform for us again this spring. This time, she will be joined by acoustical guitarist, Chris Newman. They have just released their new album, FireWire, which is a powerhouse of Irish dance-music, gorgeous airs, old songs with a contemporary twist and striking new compositions with a shot of bluegrass thrown in for good measure. Máire and Chris promise us an evening of blazing guitar and dancing harp!

Chris and Máire made their début as a duo at the 1987 Cambridge Folk Festival and since then have played in 21 countries, from Shetland to New Zealand and from San Francisco to Kyoto. In the past two years they have toured in the US, Ireland, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Italy, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, and the UK.

Máire is "one of the world's greatest harpists (Edinburgh Evening News) and one of Ireland's most important and influential traditional musicians. As a teenager she invented a style of harping that quickly became the norm among her contemporaries and the younger generation of Irish players. In 2001, she received Irish music's most prestigious award, Traditional Musician of the Year, Gramam Cheoil TG4, "for the excellence and pioneering force of her music, the remarkable growth she has brought to the music of the harp and for the positive influence she has had on the young generation of harpers."

Chris began to play guitar at age 4 and dabbled in jazz in his late teens, learning from people like Stephane Grappelli and Diz Disley. He ventured into the commercial world, producing The Oldest Swinger in Town, which resulted in a silver disc. Chris is a prolific composer, arranger and record producer. He concentrates on traditional music and composition and is considered one of the most influential acoustical guitarists around. You'll be dazzled and charmed by this talented pair of professional musicians!

Saturday, March 17, 2007

St. Patrick's Day Mass and Breakfast
When: 9:30 a.m. Mass; breakfast to follow Mass
Where: Mass: Chapel of St. Basil; breakfast in the Scanlan Room, 4000 Mt. Vernon, UST

Join us for a traditional St. Patrick's Day celebration! The Most Reverend Archbishop Daniel N. DiNardo will celebrate St. Patrick's Day Mass in the Chapel of St. Basil. The liturgy and music will be planned and performed by Dr. John Burke and the de Burgo Ensemble. Other priests are welcome to concelebrate. Breakfast will follow Mass in the Scanlan Room. Breakfast is \$10 per person (benefits the Center for Irish Studies). Please RSVP for breakfast to 713-942-5906 by Wednesday, March 14 with your name, number in your party and telephone number.

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Archaeologist Caimin O'Brien
Archaeological Survey of Ireland
National Monuments Service
Irish Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government
Stories from a Sacred Landscape, from Pagan Country to Christian Ireland
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Cullen Hall, 4001 Mt. Vernon, UST
Co-Sponsor: Irish American Cultural Institute

Archaeologist Caimin O'Brien will cover the arrival of Christianity in Ireland and its impact on the existing beliefs of the Irish in Pre-Christian Ireland. He will explore the impact of Christianity on the

art, architecture and folklore of Ireland over the last 2000 years. He also will explore whether the Irish gave up their pagan beliefs and adopted Christianity or they adapted Christianity to their existing pre-Christian rituals and beliefs.

Caimin will look at the social background of the evangelising saints who introduced Christianity into Ireland. He also will explain the family background and the social status of important saints like St. Patrick, St. Columcille of Durrow and Iona, St. Ciarán of Clonmacnoise and many more. He will ask questions such as: Why did Christianity gain such a stronghold in Ireland so quickly and without bloodshed or martyrdom of the saints? And why did the rulers of pagan Ireland give up their belief system that had slowly formed over the centuries and turn to a new religion in a relative short time period? These and many more questions will be reviewed through an analysis of the historical documents, landscape archaeology, architecture, art history, poetry and the folk beliefs of the Irish people.

By combining these varied sources he will give a rounded and comprehensive analysis about the impact of Christianity on medieval Ireland. He will illustrate this impact with beautiful images of early Christian monasteries and their magnificent illuminated manuscripts, stained glass windows depicting the early saints and some wonderful examples of religious art through the beautiful carvings still visible on many medieval churches in the Irish countryside. Alongside these images will be a collection of images detailing the folk beliefs of the Irish people, such as Holy Bushes, Holy Wells and Cursing Stones, many of which are still places of religious activity in modern Ireland.

Caimin is an archaeologist with the Archaeological Survey of Ireland, which is a section of the National Monuments Service of the Irish Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. He graduated from University College Galway with a degree in archaeology and earned an M. Litt. in Medieval History at Trinity College Dublin. He has compiled and published the *Archaeological Inventories of Counties Offaly and Tipperary*, North Riding and a book on *The Medieval Churches of County Offaly*.

Thursday, April 26, 2007

Joe Mac Donnacha, Academic Coordinator
Academy for Irish-medium University Studies
National University of Ireland, Galway

The Irish Language: The Successes and Challenges of Language Planning in Ireland and the Future of Irish in a "Globalized World"

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Cullen Hall, 4001 Mt. Vernon, UST

Co-Sponsor: Irish American Cultural Institute

With the establishment of the Irish Free State in 1922, the Irish language was accorded the status of the "national language" (with English recognised as an "official language") under Article 4 of the Constitution of the Irish Free State (Saorstát Éireann). By 1926, Irish speakers in the Irish Free State numbered 543,511 (18 per cent), out of a total population of 2,971,992. By 1936, a year before the enactment of the Irish Constitution, Bunreacht na hÉireann, the number of Irish-speakers had increased to 666,601 (24 per cent), out of a total population of 2,140,324. This dichotomy between the constitutional status of Irish and its de facto position as the lesser-used language in the State is the focus of debate in Ireland and elsewhere.

The Irish Government is investing in Irish language programs around the world, such as UST's, in an effort to preserve it. The lecture will discuss the viewpoints in favor of and against preserving Irish as the official language of Ireland. Joe will identify successes and failures of Irish language planning and the challenges that face the Irish language if it is to remain a spoken language in the "globalized world" of Ireland today. He will include a short summary of the history of language, discussing attitudes among the populace in general towards the language, how effectively school children acquire Irish through the education system, the areas and domains in which Irish is used in society and the future of the last remaining "Gaeltachtaí" (Irish-speaking areas). The talk will conclude with a brief discussion of the importance of Irish as the language in which many of the cultural traditions of Ireland developed and are still to be found, with a particular focus on the sean-nós (old style/traditional) singing tradition.

Joe Mac Donnacha is the Academic Coordinator with Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge (Academy for Irish-medium University Studies) at the National University of Ireland, Galway, where he also lectures in language planning. He has previously worked with several other Irish language planning organizations, including Glór na nGael (<http://www.glornangael.ie/>) and Comhdháil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge (<http://www.gaelpart.com/>). He was a founding member of Comhluadar, a support the traditional style of Irish language a cappella singing known as sean-nós, which is an important feature of the cultural identity of the Gaeltacht areas of Ireland and Scotland.

Thursday, September 27, 2007

2007 Annual Irish Gala

When: Silent Auction and Reception: 6:30 p.m.

Where: Houstonian Hotel,
111 North Post Oak Lane, Houston

Gather with the Friends of the University of St. Thomas Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society for the 2007 Annual Irish Gala celebrating honorees Debbie and Patrick J. Moran, who are Friends of the Center for Irish Studies and the University. Pat also serves on the Center for Irish Studies Advisory Board and is the immediate past president of the University's Board of Directors. This year's Gala Chair is Michele Malloy. The Gala benefits the Center for Irish Studies. The Gala is co-sponsored by the University of St. Thomas and The Irish Society. Tables of 10 range from \$2,500 to \$7,500 and individual tickets sell for \$250. Join us for an entertaining evening and help support the Irish Studies academic and cultural programs. For reservations or more information, contact Laura Dozier at 713 525-3118 or dozierl@stthom.edu.

Past Archived Lecture and Cultural Events 2006-2007

Past events and lectures for the 2006-2007 Academic Year are listed in chronological order as follows:

Sunday, August 20, 2006

Danny O'Flaherty presents

An Afternoon of Song and Story

Danny O'Flaherty is originally from the Aran Islands off the west coast of Ireland. He previously lived in New Orleans. Following Hurricane Katrina, he resettled in East Texas. He plans to move to the Conroe/Houston area in the coming years.

His program featured songs from his native land about the sea-faring Celts and the islands off the coast of Ireland. He also sang about the people who made their living from the sea and the land. His father was a lobster fisherman who respected nature and the bounty it provided. Other songs related stories of immigration, the sacrifices made by those who have gone before us, love and the struggles of the Irish, both in Ireland and in America. The program was sponsored by the Center for Irish Studies Cultural Outreach Forum, KPFT's Irish Aires and The Irish Society.

2005-2006

Past events and lectures for the 2005-2006 Academic Year are listed in chronological order as follows:
September 20, 2005

Dr. Beverly Schneller presents

Yankee Head and an Irish Heart: The Story of Anna Parnell and the Irish Ladies' Land League

Dr. Beverly Schneller, UST alumna of the class of 1980, presented a lecture on Yankee Head and an Irish Heart: The Story of Anna Parnell and the Irish Ladies' Land League.

Anna Parnell (1852-1911), a sister of Irish Home Rule politician Charles Stewart Parnell, settled in Ireland in January 1881 to run the political activities of the Ladies' Land League that she founded at the invitation of Michael Davitt, one of the key leaders of the Irish Land League Movement. From January 1881 through August 1882, Anna Parnell criss-crossed the Irish countryside making speeches, raising money, and supervising the building of tenants' houses while outwitting the law. The public lecture by Dr. Beverly Schneller, Chair and Professor of English at Millersville University in Pennsylvania and a 1980 B.A. graduate of UST, introduces Anna Parnell through her political journalism and seeks to replace the notion that she was Parnell's radical sister with the image of her

as one of Ireland's great female patriots who used her writing, speaking and organizing skills to shape public policy in nineteenth-century Ireland. Dr. Schneller also discussed her book entitled: Anna Parnell's Political Journalism.

September 29-30, Saturday, Oct. 1 and Wednesday, October 5-8, 2005

UST Drama Performance of Waiting for Godot

UST's Drama Program presented Waiting for Godot, by Irish playwright Samuel Beckett

October 25, 2005

William J. Flynn presents

The Northern Ireland Peace Process

Lecture by William J. Flynn, Chairman Emeritus of Mutual of America Life Insurance Company and Recipient of First Initiative for Peace Award by the National Committee of American Foreign Policy for his leadership and diplomacy in the Northern Ireland Peace Process in the 1990s.

Mr. Flynn recently had returned from Ireland and Northern Ireland and gave us his perspective on the current peace process. He discussed the development of the Irish peace process with an emphasis on those areas of disagreement that thus far have thwarted efforts to a successful conclusion of the difficulties.

Mr. Flynn has received many other awards for his work in the Peace Process. As part of its "Irish Celebration" in March of 2003, Mr. Flynn was honored by The National Museum of Catholic Art and History for his tireless efforts to bring peace to Ireland. Later that month, he was awarded the John F. Kennedy National Achievement Award by the St. Patrick's Committee of Holyoke, Massachusetts. In making the announcement, the President of the St. Patrick's Committee said, "William Flynn, by far, surpasses any criteria that may be set as a measurement for success in a person's professional or personal life. Mr. Flynn has succeeded in business while demonstrating a continued commitment to human rights issues, not just in Ireland, but around the world."

In March of 1994, Mr. Flynn was selected as Irish American of the Year by Irish America Magazine and in May 1994 was honored by The American Ireland Fund. In November 1994, the Prime Minister of Ireland, Albert Reynolds, recognized Mr. Flynn's contributions to the Northern Ireland peace process at a Tribute Dinner in his honor.

In November of 1999, Mr. Flynn was selected by Irish America Magazine as one of The Greatest Irish-Americans of the Century. Mr. Flynn was among the honorees at the December 1999 Peace Links Gala in Washington, DC for his help in brokering peace in Ireland.

This event was sponsored by Honorary Consul of Ireland John B. Kane and Alayne Kane, the UST Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.

November 17, 2005

Master Irish Seanchaí (Storyteller) Eddie Lenihan presents

Tales of Myth, Magic and Mystery

Eddie Lenihan is considered one of the master Irish storytellers and delighted the audience with stories he has been collecting and telling for years. This event was one of the most entertaining and lively of the year. This event was sponsored by Guinness USA, the Irish American Cultural Institute and The Irish Society of Houston.

February 16, 2006

Dr. Richard Rankin Russell of Baylor University presents

The Liberating Fiction of Community in Brian Friel's Play "The Freedom of the City"

Brian Friel's two perennial themes of potential and community coalesce in The Freedom of the City (1973) as the characters trapped in the Derry Guildhall form a provisional community based on a shared humanity rife with potential for the Northern political situation. This provisional community is Friel's answer to another group of provisionals that would swell in numbers after Bloody Sunday—the Provisional IRA. British imperialism had formerly squelched attempts at a true democracy; subsequent events after this turning point in the Troubles would create entrenched attitudes backed up with

violence on both sides. There was a moment during Bloody Sunday, Friel suggests, when both sides had a chance to engage in constructive conversation, but that chance quickly passes in the play. Richard Rankin Russell (Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) is an assistant professor of English at Baylor University. He specializes in Northern Irish literature, Anglo-Irish literature, and twentieth-century British literature. His articles have appeared in *Journal of Modern Literature*, *South Atlantic Review*, *Modern Drama*, *New Hibernia Review*, and *English Language Notes*, among others. His edited collection of essays on the contemporary Irish playwright Martin McDonagh will appear from Routledge in 2007. He has just completed a manuscript entitled "Michael Longley, Seamus Heaney, and the Devolution of Northern Irish Literature" and is currently working on a book entitled *The Artist and the Parish: Brian Friel and Agrarianism*. This event was sponsored by the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.
March 2, 2006

Moran Resources Company's Distinguished Irish Studies Cultural Event:

An Evening with Irish Singer and Storyteller Ken O'Malley

Dublin-born and raised, Ken O'Malley is regarded as the finest Irish folk singer/songwriter in the United States today. He has performed with The Chieftains, Mary Black, Paul Brady, The Wolf Tones, Lunasa, Solas, Gaelic Storm and many more, and has led his well-known band, The Twilight Lords, in two recordings, *The White Seahorse* and *Women of Ireland*. He was commissioned by Turner Pictures to compose an original song, "The Roses and the Rye" for the CD accompanying the movie *Gods and Generals*, the sequel to *Gettysburg*. Ken is the narrator for FritzFilms' *Joyce to the World*, a one-hour long documentary on Ulysses and its author James Joyce, featuring Brian Dennehy, Finoula Flanagan, Frank McCourt and Malachy McCourt. He sang in the Paramount Pictures movie *Patriot Games*, coached Irish actor Pierce Brosnan for his singing debut in the movie *Evelyn* and, most recently, recorded the 17th century Irish ballad "Eamon an Chnoic" (Ned of the Hill) for National Geographic's CD recording "Romance Around the World," a collection of twelve international love songs. In August 2004, Ken performed at the John Anson Ford Theatre in Los Angeles with Solas and again at the Ford in September 2005 with Gaelic Storm. He most recently starred in Kerry Records' production of *A Grand Irish Variety Concert* at The Shiley Theater, San Diego, The United Irish Cultural Center, San Francisco, and Marsee Auditorium, El Camino College, Torrance, California.

This event was sponsored by Moran Resources Company, Kerry Records, the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.

March 17, 2006

Fourth Annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration

We were honored to have our new Archbishop, Archbishop Daniel DiNardo, as the principal celebrant for St. Patrick's Day Mass in the Chapel of St. Basil. The de Burgo Ensemble continued its tradition of performing Irish liturgical music. Students from Ireland participated in the liturgy and the music. Mass and the corned beef and cabbage brunch were sponsored by the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.

March 30, 2006

Dr. David O'Brien of the College of the Holy Cross presents

The Role of Irish Americans in the History of American Catholicism

The lecture concentrated on three turning points in US Catholic History: (i) the formation of the American Church under John Carroll when Carroll and his immediate successors experienced interference from Ireland; (ii) the "Americanist Crisis" in the late nineteenth century when Irish-American Catholic leaders divided over the future of the American church, with significant consequences; and (iii) Vatican II, when the Irish-American domination of Catholic life and culture came to an end.

Dr. David O'Brien is the Loyola Professor of Roman Catholic Studies at the College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester, Mass. Holy Cross is a Jesuit liberal arts college, where he has served for over 35 years. He has written six books on the history of American Catholicism and has written widely on Catholic social thought and action. He holds seven honorary degrees and was awarded the Theodore M. Hesburgh CSC Award for Distinguished Service to American Catholic Higher Education by the

Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities. In 2005, he received the Marianist Award from the University of Dayton for Contributions to American Catholic Intellectual Life. He is a Past President of the American Catholic Historical Association and has served on numerous committees of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and his home diocese of Worcester, Massachusetts.

This event was sponsored by the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.

April 19, 2006

Bill and Sally Slick Distinguished Irish Studies Cultural Series:
Irish Harpist Máire Ni Chatasaigh presents
The Irish Harp, its History, Repertoire and Role in Irish Society

Máire Ni Chatasaigh is one of Ireland 's most important and influential traditional musicians, described by Live Ireland as "the greatest Celtic harper of our age" and by the late Derek Bell as "the most interesting and original player of the Irish harp today."

She grew up in a well-known West Cork musical family and was already proficient in a variety of other instruments by the time she began to play the harp at the age of eleven. Using her knowledge of the idiom of the living oral Irish tradition, she developed a variety of new techniques, particularly in relation to ornamentation, with the aim of establishing an authentically traditional style of harping - "a single-handed reinvention of the harp." Her originality was quickly recognized. She made a number of TV and radio broadcasts as a teenager, and she won the All-Ireland and Pan-Celtic Harp Competitions on several occasions. In 1985, she recorded the first harp album ever to concentrate on traditional Irish dance music, *The New-Strung Harp*, described by *The Cork Examiner* as "an intensely passionate and intelligent record... a mile-stone in Irish harp music."

In 2001, Máire received the Gradam Cheoil TG4, the Irish-language TV station's Award for Traditional Musician of the Year "for the excellence and pioneering force of her music, the remarkable growth she has brought to the music of the harp and the positive influence she has had on the young generation of harpers" at a televised ceremony in the Cork Opera House. The Gradam is the highest, most prestigious honor for a traditional Irish musician.

She holds an honours B.A. degree in Celtic Studies from University College Cork. Old Bridge Music has published two books of her harp arrangements, *The Irish Harper Vols. I and II*.

Máire contributed two articles about the Irish harp and modes in Irish music to the *Companion to Irish Traditional Music* (Cork University Press) and is profiled in *Celtic Women in Music* (Mairéad Sullivan, Quarry Music Books, Canada). She also is profiled in the *Rough Guide to Irish Music*.

This event was sponsored by Sally and Bill Slick, the Irish American Cultural Institute, the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.

Past events and lectures for the 2004-2005 Academic Year are listed in chronological order as follows:

February 15, 2004

Irish Dance and Center for Irish Studies Open House

The McTeggart Irish Dancers of Houston performed traditional Irish dancing and told the story behind the story of Irish dancing.

This event was sponsored by the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.

March 2, 2004

Elizabeth Frances Martin of Adams-Martin Fine Art of New York, Dublin and London presents
Appreciating Irish Art

Elizabeth Frances Martin presented an illustrated lecture on Nineteenth and Twentieth century Irish Painting. Ms. Martin is a partner in Adams-Martin Fine Art of New York, Dublin and London. She received her master's degree in art history from Hunter College in New York and is in the doctoral program at The Graduate Center at the City University of New York (CUNY). At the time of her

presentation, she was researching her dissertation on Nineteenth-Century Irish Landscape Painting. The presentation was sponsored by Sotheby's, the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.

March 17, 2004

Second Annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration

We celebrated St. Patrick's Day in grand style with a Mass and Brunch in honor of St. Patrick, sponsored by the University of St. Thomas Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society. Mass was held in the Chapel of St. Basil. Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza was the principal celebrant. Dr. John Burke of the University's Political and Social Science Department, and the official piper of The Irish Society, directed the music performed by the de Burgo Ensemble, which included the bag pipes, harp, tin whistle, flute, Irish drum, trumpet, guitar, and rainstick. Mass was followed by a corned beef and cabbage brunch.

March 30, 2004

Moran Resources Company Distinguished Irish Studies Lecture Series:

Dr. Colbert Kearney of University College Cork, Ireland presents

Noon lecture: The Island of Poets: The Irish Writer and the Oral Tradition Explored in the Works of J.M. Synge and Sean O'Casey

Dr. Colbert Kearney, Professor of Modern English at University College Cork, Ireland, lectured on the use of the native Gaelic oral tradition in the writing of J.M. Synge and Sean O'Casey. This lecture was sponsored by Moran Resources Company, the Irish Government through the Cultural Relations Committee, the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.

Evening lecture: W.B. Yeats and the Present Imperfect: The Dramatic Element in Yeats' Poetry

Dr. Colbert Kearney, Professor of Modern English at University College Cork, Ireland, presented a lecture on Yeats' Poetry.

These lectures were sponsored by Moran Resources Company, the Irish Government through the Cultural Relations Committee, the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.

Sunday, April 25, 2004

Sixteenth Annual Shiffick Distinguished Lecture in Archaeology:

Dr. Thomas Finan presents

An Archaeological History of Ireland

Dr. Thomas Finan of St. Louis University presented an illustrated lecture on An Archaeological History of Ireland, covering medieval, prehistoric and Early Christian Ireland.

The lecture was co-sponsored by the University of St. Thomas Friends of Archaeology, the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society. The reception and publicity for this event were sponsored by Honorary Consul of Ireland, Mr. John B. Kane, and his wife, Alayne Kane.

May 6, 2004

Irish American Cultural Institute Irish Perceptions Series:

Peter Browne presents An Integrated History of the Uilleann Pipes

Peter Browne performed on the Uilleann Pipes and presented an integrated history of the Uilleann Pipes from its first appearance in Ireland to the present day, including an historical sketch of the bagpipe in medieval Europe, its possible journey to Ireland and evolution into the Uilleann Pipes of today. Peter has performed in the Kennedy Center. The lecture and reception were co-sponsored by the Irish American Cultural Institute, Guinness USA, the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.

September 30, 2004

Dr. Shannon Forbes of the University of St. Thomas presents

Frank McCourt's Angela's Ashes as Memoir: The Role of Memory in Performative Identity Formation

Dr. Forbes of the University of St. Thomas English Department and Irish Studies Faculty explored the way memory functions in Angela's Ashes when one conceives of McCourt's identity as performative--changeable and shifting based on different roles McCourt performs and actions he chooses. Angela's Ashes has been the subject of debate among the Irish regarding McCourt's depiction of his Irish childhood. This lecture was sponsored by the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.

October 28, 2004

Dr. John McNamara of the University of Houston English Department presents

Early Christianity in Ireland : The Oral Tradition

Dr. John McNamara explored the way in which legends formed communal identities as they circulated through the early Irish communities, particularly in the lives of the early Irish saints. He is a Professor in and the former Chair of the University of Houston English Department. He began as a student of philosophy and classics and ultimately became a professor of medieval languages and literatures of Ireland, England and Scotland. Dr. McNamara has been researching oral tradition in early Ireland for

the last decade, focusing on oral history, archaeology, popular legends, and literature. This lecture was sponsored by George and Colleen McCullough, the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society. November 4, 2004

Dr. Paul Collins of Limerick presents

The Irish Church and Organ Music since the Late Nineteenth Century

In anticipation of his concert on November 7, 2004, Dr. Paul Collins of Mary Immaculate College in Limerick, Ireland, lectured on the Irish Church and Organ Music since the Late Nineteenth Century. This lecture charted the course of church and organ music in Ireland since the late nineteenth century, placing particular emphasis on the influence of the Cecilian movement during the late 1800s and early 1900s, music in the cathedrals and the impact of Vatican II on the composition of church music. Dr. Collins lectures in music at Mary Immaculate College in Limerick, Ireland. He is a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, and holds a first class honours MA (Performance and Musicology) and a PhD from the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. He studied organ and harpsichord at the Dublin Institute of Technology Conservatory of Music and Drama, where he was awarded the Actors' Church Union Prize for advanced organ playing. He also holds a Fellowship Diploma in organ from Trinity College, London. This event was sponsored by the Irish Government Cultural Relations Committee, the Music Department of the University of St. Thomas, the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society. November 7, 2004

Annual Monaghan Organ Concert:

Dr. Paul Collins of Limerick

Dr. Paul Collins of Limerick, Ireland, presented the University of St. Thomas Annual Monaghan Organ Concert in the Chapel of St. Basil. The performance included music by Muffat, Böhm, Martini, Stanford, J.S.Bach, Pinkham, Eric Sweeney, and Jacques van Oortmerssen. Dr. Collins lectures in music at Mary Immaculate College in Limerick, Ireland. He is a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, and holds a first class honours MA (Performance and Musicology) and a Ph.D. from the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. He studied organ and harpsichord at the Dublin Institute of Technology Conservatory of Music and Drama, where he was awarded the Actors' Church Union Prize for advanced organ playing. He also holds a Fellowship Diploma in organ from Trinity College, London. This event was sponsored by the Irish Government Cultural Relations Committee, the Music Department of the University of St. Thomas, the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.

February 17-19 and 23-24, 2005

Play: Wonderful Tennessee

This play by Irish playwright Brian Friel takes place in Donegal, Ireland, and features three couples waiting for a boat to take them to an island off the west coast of Ireland. As they wait for the boat, they tell stories and sing songs, one of which is an American folk song called "Wonderful Tennessee." This play was performed by the UST Drama program during our American Conference for Irish Studies Southern Regional Conference in February 2005 and for the public before and after the conference.

February 24 through February 26, 2005

Ireland: North, South, East and West

American Conference for Irish Studies

Southern Regional Conference

hosted by UST at the Warwick Hotel

See Events & Calendar page for details.

March 17, 2005

Third Annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration

The Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society had a wonderful Third Annual St. Patrick's Day celebration on Thursday, March 17, 2005. Fr. Bill Young, CSB, President Emeritus of UST and member of the Center's Advisory Board, was the principal celebrant for the Mass. UST's Dr. John Burke and his de Burgo Ensemble performed traditional Irish music. A corned beef and cabbage brunch followed the Mass.

Monday, March 21, 2005

Timothy Collins presents

Early Irish Travel on the Galway Line: Transatlantic Triumph or Heroic Failure?

Lecture by Timothy Collins, a Chartered Librarian in the James Hardiman Library, National University of Ireland, Galway, lectured on the early Irish transatlantic Galway Line, its successes and its tragedies. Mr. Collins is a graduate of University College Galway in marine sciences and scholar of maritime history and the Director of the Centre for Landscapes Studies, National University of Ireland,

Galway.

This event was sponsored by Len Ivins on behalf of Ann Caraway Ivins, the UST Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.

Sunday, April 24, 2005

Dr. Margot Backus of the University of Houston presents

As Close to the Truth As We're Ever Going to Get:

Derry People on the Film Bloody Sunday

Presentation by Dr. Margot Backus, Associate Professor of English, University of Houston. We showed the film Bloody Sunday, about 14 people killed during a civil rights march in Derry, Northern Ireland, on January 30, 1972, which is the subject of the ongoing Saville Inquiry. Dr. Backus discussed the film and related her interviews with people in Derry in 2004.

This event was sponsored by the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Dr. Aidan O'Sullivan of University College Dublin, Ireland presents

Exploring People and Their Worlds In Early Medieval Ireland

Through photographs of recent archaeological discoveries, Dr. O'Sullivan explored how the early medieval Irish used places and material objects to shape their landscapes and express their social identities. This event was sponsored by the Irish American Cultural Institute, the UST Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.

Past events and lectures for the 2003-2004 Academic Year are listed in chronological order as follows:

January 23, 2003

Opening of the Center for Irish Studies

Charles Sheehan, the Irish Consul General from Chicago, attended the opening of the Center for Irish Studies. Consul General Sheehan presented a lecture on Irish Studies and Modern Ireland. Consul General Sheehan was joined by Honorary Consul of Ireland, John B. Kane, and members of The Irish Society, the non-sectarian, non-denominational community group that created the Center for Irish Studies, with its founder, Dr. Joseph McFadden, University President Emeritus and Professor of Irish and American History.

February 13-15, 19-22, 2003

Dancing at Lughnasa

The University Drama Program performed Dancing at Lughnasa, a play by Brian Friel. The play is an extraordinary, haunting story of five unmarried sisters in 1936 in a remote Irish village where dance and dream are beckoned before nightfall.

March 17, 2003

First Annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration

University President Fr. Michael J. Miller celebrated Mass and gave a thought-provoking homily on Ireland today. Dr. John Burke of the University's Political and Social Science Department, and the official piper of The Irish Society, directed the music performed by the de Burgo Ensemble, which included the bag pipes, harp, tin whistle, flute, Irish drum, trumpet, guitar, and rainstick. A traditional corned beef and cabbage brunch followed Mass.

April 7, 2003

Dr. Mary Power of the University of New Mexico presents

Frank O'Connor's Short Stories

Dr. Mary Power, an Irish literature scholar at the University of New Mexico, spoke on Frank O'Connor's short stories. Dr. Power highlighted the insight and creativity of Frank O'Connor's stories, the magic of his imagination and his powerful word choice. This event was sponsored by the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.

April 16, 2003

Rev. and Mrs. Gary Ferbet present

The Politics of Reconciliation in Northern Ireland

Rev. Gary Ferbet, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care of the Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church, and his wife, Pam, a Roman Catholic, spoke on "The Politics of Reconciliation in Northern Ireland." Rev. and Mrs. Ferbet led reconciliation missions comprised of Presbyterians and Roman Catholics to Northern Ireland when they lived in Houston. This event was sponsored by the Center for Irish Studies, the University of St. Thomas Social Justice Committee and The Irish Society.

May 19, 2003

Dr. Janet Lowery of the University of St. Thomas presents
Irish Film "Some Mother's Son"

Dr. Janet Lowery of UST's English Department and Irish Studies Program led a discussion before and after a showing of the Irish film, "Some Mother's Son," starring Helen Mirren, about the Northern Ireland hunger strikes in the prisons during the 1980s and the continuation of the "Troubles." This event was sponsored by the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.

September 18, 2003

Dr. Patricia Haberstroh of La Salle University presents
Imagining the Magdalens

Dr. Patricia Haberstroh, Professor of English at La Salle University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, spoke on *Imagining the Magdalens*, and gave a PowerPoint presentation based on her research of the Magdalen laundries in Ireland. The presentation coincided with the Magdalen Sisters series of films aired in theaters around the country at that time. This event was sponsored by the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.

October 23, 2003

Robert Cremins of Strake Jesuit College Preparatory presents
The Contemporary Irish Novel

Robert Cremins, Chair of the Strake Jesuit College Preparatory English Department in Houston, a native of Ireland and a novelist, spoke on the "Contemporary Irish Novel." His presentation focused on the novels of John McGahern, including *The Dark*, *Amongst Women* and *By the Lake*. This event was sponsored by the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.

November 13, 2003

Dr. Lee Ligon of the University of St. Thomas presents
The Projections of James Joyce

Dr. Lee Ligon, a James Joyce scholar, spoke on an aspect of Joyce's works from her doctoral dissertation research and life-long love and teaching of Joyce. Projections is a word initially coined by Fritz Senn of the Zurich James Joyce Foundation and one of Dr. Ligon's mentors during her doctoral work. This word describes a specific technique ³/₄ one of the many manifestations of Joyce's brilliant use of the English language. Dr. Ligon demonstrated how this technique functions on a rhetorical basis and a thematic basis, looking primarily at his works' "non-endings" in the epiphanies or revelations of Gretta, Molly, and Anna Livia. This event was sponsored by the Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society.