



**Ten Years A-Growing**  
**Dix ans de croissance**  
**Deich mBliana ag Fás**



**School of Irish Studies**  
**10TH ANNIVERSARY BOOKLET**  
**2009/10 – 2019/20**



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## CANADIAN IRISH STUDIES FOUNDATION FUNDAMENTALS

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**ASSISTANT EDITOR:** Gabrielle Machnik-Kekesi

**DESIGN:** Trevor Browne



## Remarks

In 2015, it was a singular honour for me to follow in the footsteps of Brian O'Neill Gallery, BA 57, LLD 10, Peter O'Brien and Dr. John Little, BA 57, by becoming chair of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation. As a trustee of the CISF, I had become familiar with its extraordinary work in supporting and enabling the development of Irish Studies as an academic discipline at Concordia.

I was keenly aware of the broad support in Montreal's Irish community and beyond for academic programs that would teach Irish heritage to future generations of students. Moreover, as a fifth-generation Irish-Quebecer, I was pleased to witness the degree to which the School of Irish Studies promotes an understanding not just of Irish culture and history but also the rich tapestry of the Irish contribution to the development of all regions of Canada, especially Montreal and Quebec.

As a passionate believer in the value of education, I see the work of the Foundation as being crucial to introducing students to Irish Studies from multiple perspectives so that they can appreciate the complexities and challenges they will face in the wider world. I therefore salute all our past directors and trustees, who served the Foundation with such dedication. I would like to pay special thanks to Brian O'Neill Gallery for his exceptional energy and enthusiasm in marshalling the resources that made the creation of the School of Irish Studies possible. Without Brian's vision and passionate advocacy, the development of Irish Studies at Concordia would surely not have been possible. I am deeply grateful to Peter O'Brien for his leadership as initial chair and commitment in the Foundation's early years.

It is a great pleasure for me to keep up with all the activities of the School — its courses, programs, public lecture series and community outreach initiatives — and I know firsthand how much their success is attributable to the dedicated work of its administrative staff, Matina Skalkogiannis, Marion Mulvenna and Gabrielle Machnik-Kekesi, to the School's principal Michael Kenneally, and to its extraordinary professors, Rhona Richman Kenneally, Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin, Gavin Foster, Jane McGaughey and Emer O'Toole.

This is also an opportunity for me to acknowledge the outstanding commitment of the current directors and trustees of the CISF for their generous support and the valuable guidance they give me as we pursue the goals of the Foundation. Most important, I recognize with great appreciation the unwavering partnership provided by Concordia and the crucial role the university played in steering Irish Studies from modest beginnings to its current position as a highly regarded world centre for the study of Ireland and its diaspora.

Finally, I acknowledge that the achievements of Irish Studies stem from the extraordinary and continuing support given to the Foundation by its many donors. My sincere thanks to all of you.

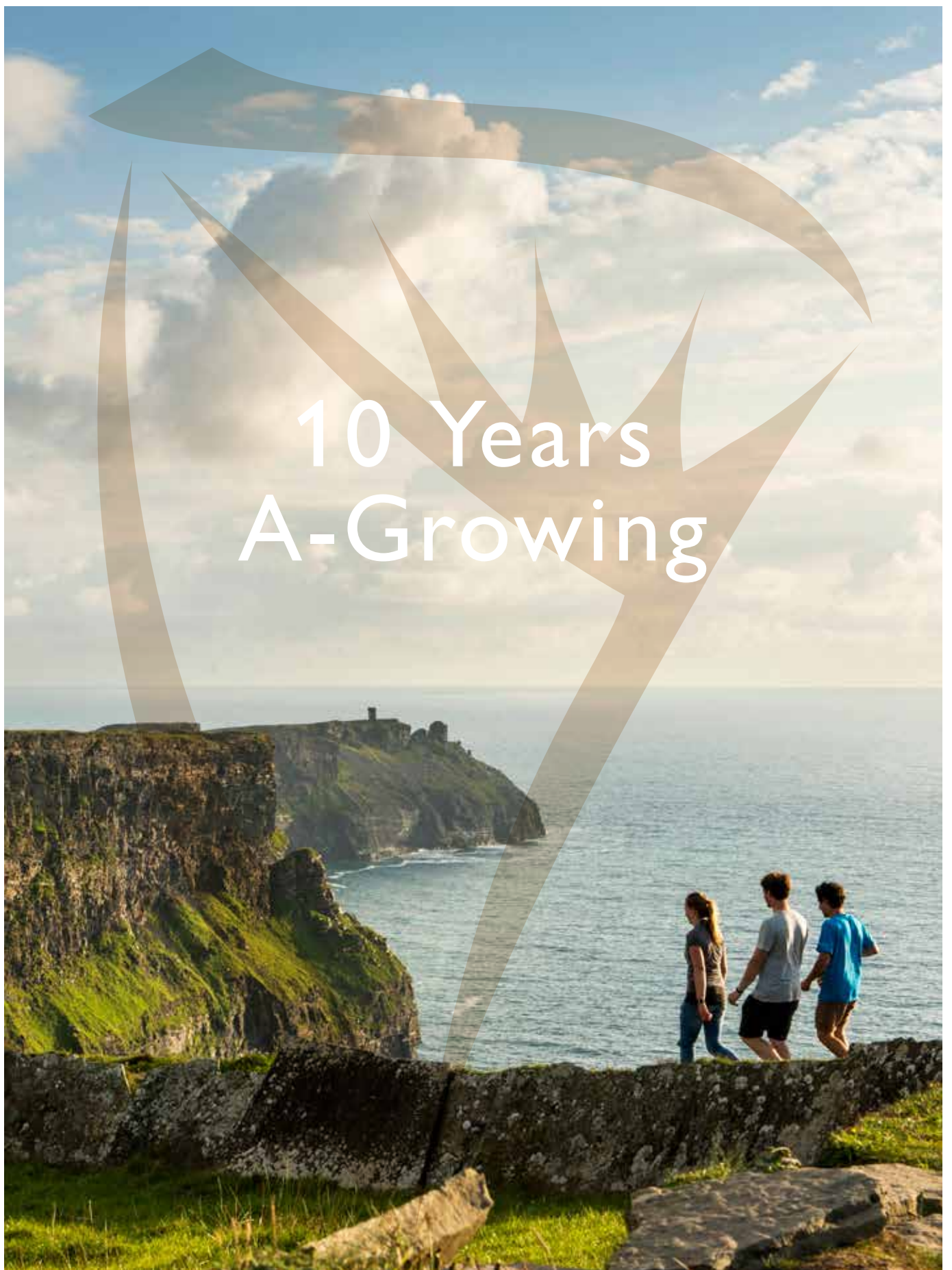
*Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir.*

**Pamela McGovern**  
Chair, Canadian Irish Studies Foundation

We would like to acknowledge that Concordia University is located on unceded Indigenous lands. The Kanien'kehá:ka Nation is recognized as the custodians of the lands and waters on which we gather today. Tiohtiàke/Montréal is historically known as a gathering place for many First Nations. Today, it is home to a diverse population of Indigenous and other peoples. We respect the continued connections with the past, present and future in our ongoing relationships with Indigenous and other peoples within the Montreal community.



# 10 Years A-Growing





# Irish Studies Highlights

## 1991

- First two courses offered, in Irish literature and history. Over the following years, additional courses offered annually in various disciplines

## 2002

- Creation of a Centre for Canadian Irish Studies
- Appointment of Dr. Michael Kenneally to the community Chair in Canadian Irish Studies
- Creation of a Minor in Canadian Irish Studies

## 2009

- Formal creation of the School of Canadian Irish Studies
- Appointment of Dr. Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin as inaugural holder of the Johnson Chair in Quebec and Canadian Irish Studies
- Appointment of Dr. Gavin Foster as Irish historian
- Appointments of Dr. Rhona Richman Kenneally and Dr. Lorrie Blair as Official Fellows of the School

## 2010

- Creation of the Father Thomas McEntee Reading Room, funded by an anonymous donor, co-designed by Dr. Rhona Richman Kenneally

## 2011

- Relocation of the School to its present Hall Building location
- Appointment of Dr. Susan Cahill as professor of Irish literature

## 2012

- Appointment of Dr. Jane McGaughey as professor of Irish diaspora studies

## 2013

- Approval by the Government of Quebec of a Major in Irish Studies. This BA degree had a target of sixty students on an annual basis, a number significantly surpassed in subsequent years, reaching 98 in the 2018–2019 academic year.
- Appointment of Dr. Emer O'Toole as professor of Irish performance studies

## 2019

- 10th anniversary of the creation of the School of Irish Studies

# The Brian O'Neill Gallery Scholarship Fund



*Brian O'Neill Gallery, BA 57, LLD 10*

To honour Brian O'Neill Gallery's role as the driving force in the evolution of Irish Studies, culminating in the creation of the School, the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation established **The Brian O'Neill Gallery Scholarship Fund**. Students in the Major who achieve academic excellence receive tuition remission of \$3,000 per year. Total support from the fund averages \$60,000 yearly. This fund has already granted more than \$300,000 to Concordia students, enabling them to devote more time to their studies.

## Notable numbers

SINCE 1991, MORE THAN  
**300 COURSES**  
HAVE BEEN OFFERED IN  
**15 DISCIPLINES,**  
WITH ENROLMENT OF  
**12,000 STUDENTS.**

**7**  
**VISITING**  
**PROFESSORS**  
HAVE TAUGHT  
SUMMER COURSES  
AT THE SCHOOL.

**6**  
**PERMANENT**  
**PROFESSORS**  
APPOINTED IN  
IRISH STUDIES.

**41 MASTERS** AND  
**PHD STUDENTS**  
HAVE ENROLLED IN GRADUATE  
DEGREES AT CONCORDIA ON  
**IRISH TOPICS.**

**313%**  
**GROWTH**  
IN ENROLMENT BY MAJOR, FROM  
**2013 TO**  
**2019.**

IN 2019–2020,  
IRISH STUDIES HAS:

- **98 STUDENTS**  
ENROLLED IN THE MAJOR
- **21 STUDENTS**  
IN THE MINOR
- **18 COURSES**  
OFFERED IN
- 12 DISCIPLINES**
- **1,200 STUDENTS**  
IN ATTENDANCE

SINCE INCEPTION,  
THE IRISH PUBLIC  
LECTURE SERIES  
HAS BROUGHT  
**OVER 200**  
**SPEAKERS**  
TO CONCORDIA.

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS HAVE RANGED FROM  
**\$25 TO \$150,000.**

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**13**

**VOLUMES OF THE  
CANADIAN JOURNAL  
OF IRISH STUDIES  
HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED  
AT THE SCHOOL.**

**5 ACADEMIC  
CONFERENCES**

**HAVE BEEN HOSTED BY THE SCHOOL  
SINCE 2006, AS WELL AS**

**6 CONFERENCES  
ORGANIZED BY STUDENTS.**

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**INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY  
SUPPORTERS HAVE HELPED CREATE  
27 SCHOLARSHIPS,  
RANGING FROM  
\$750 TO \$5,000,  
AND ANNUAL FINANCIAL AWARDS TO  
GRADUATE STUDENTS RANGING FROM  
\$500 TO \$12,000.**

**MORE THAN  
120  
COMMUNITY  
MEMBERS  
HAVE AUDITED COURSES  
IN IRISH STUDIES SINCE 1991.**

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**MORE THAN  
700 DONORS HAVE  
CONTRIBUTED  
TO THE CANADIAN IRISH STUDIES FOUNDATION,  
MANY ON A REGULAR BASIS.**

**17  
DISTINGUISHED ACADEMICS  
HAVE BEEN APPOINTED AS THE  
PETER O'BRIEN VISITING SCHOLAR.**

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**MORE THAN \$1 MILLION AWARDED  
IN SCHOLARSHIPS AND STUDENT FINANCIAL SUPPORT SINCE 2009.**

## Visiting researchers and scholars



*Maurice Bric, Kevin Barry, Ruth Canning, Fintan O'Toole, Marina Carr, Garrett Fitzgerald, Darina Allen (credit: Ballymaloe Cookery School).*

With its increasing international reputation as a centre of research and teaching in Irish Studies, the School has attracted several high-profile scholars within the last decade.

In 2013, **Dr. Ruth Canning** won a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Fellowship from the European Commission (valued at \$330,000) to conduct research on the Nine Years' War. During her two years at the School, she completed her book on *The Old English in Early Modern Ireland: The Palesmen and the Nine Years' War, 1594–1603* (2019), which received the National University of Ireland Publication Prize in Irish History. Dr. Canning also gave a public lecture and taught a course on Tudor Ireland.

**Dr. Margaret Brehony**, National University of Ireland Galway, has also been awarded a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship and in 2020–2021 will be a post-doctoral scholar at the School of Irish Studies to conduct research on the Irish in Cuba.

In 2011, **Dr. Noémie Beck** received an ExplORA Pro Fellowship for International Postdoctoral Scholars from Coopération et mobilités internationales Rhône-Alpes to conduct research on Irish settlements in rural Quebec. Dr. Beck is now Maître de Conférences in British and Irish Civilisation at Université Savoie Mont Blanc (Chambéry, France) where she will host the 2021 annual conference of the Canadian Association for Irish Studies.

The School of Irish Studies has also welcomed **Professor Maurice Bric** (University College Dublin) as a Senior Flaherty Scholar in 2016 to research the influence of Irish liberator Daniel O'Connell on Quebec politics in the 19th century. Two Junior Flaherty Scholars, **Eve Kearney** (literature, University College Dublin) and **Dr. Thomas Earls Fitzgerald** (history, Trinity College Dublin) each spent several weeks doing research at the School in 2019.

In 2017, Concordia was the first Canadian university to sponsor a Fulbright Scholar in Irish Studies. **Dr. Susanne Cammack** spent a year at the School, where she taught an Irish literature course, gave a public lecture on Irish literature and modernism, and worked on a full-length study of this topic.



*An evening of trilingual poetry with Doireann Ní Ghríofa and LeAnne Howe, in partnership with Writers Read (credit: Terence Byrnes).*



# Visiting professors respond to our students

## SUMMER COURSES

Recent summer courses have allowed students to explore the following subjects:

- “The Irish Economy and the European Union”
- “Ecocriticism in Irish Literature and Landscape”
- “Early Modern Irish History”
- “Contemporary Irish Fiction and the Irish Landscape”
- “Introduction to Irish Visual, Material and Design Culture”
- “Contemporary Irish Landscapes, Literatures and Cultures”

Among the visiting professors who have taught at the School in recent summers are:

- **Maurice Bric** (University College Dublin)
- **Nessa Cronin** (NUI Galway)
- **Paul Gorecki** (Trinity College, Dublin)
- **Derek Gladwin** (University of British Columbia)
- **Linda King** (Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology)
- **Eve Patten** (Trinity College, Dublin)
- **Kevin Whelan** (University of Notre Dame, Dublin Campus)



Nessa Cronin, summer program professor

In 2018, three visiting Irish professors offered summer courses at Concordia: “Contemporary Irish Literature and the Irish Landscape” (Eve Patten, Trinity College Dublin); “An Introduction to Irish Visual, Material and Design Cultures” (Linda King, Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology); and “The Irish Economy and European Union” (Paul Gorecki, Trinity College Dublin). Patten and King shared their thoughts on the experience.



“The students were articulate, confident and industrious. Presentations and written assignments showed the great benefits of Irish Studies as an interdisciplinary resource that allows students working across the arts and humanities to evolve and fine-tune their own subject specialisms. I was deeply struck by the natural fit of Irish Studies within the current political and cultural concerns of Quebec society at large and beyond the confines of the university.”

The students were able to evaluate issues ranging from emigration and diaspora, language conflict, gender and ethnicity to the condition of the globalized city. For me, the experience brought home the value of studying Irish culture in Canada, not because Ireland itself is ‘privileged’ in some way but because the complex historical, political and cultural make-up of the country allows us to perceive, in such concentrated forms, various conditions and evolutions taking place in a much larger nation with similar lines of inheritance.”

— **Eve Patten**



“The students were incredibly bright, fully engaged, enthusiastic and committed. I was genuinely taken aback by the quality and quantity of work they were able to produce in this five-week period. The class was comprised of Filipino, Irish-Canadian, British-Canadian, Moroccan-Israeli, French, Quebecois, Salvadoran and Lebanese students and the class became a safe place to speak about identity politics.”

As the focus of the course was on the meaning and agency of popular objects and images, this enabled them to focus on objects dear to them or central to their own areas of study, which they then analyzed to consider moments of greater national or global importance. The theme of Irish national identity formed a spine throughout all the classes, which covered larger issues, including globalization, nation building and decolonization, religiosity, nostalgia and the diaspora, but I adjusted each class to include Canadian and Quebecois examples that also encouraged comparative analysis.

For example, one student from Vancouver used a maple syrup tin to explore the tropes of Canadian stereotyping while also confronting her family’s history as farmers who had benefitted from taking land from Indigenous people. An Irish-Canadian student used a selection of album covers of Quebecois music to explore the semiotics of representing music throughout the decades and to examine the influence of Irish traditional music. A Quebecois student produced a research-creation project of stamps ‘commemorating’ the Oka Crisis, which sparked amazing discussion between them and the Moroccan-Israeli student (who had been in the Canadian Army) about Canada’s oppression of First Nations peoples. The projects were diverse, sophisticated and ambitious and in all instances, they chimed with contemporary political discourse within Montreal specifically and Quebec more broadly, including globalization/Americanization, language as identity, human rights and civil liberties.”

— **Linda King**

# The Ireland Canada University Foundation



Gemma Lambe

The mission of the ICUF is to strengthen ties between Ireland and Canada through support of scholarly exchange. One program funds visits by Junior Irish-language scholars to teach the Irish language at six Canadian universities. Since 2011, visiting Teagascóirí Gaeilge at Concordia have taught introduction and intermediate classes in Irish. Dubliner Gemma Lambe, the 2019–2020 ICUF Teagascóir, is teaching two Irish language classes at the School of Irish Studies, and is one of the instructors at a weekly Caifé Gaelach in downtown Montreal’s Shaughnessy Village, which attracts about thirty community members.



Enda Kenny

## IRISH PRIME MINISTERS IN MONTREAL

Over the last decade, distinguished visitors to the School have included several cabinet ministers as well as Taoiseach (Prime Minister) **Enda Kenny**. During his 2017 visit to the School, where he met representatives of twenty Montreal Irish associations, Kenny stressed the need to teach Ireland’s history and to share its rich culture with others: “We have an important story to tell and we ourselves first need to understand it so that we can share its lessons with the world.”

The following year, Taoiseach **Leo Varadkar** visited the city and walked in the Montreal Pride parade with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. In meeting representatives from Montreal’s Irish community and officials from Concordia, Varadkar praised the work of the School of Irish Studies and complimented the cooperative partnership that resulted in its creation. He drew special attention to the value of sharing Ireland’s complex story with students from diverse backgrounds, whose world views can be broadened by learning about the Irish experience at home and abroad.



Leo Varadkar

# The Peter O'Brien Visiting Scholar



*Peter O'Brien*

Each year since 2004, a distinguished professor has been invited to Concordia, usually from Ireland, to teach two courses and give the Bishop Neil Willard Public Lecture. With expertise in various disciplines, the annual Peter O'Brien Visiting Scholar enables the School to expand its course offerings and — because some of the most distinguished international scholars have been appointed to the position — raise its profile.

Seed-funded by a generous donation from David O'Brien, BA 62, and supported by Concordia, the Peter O'Brien Visiting Scholar honours the work of Peter O'Brien in leading the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation in its early years. Among the seventeen Visiting Scholars were **John McCourt** (literature, University of Macerata, Italy), **Sonja Tiernan** (history, University of Otago, New Zealand), **Patrick Duffy** (geography, Maynooth University), **Maurice Bric** (history, University College Dublin), **Claire Connolly** (literature, University College Cork), **Ruth Barton** (cinema, Trinity College Dublin), **Linda Cardinal** (politics, University of Ottawa), **Maureen Murphy** (literature & folklore, Hofstra University), and **Margaret Kelleher** (literature, University College Dublin).

The Peter O'Brien Visiting Scholar for the 2020-21 academic year will be **Elaine Sisson** (Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Dublin), an expert on Irish visual and material culture.



*Claire Connolly*



*Margaret Kelleher*



*John McCourt*



*Elaine Sisson*

# The Canadian Irish Studies Foundation



Brian O'Neill Gallery



Peter O'Brien



John Little



Patrick Keenan



David Scott



Pamela McGovern

Irish Studies at Concordia owes its existence to the unique and thriving partnership between the university and the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation. Created by **Brian O'Neill Gallery**, **Peter O'Brien** and **Michael Kenneally** in 1996, when it became clear after several years of offering incidental courses that a long-term strategy was required, the CISF launched an ambitious fundraising drive with Gallery as campaign chair. Seeking to mobilize the Irish and larger communities behind the Foundation's vision of ensuring a permanent academic presence for Irish Studies at Concordia, Gallery gained the endorsement of distinguished patrons and directors, and began the challenging task of seeking donors for this nascent and — as it seemed to some in the early stages — idealistic project. Key early supporters who responded to Gallery's enthusiasm were **John Cleghorn**, **David O'Brien**, BA 62, **Matthew Barrett**, LLD 94, **James Stanford**, BA 57, LLD 00, **Laurent Beaudoin**, LLD 10, **Eric Molson**, LLD 06, **Margaret Duffy** and several prominent anonymous donors. After the Foundation was legally established, Gallery inspired other influential people to become involved, including **Brian Casey**, BA 60, **Peter Cullen**, **William Wilson**, BComm 53, **Susan Kruger**, **Gary O'Connor**, BComm 68, and **John O'Connor**, BA 62. Once the initial goal of \$2.3 million was raised, Peter O'Brien stepped down as CISF Chair and Brian O'Neill Gallery succeeded him. With Gallery at the helm, a transformative period emerged over the next twelve years, when Irish Studies developed in leaps and bounds, laying the foundation for its extraordinary profile today.

Three special friends of Gallery who answered his call to become involved in the Foundation deserve special mention. Although no longer with us, each of them contributed in

important ways to Irish Studies. **Patrick Keenan**, although a resident of Toronto, came to Montreal regularly to attend meetings of the trustees, and he and **Barbara Keenan** contributed a total of \$125,000 to facilitate the appointment of a professor in Irish Studies. **John Little** served as chair of the Foundation until ill health forced his retirement. As president of the St. Patrick's Society of Montreal, it was he who initiated the prestigious annual St. Patrick's Society Lecture. **David Scott** took time from his high-profile career in Ottawa as one of Canada's most distinguished lawyers to serve as a CISF trustee. In addition to offering his wise counsel, David organized a fundraising gathering at the Embassy of Ireland in Ottawa, to honour former director **Patrick Murray** by creating the annual Patrick Murray Scholarship in Irish Studies.

On a happier note, at a recent meeting of the trustees of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation, Chair McGovern announced the creation of four new annual scholarships of \$2,000 each to honour Brian Casey, Peter Cullen, Gary O'Connor and John O'Connor, all pivotal figures in the evolution of the Foundation.

With the retirement of Brian O'Neill Gallery, current chair **Pamela McGovern** has been energetically moving the CISF in new directions, by transforming the board of trustees and establishing closer links between the board and the scholarly activities of the School of Irish Studies. Through its ongoing fundraising efforts, the CISF has continued to make significant donations to Concordia, providing financial support to students, supplementing the cost of visiting and permanent professors, and contributing to the day-to-day operation of the School. The CISF has now emerged as one of Concordia's largest benefactors and has recently made a major pledge to the university's current Capital Campaign.

## Community-funded scholarships

Montreal's Irish community became involved in impressively generous ways to create a range of scholarships for students in Irish Studies. At various levels, individuals and community associations have created endowments to support our students.



Brian Mulroney

In 2004, former Prime Minister **Brian Mulroney** created a scholarship named after his mother, Irene. With continuing donations from Mr. Mulroney and other family members, the Irene Mulroney Scholarship in Irish Studies has emerged

as a major form of financial support for graduate students. Now valued at \$5,000 annually, the Irene Mulroney Scholarship has been awarded to 17 recipients since its inception.

Since 2003, the **St. Patrick's Society** has funded a \$5,000 annual scholarship for a graduate student. There have been 18 recipients of the St. Patrick's Society scholarship, including several who have conducted research on the Irish experience in Montreal and Quebec.



Matthew Hamilton Gault

The **Irish Protestant Benevolent Society** created the IPBS Annual Scholarship and, under the enthusiastic leadership of the late Dr. Robert Faith, raised funds for a second scholarship to honour fellow IPBS member, Leslie Gault. Named the Matthew Hamilton Gault Scholarship in Irish Studies, it recognizes the towering,

19th-century achievements in Montreal and throughout Canada of Leslie's grandfather, financier and politician Matthew Hamilton Gault.

**The United Irish Societies of Montreal** partnered with the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation to organize a concert at St. Patrick's Basilica by the University of Notre Dame's marching band, with the proceeds going to create the United Irish Societies Scholarship.



Gus O'Gorman

With the untimely death of **Dr. Gus O'Gorman** in 2016, the School created a scholarship in his name to send an Irish-language student for a summer course to An Cheathrú Rua, Connemara, under the auspices of Gus's alma mater, the National University of Ireland Galway. The endowment fund for the Dr. Gus O'Gorman Scholarship has been generously supported by his wife, Karin Austin, family members, and many friends around the world.

Other scholarships funded by community members honour the memory of the following: Father Thomas Daniel McEntee; Fr. Shaun Gerard McCarthy Govenlock; Geraldine O'Loughlin Stanford; Stephen Dowd; Moira Ann Snow; Patrick Murray; Arthur Meighen; the McKenty family; Patrick Valley; Timothy Edward McIninch; and Gerald Keyes. The D'Arcy McGee Scholarship was funded by the City of Montreal along with donations from many individuals.



*A generous anonymous donation funded the Fr. Thomas McEntee Reading Room, while a second anonymous donation funds the significant scholarship named after this beloved figure in the Irish community.*

# University and government partnerships



Graham Carr, President,  
Concordia University

From the outset, Concordia has been an enthusiastic and committed partner developing Irish Studies at the university. With a long-standing connection to Montreal's Irish community through its Loyola roots, Concordia recognized the potential of Irish Studies as an academic discipline which, while focusing on Ireland and the Irish experience in Montreal and Quebec, also resonates with important contemporary issues and other communities around the world.

Successive presidents of the university—**Patrick Kenniff, Frederick H. Lowy, Claude Lajeunesse, Judith Woodsworth, Alan Shepard** and **Graham Carr** — and deans of the Faculty of Arts and Science — **Gail Valaskakis, Martin Singer, June Chaikelson, Joanne Locke, David Graham, Brian Lewis** and **André Roy** — have been extremely supportive in the ongoing evolution of Irish Studies, as the discipline evolved from a cluster of courses, to a Minor and Certificate, and eventually a Major in Irish Studies. At each stage of this development, Concordia partnered with the community to commit resources — faculty and research funding, facilities, publicity and communications — so that Irish Studies could build its national and international reputation.



André Roy, Dean of the Faculty  
of Arts and Science, Concordia  
University

In particular, Concordia committed funds to partner with the \$2 million the CISF received from the Government of Quebec to endow the Johnson Chair in Quebec and Canadian Irish Studies. Its mandate is to conduct research and teach about the rich contributions of the Irish to the development of all aspects of society in Quebec and throughout Canada. Concordia also partners with the CISF to support the annual Peter O'Brien Visiting Scholar and the Teagascóir Gaeilge (Irish-language teacher), whose expertise adds to the diversity of courses offered by the School.

Today, Concordia's School of Irish Studies, through its groundbreaking interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary programs, the advice and mentoring offered to undergraduate and graduate students, the research output of its professors and graduate students, its dynamic engagement with the local community, and its academic partnerships with Irish universities, is recognized as one of the pre-eminent centres in the world for this field of study.



Jean Charest

## SUPPORT FROM GOVERNMENTS OF QUEBEC, CANADA AND IRELAND

On Brian Gallery's initiative, the Government of Quebec, led by Premier Lucien Bouchard, contributed \$500,000 to the initial campaign of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation, an amount that was matched by the Government of Canada. On a state visit to Ireland by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, the Government of Ireland acknowledged the hospitality and generosity of Quebecers in taking in victims of the Famine by contributing one hundred thousand Irish pounds (approximately \$130,000) to the fundraising efforts of the CISF. The most transformative government assistance negotiated by Gallery was the donation of \$2 million from the Government of Quebec, under the premiership of Jean Charest, to help create the Johnson Chair. Over the past three decades, the evolving relationship between these three governments, Concordia University and members of the larger community has created a unique partnership model which has been the crucial factor in the success of Irish Studies.

## Courses in Irish Studies over three decades



Gavin Foster



Jane McGaughey



Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin  
(credit: Alain Décarie)



Emer O'Toole



Michael Kenneally



Susan Cahill



Rhona Richman Kenneally



Andre Furlani



Kate Bligh



James Kelly

Since 1991, approximately three hundred courses in Irish Studies have been taught by professors in the School — **Michael Kenneally, Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin, Gavin Foster, Susan Cahill, Jane McGaughey, and Emer O'Toole** — and by Fellows of the School — **Rhona Richman Kenneally, Andre Furlani, and Lorrie Blair**, as well as other full-time, part-time and visiting faculty. Here are some sample course titles in various disciplines:

### LITERATURE

“Highlights of Irish Literature”; “The Irish Literary Revival”; “The Irish Short Story Tradition”; “Irish Gothic Literature”; “James Joyce”; “Irish Children’s Literature.”

### HISTORY

“History of Ireland”; “The Irish in Montreal”; “History and Memory in Ireland”; “The Irish in Canada”; “The Troubles”; “Rebellions in Ireland and Quebec”; “Independent Ireland from the Civil War to the Celtic Tiger”; “The Irish Revolution”; “The Great Famine”; “Nationalism and Unionism in Scotland and Ireland.”

### COMMUNICATION

“Irish Film Studies”; “Intercultural Ireland: Film, Theatre and TV”; “Irish Performance Studies”; “Irish Global Soundscapes”; “Traditional Irish Music: Ireland, Canada and Quebec.”

### LANGUAGE

“Introduction to the Irish Language”; “Intermediate Irish”; “Irish Language and Culture.”

### CULTURE

“The Evolution of the Irish Cultural Landscape”; “Introduction to Irish Visual, Material and Design Culture”; “The Irish Home: Food, Space and Agency”; “Celtic Christianity”; “Sexualities in the Irish Diaspora.”

# Studying the Irish in Montreal, Quebec and Canada



A central aim in creating Irish Studies at Concordia has been to study and bring to greater public awareness the rich history of Irish settlement and achievement in Montreal, Quebec and Canada. These deep and pervasive roots impact all regions of Canada, each with their own complicated and impressive narratives. The scope and variety of the scholarship conducted on these topics is reflected in the nature of courses offered, critical articles and books produced by professors in the School, theses undertaken by graduate students, and public lectures delivered by visiting scholars.

## **COURSES OFFERED ON A REGULAR BASIS:**

- “The Irish in Montreal”
- “The Irish in Canada”
- “Irish Cultural Traditions in Quebec”
- “Irish Traditional Music in Canada”
- “Rebellions in Ireland and the Canadas: 1798 and 1837”

## **BOOKS:**

- *Ireland and Quebec: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on History, Culture and Society*
- *Violent Loyalties: Manliness, Migration, and the Irish in the Canadas, 1798–1841*

## **ARTICLES:**

- “Irish Diasporic Space and Music Memory in Québec”
- “A Reappraisal of Irish Traditional Music History in Canada”
- “Démon violoneux et prêtres vociférants: espace musical et hégémonie morale dans les campagnes irlandaises et québécoises”
- “Dismemberment at Windmill Point: Violence, Manliness, and the Irish in Upper Canada”
- “The Carricks of Whitehaven: Irish Famine Dinnsheanchas in the New World”

- “Je ne suis jamais allée en Irlande: An Irish Journey to La Beauce, Québec”

## **PUBLIC LECTURES:**

- “Daniel O’Connell and Lower Canada”
- “Irlandais, francophones ... et oubliés? Investigating Irish Lifeworlds in La Beauce, Québec”
- “Grosse Île and Commemorations of the Irish Famine”
- “The Life and Times of Thomas D’Arcy McGee and the Fenians”
- “The Fenian World of Quebec’s Jeremiah Gallagher”
- “Suffer the Children: Irish Famine Orphans and the Churches in Montreal, 1847–1848”

## **THESES BY GRADUATE STUDENTS:**

- “Roots and Routes: Memory and Identity in the Irish diaspora in Canada”
- “L’Irlande-en-Québec: Résonances joyciennes et représentations irlandaises dans l’oeuvre d’Hubert Aquin, Jacques Ferron et Victor-Lévy Beaulieu”
- “St. Patrick’s Basilica as a ‘Lieu de Mémoire’ of Irish History and Culture in Quebec”
- “Irish communities in Montreal and Toronto in 19th-century St. Patrick’s Day parades”
- “Irish Protestants in Montreal and Canadian National Identity”
- “Music History and Vernacular Fiddling in Prince Edward Island and Les Îles-de-la-Madeleine”
- “Irish and Lower Canadian Political Leaders’ Discourses and Strategies for Full Citizenship”
- “Montreal’s Multicultural Irish Soundscape”
- “The Magdalen Laundries in Quebec”

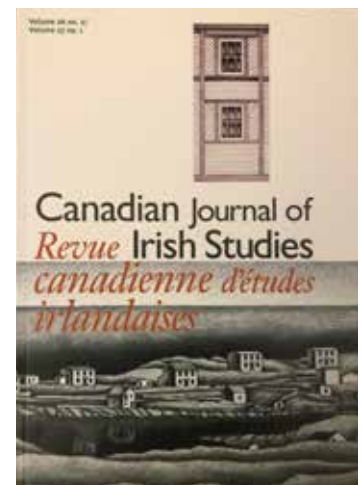
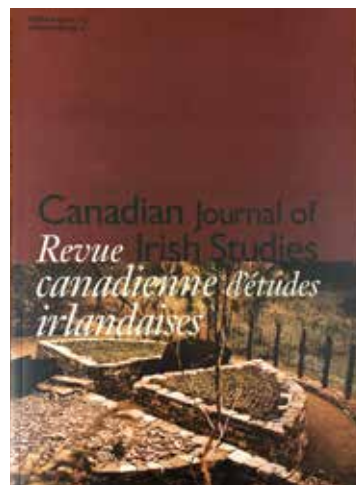




**JOHNSON CHAIR RESEARCH:**

Central to the study of the Irish in Quebec has been the research conducted by Professor Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin under the auspices of the Johnson Chair in Quebec and Canadian Irish Studies. Over the past decade, Professor Ó hAllmhuráin has worked on documentary film projects, oral history collecting, music recording and archival work in le Gaspé, les Îles-de-la-Madeleine, la Beauce, Lotbinière, la Vallée-de-la-Gatineau and l'Outaouais.

A core dimension of this research is *Lost Children of the Carricks*, a 75-minute documentary film that traces the journey of one Irish family who, displaced from their home during the Famine and shipwrecked in the St. Lawrence, struggled against adversity in their new world. The film places the immigrant experience of the Irish-speaking Kaveneyns into historical context, showing their integration and adaptation to rural Quebec and how they kept their culture alive in their new home.



# Irish Studies: a global academic phenomenon

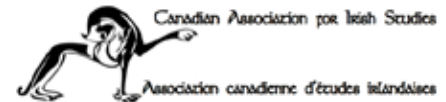
The development of Irish Studies at Concordia has taken place in the context of a worldwide interest in this research area, a phenomenon that began in the late 1960s. When decolonization began in areas such as Africa, Asia and South America, Ireland's efforts to leave the British Empire earlier in the century became an inspirational model for post-colonial societies.

Added attention was brought to the Irish experience with the outbreak of The Troubles in Northern Ireland, when long-simmering matters of national affiliation, contested views of history and landscape, partition, and competing cultural and linguistic allegiances all surfaced in a deeply fractured society. Given Ireland's long historical experience with famine, chronic emigration, efforts of linguistic and cultural rejuvenation, rebellion, civil war and the emergence of a fragile nation state, the Irish experience contributed a powerful case study that resonated internationally. The appeal and ready interest in Irish matters was further facilitated by access through the English language to the many aspects of the country's troubled narrative, in particular its impressive literary and cultural achievements, which themselves invited further study of the society from which they emanated.

This wider context helps explain the worldwide academic flowering of interest in Irish matters and the presence of more than twenty academic associations in the world focusing on Irish history and culture. In addition to the obvious countries with large Irish immigrant populations such as Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United States and the United Kingdom, Irish academic associations are flourishing in countries such as Brazil, France, Japan, Italy, Korea, Spain, Switzerland and Taiwan.

More than a dozen academic journals in European, North American, South American and Asian countries focus exclusively on aspects of Irish Studies. Courses, lectures or various programs in Irish Studies are offered in universities in Australia and New Zealand (4), the United Kingdom (5) and the United States (24). In Europe, there are strong Irish Studies presences in universities in France, Italy, Spain, Belgium, Austria, Germany, Denmark, Hungary and the Czech Republic. In China, Irish Studies centres have recently been created at universities in Nanjing, Hunan, Beijing and Shanghai.

In this international context, Concordia's School of Irish Studies is regarded as a trailblazer, given the diversity of subjects taught and its interdisciplinary approach in exploring complex issues that echo around the world.



## Our Irish university partners



Newman House, the original building of University College Dublin, which is now the home of the Museum of Literature Ireland (MoLI).

The opportunity to study in Ireland is a key attraction for students in Irish Studies. Upper-level undergraduate students in Irish Studies can study in Ireland either by working with a Concordia professor to conduct independent research or participating in a formal academic exchange with an Irish university. Graduate students can receive funding for research visits, participation in Irish academic conferences, or enrolment in seminars or summer courses.

Over the last several years, Concordia has signed formal academic exchange agreements with: **University College Cork, Technological University Dublin, University College Dublin, Maynooth University** and the **National University of Ireland Galway**. Open to any Concordia student, such exchanges allow students to broaden their educational experience and widen international career options.



University College Dublin  
Ireland's Global University



NUI Galway  
OÉ Gaillimh



# Community support and outreach

From the beginning, all twenty Irish associations in Montreal have expressed enthusiastic support for the development of Irish Studies at Concordia. **The St. Patrick's Society of Montreal** was a crucial initial donor, committing \$100,000 over five years to the original capital campaign. In keeping with the Society's mandate to support education, the St. Patrick's Society Scholarship of \$5,000 was created in 2003.

In 2006, at the initiative of then president Dr. John Little, the prestigious annual St. Patrick's Society Lecture was established, with former Prime Minister Garret FitzGerald as inaugural speaker and several other high-profile figures, including Dr. Margaret Kelleher, (Chair of Anglo-Irish Literature & Drama, UCD), visiting in subsequent years.

**The Irish Protestant Benevolent Society of Montreal** (IPBS) also sponsored a public lecture for several years, inaugurated by Kerby A. Miller (University of Missouri). Subsequent speakers included David Wilson (University of Toronto), Maurice Bric (University College Dublin), Jackie Maxwell (artistic director, Shaw Festival), Donald Akenson (Queen's University), Terence Dooley (Maynooth University), and Alvin Jackson (University of Edinburgh). Beginning in 2020, the IPBS will fund an Irish Studies student to enrol in the Queen's University Belfast International Summer School in Irish Studies.

In 2012, Montreal's **Innisfail Social and Sports Club** donated funds for an Innisfail Bursary, to provide support for students experiencing acute financial distress and in danger of dropping out of university as a result. With a growing endowment, the Innisfail Bursary is an important ongoing resource available for Irish Studies students in an emergency financial situation.

Over the years, Irish Studies has partnered with several other groups in the city to promote Irish culture and sport. The most long-standing of these relationships is with **Ciné Gael Montreal**, now in its 28th season of screening an annual Irish film festival at Concordia. The School has provided support in facilitating access to the de Sève cinema and, at various times, has offered speakers for individual screenings.

Likewise, since 2013, the School has been an integral partner with the **Montreal Bloomsday Festival** in organizing speakers for its events and hosting a day of panel discussions by James Joyce scholars.

For several years, the School has collaborated with the **Bernadette Short School of Irish Dancing** in supporting and promoting Irish dance competitions in North America and Ireland. Recently **the Ireland Canada Chamber of Commerce — Montreal Chapter** sponsored a special lecture at the School by Ambassador Jim Kelly to a capacity audience. Over the years, the School has also partnered in various ways with **Comhrá**, the **Siamsa School of Irish Music**, the **Coalition for Peace in Ireland** and the **Erin Sports Association**.



Ireland-Canada  
Chamber of Commerce  
Chambree de Commerce  
Irlande-Canada





In recent years, the Montreal branch of the **Gaelic Athletic Association** (GAA) has been extremely active and now has 12 teams in Montreal — including the men’s and the women’s Griffintown Gaels, the Goose Village Black Rocks, the Verdun Vikings, the N.D.G. Na Fianna Rouges, the Pointe-Saint-Charles Cú Chulainn, and the Saint-Henri Harps — and is affiliated with the activities of this legendary sporting association in Ireland. The School of Irish Studies supports Concordia’s own GAA team, the Concordia Warriors, the only university team in North America given formal recognition by the GAA headquarters in Dublin.



# Resources

## BOOK DONATIONS

As the School of Irish Studies has evolved, it has greatly benefited from valuable book donations from the Irish community across Canada. Collections of books, magazines, records and family archival documents are invaluable research resources for current and future students.

The School has been privileged to have received extensive collections of primary and secondary books on Irish culture and history from distinguished pioneering Canadian scholars in Irish Studies. These include an enormously valuable collection from **Ann Saddlemyer**, LL.D. 00, dealing with the major figures in the Irish Literary Revival — Lady Gregory, William Butler Yeats, J. M. Synge — along with other 20th-century Irish literary figures. We are deeply grateful for this important donation from Professor Saddlemyer (former Master of Massey College at the University of Toronto) who, in retirement, is still an enthusiastic supporter of the School.

Likewise, we appreciate the book collection of the late **Maurice Elliott** (York University), kindly donated by his wife, Carol, and family. Comprised of a unique collection by Irish literary figures since the 1960s, it includes first editions and signed copies. Other professors who, on retirement, made book donations include James Noonan (Carleton University) and Finn Gallagher (Trent University).

## RARE BOOKS

With the encouragement of Concordia's chancellor, **Jonathan Wener**, BComm 71, alumnus **Barry Sheehy**, BA 75, donated 14 rare Irish books that he lovingly collected over the years. The 17th-, 18th- and 19th-century unique editions now form the keystone of the new Irish Studies Rare Book Collection at the university. Sheehy returned to his alma mater to officially launch the Irish Studies Rare Book Collection and give a lecture, on Ireland during the Elizabethan War, to some fifty guests.

"This is a very generous gift that we are honoured to receive. It is always special when a graduate pays tribute to their education by giving back," said Graham Carr, Concordia's president.

University librarian Guylaine Beaudry noted that "the quality of our research and the program at our School of Irish Studies was certainly the inspiration to create this collection."

"Coming back to Concordia is like coming home," said Sheehy. "I'm delighted to have this opportunity to share these extraordinary historical works with my alma mater."

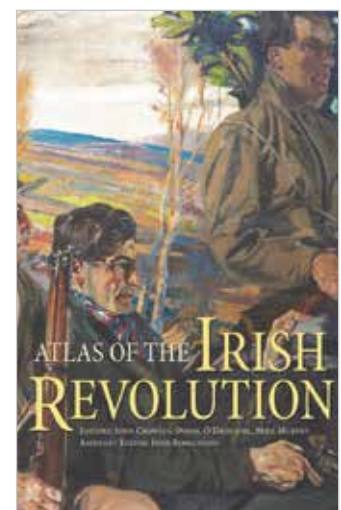
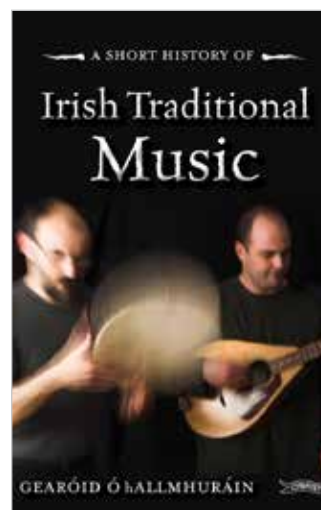
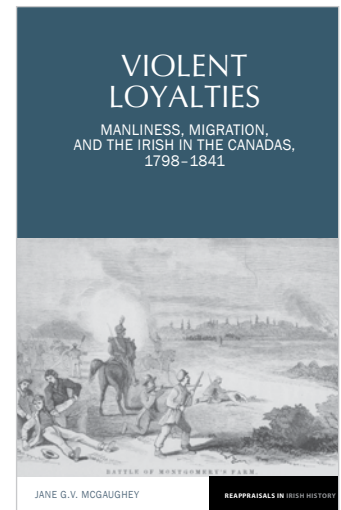
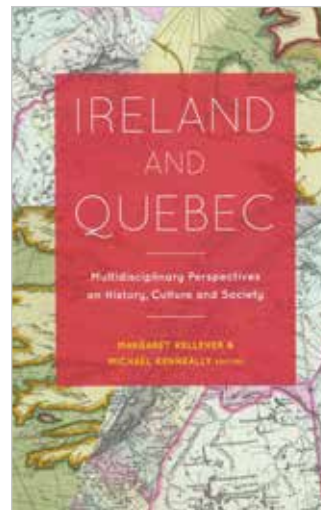
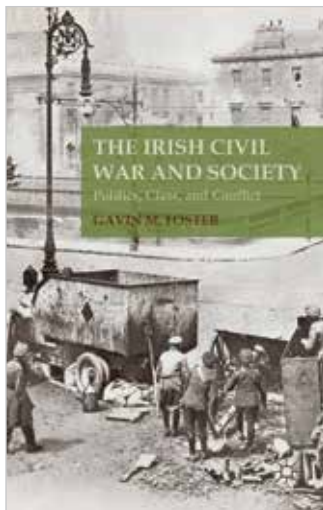
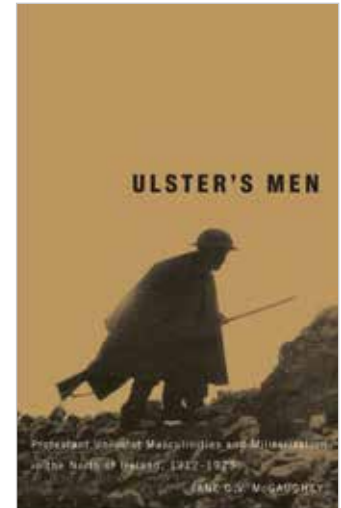
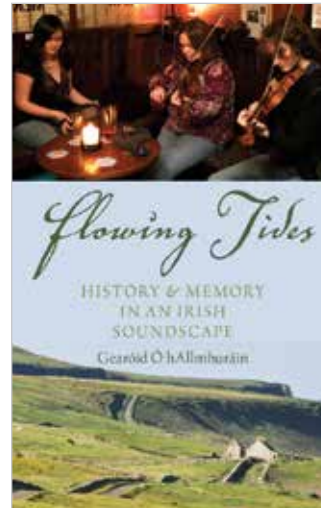
Chancellor Wener thanked Sheehy for making his treasures accessible for the public good. "Your books will take on new life in the hands of our students," he said. "They will become part of the Concordia educational experience."

## RESEARCH OUTPUT

The national and international profile of the School of Irish Studies has been significantly enhanced by the quality and volume of research created by professors and graduate students associated with the School. Over the past decade, professors have published extensively in scholarly journals such as *History Ireland*, *New Hibernia Review*, *Éire-Ireland: Journal of Irish Studies*, *Saothar: Journal of the Irish Labour History Society*, *Contemporary Theatre Review*, *Sexualities*, *Journal of Adaptation in Film and Performance*, *Journal of Transatlantic Studies*, *Ontario History*, *Field Day Review*, *Béascna: Journal of Folklore and Ethnology/Iris Bhéaloideasa agus Eitneolaíocht*, *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy*, and *Food and Foodways*, and collectively they have received external research funding of more than \$1.2 million. The scholarly publications pictured on right provide a sense of the discipline range of research conducted by professors in Irish Studies at Concordia.



# Scholarly books by our professors



## Graduate student research

Through generous funding, the School of Irish Studies attracts graduate students to Concordia who are interested in working on Irish topics with faculty members in the School. Over the last ten years, 41 graduate students have come to Concordia — 25 MAs and 16 PhDs. In addition to the Irish-Canadian theses topics listed on page 16, topics have included:

- “Irish Transnational Lives in Colonial Cuba: Migration, Slavery, and Spaces of Power, 1788–1845”
- “Media Infrastructure, Built Space, and Financialization in Post-Crisis Ireland”
- “Unsettled Island: Irish Nationalism, Unionism, and British Imperialism in the Shaping of Irish Independence, 1909–1922”
- “The Material Culture of Viking Dublin and Irish Identity”
- “Across the Peace Line: Contested Histories and Intergenerational Memory in ‘Post-Conflict’ Northern Ireland”
- “Complicating Meaning with Materials: Irish Lace in Images of Queen Victoria (1837–1901)”
- “Ireland and the Basque Country: Nationalisms in Contact, 1895–1939”
- “Seeping Through Stones”
- “Gendering Bodies: Violence as Performance in Ireland’s War of Independence (1919–1921)”
- “Re-Settling Woes and Rebellions: The Role of Ireland’s Natural History in the Cromwellian Era”
- “Between Sovereignty and Conscience in the Early Modern World: Archbishop Richard Creagh and the Problem of Government in Tudor Ireland”

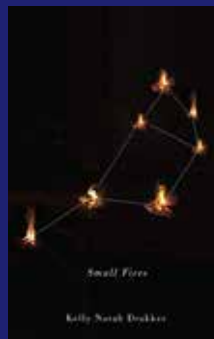
Among the several graduate students who have already begun to publish articles derived from their research in international peer-reviewed journals, are:

- Patrick Brodie. “Star Wars and the Production and Circulation of Culture along Ireland’s Wild Atlantic Way” in *Journal of Popular Culture* (forthcoming 2020).
- Patrick Brodie. “Deterritorializing Irish Filmmaking: Lenny Abrahamson, Gerard Barrett, and Donal Foreman” in *Nordic Irish Studies Journal* (2016).

- Molly-Claire Gillett. “‘Home Charms’: unpacking an Irish immigrant woman’s home through speculative design” in *Text and Performance Quarterly* (2019).
- Giselle González García. “Dying in Havana: A Microhistory of Irish Immigrants Buried in the General Cemetery (1859-1862)” in *Ireland and Cuba: Entangled Histories / Irlanda y Cuba: Historias Entrelazadas* (forthcoming 2020).
- Raymond Jess. “‘Rubbing away their roughness by mutual contact’: Post-Confederation Irish writers and Canadian National Identity” in *Études irlandaises* (2016).
- Raymond Jess. “The Disappearing Real and the Bright Ideal: Situating the Irish Past and Guiding the Canadian Future in Nineteenth-Century Irish-Canadian Poetry” in *Breac: A Digital Journal of Irish Studies* (2018).
- Mike Rast. “British Political Theatre in Ireland: Winston Churchill and Belfast, 1912” in *History Ireland* (2020).
- Kyle McCreanor. “The Irish Revolution and the Basque Nationalist Movement, 1916–23” in *History Ireland* (2020).

Three graduates in Irish Studies have published scholarly books based on their research at Concordia:

- Mike Rast, PhD 17: *Shaping Ireland’s Independence: Nationalist, Unionist, and British Solutions to the Irish Question, 1909–1925* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2019).
- Kelly Norah Drukker, BA 99, MA 13: *Small Fires* (McGill-Queen’s University Press, 2016).
- Julie Guyot: *Les Insoumis de l’Empire : refus de la domination coloniale britannique en Irlande et au Bas-Canada, 1790–1840* (Septentrion, 2016).





# The Canadian Journal of Irish Studies



The profile of Irish Studies at Concordia has been greatly enhanced by the publication of the *Canadian Journal of Irish Studies* (CJIS). Founded in 1974, the CJIS has been a pre-eminent international forum on Irish history, culture and society.

After being published for many years at the University of British Columbia, and then at the University of Saskatchewan and Memorial University, the journal came to Concordia in 2000 with Michael Kenneally as editor. After four volumes, the CJIS then moved to the University of Alberta with Professor Jerry White as editor.

In 2010, the CJIS returned to Concordia and was published at the School of Irish Studies under the editorship of Professor Rhona Richman Kenneally. Her goal as editor of the last eight issues has been to broaden its focus to address present-day, cutting-edge scholarship on Ireland and its diaspora in such areas as the environmental humanities, queer studies, visual communication, material and spatial culture, and social justice.

Toward this end, transdisciplinarity has been a key goal, as has an intentional juxtaposition of compelling articles, astute book and exhibition reviews, and otherwise inaccessible primary sources that have ranged from photography and poetry to recipes and artworks. During Richman Kenneally's stewardship, particular emphasis has been paid to the volumes as vibrant material entities in and of themselves, as reflected in the attention they attract as designed book-works. At present, two issues of the CJIS are in preparation, including a special issue on the 2018 repeal of the Eighth Amendment of the Constitution of Ireland, to be co-edited by Richman Kenneally, Linda King and Jane McGaughey.



## Our emerging alumni



### **ANGELA OLAGUERA, BA 13**

Angela works in administration for the group benefits customer-care centre of a major international financial institution.

“The problem-solving skills, out-of-the-box mindset, and interdisciplinary lenses I acquired in my BA helped me attain my position. I was chosen over candidates with HR and business admin backgrounds, since I demonstrated a mental agility, ease and quickness of understanding of complex problems, and strong positive interpersonal communication abilities.”



### **JORDANA STARKMAN, BA 16**

After going on to complete an MPhil in Public History and Cultural Heritage at Trinity College Dublin, Jordana is now working as Public

Programs Manager for the Brooklyn Children’s Museum.

“By easing the financial pressures of university, the Foundation’s tuition remission program allowed me to consider continuing my studies [at the graduate level].”



### **JESSICA POULIN, MA 17**

Building on her Irish Studies background, Jessica completed a graduate certificate in Museum

Management and Curatorship at Fleming College in Peterborough, Ontario and is now working in the Grants Management Department of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (MMFA) as a researcher and editor.

“The interdisciplinary training and broad educational foundation that I received in Irish Studies and the wider issues raised beyond Irish matters gave me excellent preparation for the shifting perspectives and multiple requirements that are essential within my field.”



### **ANGELA BRUNI, BA 16**

After Concordia, Angela completed an MA in Literature at Trinity College Dublin and has recently returned to Montreal to work as a

copywriter, content curator and editor for a cloud-computing infrastructure provider.

“I have found that the development of my critical analysis skills and the ability to think critically in a logical and coherent manner have been invaluable in the job market.”



### **MORGAN KLEINSASSER, BA 19**

While pursuing her BA in Irish Studies, Morgan participated in a student exchange to University

College Cork. After her year abroad, she applied for a two-year work visa, and now works as a grading analyst at Apple’s European headquarters in Cork, Ireland.

“The close monitoring of students by professors in Irish Studies significantly increased my learning experience, and the networking opportunities provided by the School have proved crucial in my current job.”



### **ROBIN BRODRICK, BA 19**

Robin is currently the office coordinator of the St. Patrick’s Society of Montreal, where she oversees events throughout the year,

such as the Annual Charity Ball, the Annual St. Patrick’s Day Luncheon and the Annual Charity Golf Tournament.

“My experience in Irish Studies deepened my understanding of Irishness — the diaspora and especially the role of the Irish community in the greater society of Montreal.”



### **HELENE-JANE GROARKE, MA 18**

With a BA and an MA on the contribution of the Irish to Montreal society, Helene-Jane found that the knowledge and communication

and organizational skills that she developed as a student at the School were crucial in helping to land her a job at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

“The communication skills that I learned in Irish Studies made me stand out [in my interview].”



2019 St. Patrick’s Day Parade Queen Victoria Kelly, current student in Irish Studies, visiting Ireland.

## Snapshots of current students



### VICTORIA KELLY

Enrolled in a double major in Biology and Irish Studies, Victoria is planning to do a graduate degree combining these disciplines. An active member of Montreal's Irish community, she was the Queen of the 2019 St. Patrick's Day Parade and later visited Ireland. "The most unique feature of the School of Irish Studies is the support given to students by staff and professors. All of the professors are enthusiastically engaged, extremely dedicated and always willing to mentor and advise students. The School offers a great program in a warm and dynamic academic setting."



### CHELSEA LACASSE-GOBEILLE

Excelling in her Irish Studies Major, Chelsea is also an active member of the Concordia Warriors GAA Team.

"Extracurricular activities organized in collaboration with the School offer a wider understanding of what is discussed in class. Some examples include music sessions with Siamsa, GAA sports, multiple talks by visiting scholars and céilí organized by the department."



### ALEXIS KELLY

After graduation in spring 2020, Alexis will follow his passion for playing Irish music on the uilleann pipes. He plans to go to Ireland to study the craft of making this complex instrument with the intention of setting up his own musical instrument manufacturing business.

"As a piper at the School of Irish Studies, I have found plenty of opportunities to play either as part of a course, at school events or musical shows within the broader Montreal Irish community."



### ERIN DUNLOP

With a major in Irish Studies and specialization in English Literature, Erin has been able to take courses in a variety of disciplines, while deepening her exploration of Ireland's rich literary tradition. "The courses are unique and interesting, the professors are fantastic and being a part of this program has given me wonderful opportunities, like presenting a paper on the undergraduate panel at the 2019 CAIS conference."



### MILES MURPHY

Recipient of the 2018–2019 Gus O'Gorman Irish Language Scholarship through ICUF, Miles is very active in Montreal's Irish language scene. "As a mature student who is returning to full-time studies, I could not have found a more inclusive and welcoming environment in which to pursue my lifelong learning. This is not only a school for those with Irish heritage but for anyone, young or old, who wishes to enrich their knowledge and expand the borders of their intellectual horizon."



### MAGGIE KJEER

Studying Jazz Vocal Performance and Irish Studies, Maggie cites "opportunities to study abroad, a sense of community and the opportunity to receive scholarships" as some of the features that drew her to Irish Studies.

"Being a part of Irish Studies has improved my resourcefulness, work ethic and discipline."



### MYRA-GRACE SALINAS

Looking to add another major to her Leisure Sciences concentration, Myra-Grace initially wondered: "What does Irish Studies have to do with me?" After reading about the program, she was inspired by the chance to learn from multiple perspectives while fine-tuning her skills in transfer learning. She is now an ambassador for Irish Studies to her friends.



Fondation canadienne d'études irlandaises  
Canadian Irish Studies Foundation

### Canadian Irish Studies Foundation

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**Back cover photos:** Ireland seen through the eyes of Irish Studies and Design student Shaney Herrmann.



