







COLÁISTE MHUIRE GAN SMÁL OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH MARY IMMACULATE COLLEGE UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK

ANNUAL REPORT

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Introduction

Professor Michael A. Hayes **President**



Welcome to the Annual Report 2011-2012 for Mary Immaculate College.

2011-2012 has seen many changes in Mary Immaculate College, not least in the change of Presidency. I took up the role of President in October 2011, the ninth President in the history of Mary Immaculate College. The lowering of the boundary walls is a signal that Mary Immaculate College is at the beginning of a new departure, welcoming to the community and open for business.

The launch of the new Strategic Plan 2012-2016 further endorsed this new chapter in the life of the College. It recognises the rapid and complex changes to the policy landscape and the operational environment in Ireland. This Strategic Plan will ensure that Mary Immaculate College will continue to grow and flourish with greater international links, while continuing to play a pivotal role in third level education in a more diverse and inclusive Ireland.

MIC continued to attract Ireland's top students onto our four undergraduate programmes in Education and the Liberal Arts, including a number of students who have received 600 or more points. This year the College again maintained its appeal to those wishing to study Education, with CAO points for the College's primary teaching programmes remaining at 470, (430 for Gaeltacht applicants), making it among the most popular course choices in the country. Yet again this year, the BEd in Education and Psychology, the only course of its kind in the country, actually witnessed an increase in points, now standing at an impressive 555.

Mary Immaculate College had much to celebrate 2012, not least with the official opening of our brand new purpose-built and fully equipped 510-seat Lime Tree Theatre which is a wonderful addition to the wider College Community and to the City of Limerick. Amongst the variety of events and initiatives was the inaugural MIC Research Showcase, the Association of Third-Level Teachers of German in Ireland Conference, the Per Cent for Art Scheme, participation in the Limerick Lifelong Learning Festival and the 7th International Drama in Education Research Institute (IDiERI 7) which we were delighted to host at Mary Immaculate College in July. We were honoured to welcome distinguished visitors to the College, Ambassadors, Ministers of State, and some of the most renowned members of the Arts community in Ireland.

In April 2012 I was appointed by Minister for Education and Skills Ruairi Quinn to the Teaching Council of Ireland for a four year term of office. One of the most gratifying experiences for me was to see many of our Academic staff members win prestigious awards for their teaching and research further confirming the excellence of our academic provision.

The President's Postgraduate Scholarships were announced in July 2012 to support Mary Immaculate College's vision for enabling exceptional students to pursue higher level learning opportunities and research of outstanding quality at this time of unprecedented change, renewal and reform in Irish education. This along with the introduction of several new programmes of study will ensure that Mary Immaculate College is positioning itself well for the future.

Professor Michael A Hayes President

Foreword by Chairman of An Bord Rialaithe



Very Reverend Tony Mullins, Administrator, Diocese of Limerick

I am delighted to provide the Foreword to the MIC Annual Report 2011-12. The outgoing Academic Year has marked a time of great change and renewal for the College and, on behalf of An Bord Rialaithe, I would like, first and foremost, to thank all members of the College community – staff, students, and our partners – for the active and committed role they have played in this. I also want to pay tribute to our new President, Professor Michael A Hayes, who has begun his tenure in a most dynamic fashion, setting out his agenda for leading the College forward in an impressive inaugural address in February 2012, which was attended by the Minister for Education & Skills, Ruairí Quinn TD, and the Chief Executive of the Higher Education Authority (HEA), Tom Boland.

Following the President's address, an important highlight of this past year was the launch of our new Strategic Plan 2012-2016. The strategy for the next several years is encapsulated in a very meaningful Vision Statement which I would like to quote. This statement tells us that MIC aims to be:

"...a distinctive and inclusive, university-level, Catholic College of Education & the Liberal Arts, offering higher level learning opportunities and research of outstanding quality, recognised and appreciated for its essential contribution to the continuum of academic provision in effective and productive collaboration with its partners in the higher education sector, that is embodied by a welcoming and diverse learning community, that presents a beautiful and inviting civic space situated at the heart of Limerick City, and that has made a positive and tangible difference to equity and to the creation of a just society through active promotion of educational inclusion and through the contribution of its excellent graduates."

This is an important statement because it coincides with a period of unprecedented change and reform in the Irish higher education system. The HEA is leading a process of strategic dialogue with the higher education sector and all higher education institutions have set out their intended stance in a new 'landscape.' MIC, echoing the Vision Statement quoted above, looks forward with confidence, as an autonomous institution, while at the same time, welcoming the emphasis put by the HEA on the importance of greater partnership and collaboration between higher education institutions so that the public can be confident that academic provision in Ireland matches value for money with teaching, learning and research of the highest quality. The College is also well-positioned to continue working towards greater levels of participation at higher education, which objective is central to the mission of this institution.

In conclusion, I wish our new President every blessing in fulfilling the goals of the College and I look forward to seeing the supportive efforts of our dedicated staff and our friends bear fruit in this exciting new future for MIC. I commend this Annual Report to you as testament to that journey, begun.

Fr. Tony Mullins Chairman of An Bord Rialaithe

Governance





An Bord Rialaithe

An Bord Rialaithe is the Governing Body of MIC. The MIC Trustees have charged An Bord Rialaithe with the responsibility of overseeing the affairs of the College.

An Bord Rialaithe met quarterly in 2011/2012 and discussed the following:

- Financial matters
- Progress of various sub-committees
- Development in various policy documents
- Building programme and development plan
- Mary Immaculate College (MIC) Strategic Plan
- Student intake and applications to Central Application Office (CAO)
- Governance

The members of *An Bord Rialaithe* during 2011-12 included:

Prof. Michael Breen, Mr Noel Byrne, Dr Liam Chambers, Mr John Coady, Ms Máiréad Collins, Sr Breda Coman, Dr Paddy Connolly, Mr John Dalton, Mr Tom Donoghue, Ms Rachel Godfrey, Mr Richard Haslam, Mr John Hayden, Prof. Michael Hayes, Prof. Michael Healy, Ms Anne Kavanagh, Dr Anne Looney, Ms Dorothy Morrissey, Ms Gerardine Moloney, Rev. Fr Tony Mullins, Dr Déirdre Ní Chróinín, Prof. Gary O'Brien, Ms Margaret O'Brien, Prof. Teresa O' Doherty, Sr Michele O'Kelly, Dr Carol O'Sullivan, Gearóid Uas Ó Tiarnaigh, Sr Eucharia Ryan, Ms Caitríona Spooner, Prof. Eugene Wall, Fr Michael Wall, Fr Liam Walsh.

Coiste Bainistíochta an Choláiste:

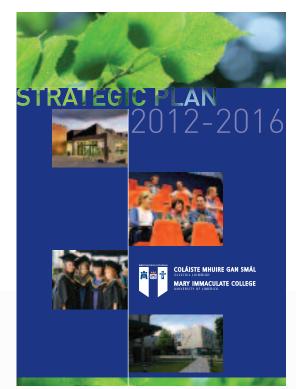
Prof. Michael A Hayes, Prof. Eugene Wall, Prof. Mick Healy, Mr. John Coady, Prof. Teresa O'Doherty, Prof. Gary O'Brien, Prof. Michael Breen, Ms. Gerardine Moloney, Ms. Dorothy Morrissey, Dr. Liam Chambers.

Strategic Plan

The launch of the new Strategic Plan 2012-2016 marked a new chapter in the life of the College. It recognises the rapid and complex changes to the policy landscape and the operational environment in Ireland.

As stated in the foreword of the Strategic Plan, the lowering of the front wall of the College is a deliberately symbolic gesture of "opening up" to opportunities to work in partnership with the wider community in terms of social and educational inclusion. A particular focus of the Strategic Plan for the future will be continuing to support the Shannon Consortium in bringing about positive change through research, educational initiatives and networking with other stakeholders. This also indicates that the College looks forward to measureable change that is consistent with the objectives set out in the National Strategy for Higher Education.

The Strategic Plan will ensure that MIC will continue to grow and flourish with greater international links, while continuing to play a pivotal role in third level education in a more diverse and inclusive Ireland.



Graduations



There was great cause for celebration at this year's graduation which took place on Thursday 27th and Friday 28th October as almost 1000 students were conferred with academic awards. The quality of advanced scholarship in the College was evident in the sheer breadth of programmes (23 in all, not including individual research at MA and PhD level) from which students graduated.



A special tribute was paid to Elaine Harte Doyle, recipient of the Award for Outstanding Achievement, an award presented by the College to students who, in the year of the award, demonstrate outstanding achievements in any field of endeavour. Elaine, who was conferred with a Graduate Diploma in Education (Primary Teaching) on Friday morning, was goalkeeper on the Cork Senior Ladies Football team that won the All-Ireland Final 2011. This was Elaine's 6th All-Ireland Senior Medal as she has been goalkeeper for Cork's wins in 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2011.

SEPTEMBER2011





Recipients of the Certificate in Theology & Religious Studies with Prof. Eamonn Conway, Fr Tony Mullins and Dr Eugene Duffy

OCTOBER201



The Department of German Studies at Mary Immaculate College hosted the Association of Third-Level Teachers of German in Ireland Conference. The focus of the conference was on transcultural/transnational literature and plurilingualism, and was opened by the Swiss Ambassador, His Excellency Beat Loeliger. The programme included an introduction to transcultural literature in contemporary Switzerland by Dr Carmel Finnan (MIC), a reading by the well-known Romanian-Swiss writer, Catalin Dorian Florescu, a talk on plurilingualism in Switzerland and its relevance for Ireland by Prof. Christine le Pape Racine (Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz) and a roundtable discussion focussing on New Paradigms for Modern Languages in Irish Education, with guests from primary, secondary and tertiary sectors of Irish education.

The MIC Research Showcase 'Sárthaispeántas Taighde 2011' took place on 30th August 2011. The event was organised by Professor Michael Healy, AVP for Research, and it showcased the research portfolio of the College. In all about 100 people

Promethean, a global education company, added Mary Immaculate College as one of its partners in providing online classroom resources for use by primary teachers in

A very momentous graduation ceremony for *New Openings in the Study of Theology* and *Religion for Adults* (NOSTRA) students took place at Mary Immaculate College in September, which saw the first ever student to graduate with a *Higher Certificate in Theology & Religious Studies.* Meanwhile six students graduated with a *Certificate in Theology & Religious Studies* and a further 18 students from a West Clare Cluster group received certificates for an Introduction to Pastoral Ministry module that they recently undertook in Kilrush as part of a NOSTRA parish outreach programme.

attended, many of whom were external to the College.

Ireland and across the globe.

The conference closed with a book launch and wine reception hosted by both the Swiss Ambassador and the German Ambassador, His Excellency Dr Eckhard Lübkemeier.

NOVEMBER201



Minister of State for Training and Skills, Ciarán Cannon, T.D. launched an exciting, new and comprehensive book for teachers, entitled STRANDS at MIC. STRANDS details methods and approaches for working successfully with children with general learning disabilities and Down syndrome. A first of its kind in Ireland, STRANDS is a richly informative and comprehensive book which has been developed by the Department of Special Education at Mary Immaculate College (MIC)

NOVEMBER2011cont'd



Prof. Michael A Hayes pictured with Mr. Jimmy Deenihan T.D., Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and local artist David Lilburn at the official launch of Per Cent for Art Scheme at Mary Immaculate College, Limerick.



Speakers from the conference 'A Critical Analysis of North-South Educational Partnerships in Development Contexts'



Dr. John McDonagh, Polish Ambassador His Excellency Marcin Nawrot, President of MIC Prof. Michael A Hayes and Dr. Sabine Egger pictured at the launch of Polish-Irish Encounters in the Old and New Europe

DECEMBER2011



Mr. Jimmy Deenihan T.D., Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, was present at Mary Immaculate College (MIC) to officially launch the Per Cent for Art Scheme at the College.

A national conference on the subject of "A Critical Analysis of North-South Educational Partnerships in Development Contexts" took place on Wednesday 30th November.

The Polish Ambassador, His Excellency Marcin Nawrot, visited Mary Immaculate College to launch a book, entitled Polish-Irish Encounters in the Old and New Europe, edited by MIC lecturers Dr. Sabine Egger and Dr. John McDonagh. The essays in Polish-Irish Encounters in the Old and New Europe (2011) tease out significant strands that connect the two countries, including literature, visual media, politics, history and education, Examining Polish-Irish relations in their wider historical and cultural context allows for new definitions of Irish, Polish and European identities in the New Europe. Especially important in view of the challenges and opportunities that a multicultural Ireland faces after the hard landing of the Celtic Tiger, this book provides new perspectives on a substantial and vibrant cross-cultural relationship.

Laura McInerney, a BA ECCE student at Mary Immaculate College, was one of 10 stroke survivors whose courage was celebrated at the Irish Heart Foundation Stroke Awards.

The Department of Arts Education and Physical Education at Mary Immaculate College, announced the new and exciting new postgraduate programme in education and the arts: META (MA in Education and The Arts).

JANUARY2012



The inaugural meeting for a European project on the recognition of prior learning (RPL) in vocational education and training (VET) was co-hosted by Mary Immaculate College and Limerick City Adult Education Service.

Nineteen students from the College of Education at California State University, Long Beach resided at Mary Immaculate College in Limerick for two weeks as part of a study tour of Ireland.

heart of the city.

JANUARY2012 CONT'D



FEBRUARY2012









MARCH2012



In his Inaugural Address, the new President of Mary Immaculate College (MIC), Prof. Michael A Hayes, spoke of the recent lowering of its boundary walls as a symbol of the College's desire to embrace the community and to re-assert its position in the

A two-day Algebraic Geometry conference with speakers from Ireland and abroad took place.

The future stars of young Irish sport were recognised at MIC as the GAA Bursary Awards were presented to thirteen very talented students.

The Kate O'Brien Weekend took place in Limerick from 24th - 26th February 2012 at the Belltable Arts Centre with the final day's proceedings taking place in the state-of-the-art Lime Tree Theatre, Mary Immaculate College, Limerick.

On Wednesday 15th February, children of MIC students joined their parents on campus to take part in the first ever midterm break workshop organised by Mary I Students' Union in conjunction with MISPACE.

A cross-disciplinary network of academics consisting of scientists, geneticists, historians, archaeologist linguists and bone specialists came together to investigate the population of Ireland's Viking cities and their hinterland.

An Seomra Caidrimh, a new facility located in the Library Building, was officially opened and is being used as meeting room, classroom; recreation/relaxation space for all with an interest in the Irish language and culture in College.

The Limerick Lifelong Learning Festival took place from 26th March to 1st April 2012. Over 140 events were held throughout Limerick City and County. Mary Immaculate College hosted a Mature Student Information Evening on Monday 26th March as part of this festival.

Is eagraíocht neamhbhrabúis í Seachtain na Gaeilge, a chuireann úsáid na Gaeilge agus an chultúir Ghaelaigh chun cinn anseo in Éirinn agus thar lear mar chuid d'fhéile choicíse a ritear i mí an Mhárta gach uile bhliain. Beidh Seachtain na Gaeilge á cheiliúradh i gColáiste Mhuire gan Smál ón 12 – 15 Márta 2012.

MARCH2012 CONT'D









Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme



Members of the Graduate Diploma team from MIC, pictured with colleagues from other countries at a European project meeting which took place in Oslo in March 2012.

Jan O'Sullivan TD officially launched the Limerick City Children's Services Committee report, "How are Our Kids?: Experiences and Needs of Children and Families in Limerick City, with a Particular Emphasis on Limerick's Regeneration Areas" on March 5, 2012 in Thomond Park.

Mary Immaculate Dramatic Arts Society (MIDAS) presented the hit musical Grease. The production was the first official College performance in the brand new state of the art Lime Tree Theatre at Mary Immaculate College.

The Toward Mutual Ground Conference took place on Friday March 23rd at Mary Immaculate College. The conference featured key note addresses by internationally acclaimed academics Professor Gavin D'Costa, Professor Marie Parker Jenkins, and Dr. Anne Looney.

March also saw 67 Mary Immaculate College B.Ed. students graduate with a Certificate of Participation in Children's Liturgy at a ceremony which took place in St. Clement's College with the certificates being presented by Rev. Tony Mullins.

Mary Immaculate College welcomed 80 delegates from all around the world to the 10th Annual Conference of the Society of Dix-Neuviémistes (SDN), a UK-based scholarly association of international specialists of nineteenth-century French Studies.

The inaugural meeting of a European project which MIC is co-ordinating was held in MIC in January 2012. Recognition of prior learning in vocational education and training (RIPLVET) is a Leonardo da Vinci partnership funded under the European Lifelong Learning Programme. One of the outcomes of the project is a report on good practice in the recognition and validation of formal and non-formal learning in vocational teacher education. The five other participating institutions were: City of Limerick Vocational Education Committee, University of Stirling, Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences, FLORIFORM-Formation Fleuriste, France and Gazi University, Turkey. Other meetings have been held in partner countries since the inaugural meeting, with a dissemination conference being planned for June 2013, cohosted by MIC and the City of Limerick VEC. The project is of particular relevance for the College's work in vocational teacher education and particularly the Graduate Diploma in Adult and Further Education.

APRIL2012



The Mary Immaculate College Choral Society and the Limerick Baroque Players presented Haydn's Theresienmesse in St.Mary's Cathedral, Limerick on Sunday April 1st 2012. The soloists were Carmel Conway (soprano), Sarah Ellen Murphy (alto), Lawrence Thackeray (tenor) and Owen Gilhooly (bass) and the concert was conducted by Dr. Michael Murphy.

Sarah Ellen Murphy (Alto), Graduate of MIC.

APRIL2012 CONT'D



Prof. Michael Hayes, President, Mary Immaculate College









Minister for Education & Skills, Ruairí Quinn TD, appointed 37 members to the Teaching Council, including Professor Michael A. Hayes, President of Mary Immaculate College. The appointees act as non-executive directors of the Council over their four year term of office.

Five very deserving MIC students were presented with the MIC Foundation – Award for Excellence at an award ceremony held in TARA, Mary Immaculate College.

The One World Society of Mary I Students Union (MISU) won the national award for their civic contribution at the Board of Irish College Society Awards. (BICS) at the weekend.

On Saturday the 21st of April, Irish Music Education (IME) with the Association of Irish Choirs (AOIC) presented a day-long series of workshops for music education leaders in MIC.

Mary Immaculate College marked the passing of one of its longest serving Trustees and Governors, Richard B. Haslam, who died on April 8, 2012, at the age of 86.

At the annual Shannon Consortium Regional 'Excellence in Higher Education Teaching' Award Ceremony at the University of Limerick, two members of MIC Faculty were honoured for their excellence in Teaching and Learning.

A First Year BEd in Education & Psychology student, Grace Cardiff, was presented with the Institute of Biology of Ireland's Excellence Award in recognition of her performance in her Leaving Certificate Biology paper.

Science workshops for primary school teachers titled: But Why? Why? Why? were held in three different counties around Ireland during April 2012. The workshops were designed and presented by Dr. Maeve Liston, Lecturer in Science Education, Mary Immaculate College. The workshops were sponsored by the Irish American Partnership in Boston in supporting science activities being run by Mary Immaculate College.

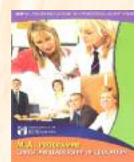
Dr Loïc Guyon (Head of French Studies) was awarded a certificate of appreciation from Minister Michael Noonan on behalf of the Shannon Conference & Sports Bureau and Shannon Development.

MAY2012



Participants in a project which saw 11 and 12 year old pupils of Moyderwell Mercy Primary School in Tralee haggling with local shopkeepers to control the costs of their business in the Junior Entrepreneur Programme were selected as the winners of the Awards for 2012.

MAY2012 CONT'D





The Health Promotion Service in Mary Immaculate College with support from the O2 Think Big Campaign and Headstrong, the National Centre for Youth Mental Health, provided an innovative and practical way of supporting all the students in MIC doing exams.

The Department of Theology & Religious Studies announced the MA in Christian Leadership in Education.

Dr Patricia Kieran was awarded funding from the International Council of the Universities of Saint Thomas Aquinas (ICUSTA) to undertake research as part of an international exchange programme.

Fifteen students completed the Certificate in Contemporary Living programme at Mary Immaculate College. The award ceremony celebrated the culmination of a year of work for the students on the course.

Professor John Coolahan launched a new book edited by Dr Thomas Grenham and Dr Patricia Kieran entitled, 'New Educational Horizons in Contemporary Ireland: Trends and Challenges' (2012). This book, which was published by Peter Lang, contains chapters written by several MIC staff.

JUNE2012



Eda Sagarra – Keynote Speaker

POSTGRADUATE CONFERENCE, JUNE 2012

The 1st Annual Limerick Postgraduate conference; "An Exhibition of Postgraduate Research in Limerick" was spear-headed by the postgraduate community with the aim of producing and further developing a support network for the postgraduate population of Limerick City, and to present their work in a peer group environment. The conference was planned and coordinated by Ciara Younge, an MA Student in MIC's Geogrpahy Department and was hosted in the new TARA building on June 13th 2012. Professor Emeritus Eda Segarra, former Chancellor of Trinity College was the keynote speaker. Papers and posters were invited from the following fields of research Social Sciences and Humanities: Business and Econmics, Teaching and Education, and Technology, Media and Science.

JULY2012

In July 2013, Professor Michael A Hayes, President Mary Immaculate College, announced the President's Postgraduate Scholarships to support Mary Immaculate College's vision for enabling worthy students to pursue higher level learning opportunities and research of outstanding quality at this time of unprecedented change, renewal and reform in Irish education. These scholarships were awarded to those students who achieved First Class Honours in their Undergraduate Degree and to students who achieved First Class Honours in the Graduate Diploma in Education – Primary Teaching, so providing those students with an opportunity to pursue postgraduate study at Graduate Diploma, Taught Masters or Research Masters level in the College, with an annually renewable reduction of €1,500 in fees for the duration of normal registration of those programmes. In addition, those students who were in first place on their programme of study received an annually renewable reduction of €3,000 in fees.

JULY2012 CONT'D



The 7th International Drama in Education Research Institute (IDiERI 7) took place in Mary Immaculate College from Tuesday 10 – Sunday 16 July.

Prof. Michael Hayes, College President, welcomed delegates to the MIC's beautifully designed Lime Tree Theatre where the 7th International Drama in Education Research Institute (IDiERI 7) was hosted by Mary Immaculate College from Tuesday 1- to Sunday 16 July.

Prof. Hayes remarked: "It is so heartening to see a conference of the calibre of IDIERI 7 being hosted here in TARA, our new teaching building, which is also home to our brand new purpose-built and fully equipped 510-seat Lime Tree Theatre. The Theatre is a tremendous addition to Drama within the College, particularly with Drama Education being offered as a specialism for the first time as part of the newly re-conceptualised BEd programme and with our new 'Masters in Education & the Arts' being offered for the first time next semester. It is also a wonderful addition to the wider College Community and to the City of Limerick, which will be Ireland's first National City of Culture in 2014."

More than 220 delegates from over 30 countries attended the 6-day conference. All IDiERI 7 events took place in the state-of-the-art TARA building at Mary Immaculate College.

AUGUST2012



Following an accreditation process held in February 2012, the Teaching Council awarded professional accreditation to MIC's Graduate Diploma in Adult and Further Education. This programme is intended for graduates planning to teach in the adult and Further Education (FE) sector and for teachers already working in this area who wish to further develop their professional practice. Graduates of the programme are now eligible to apply for registration as a teacher with the Teaching Council for the purpose of teaching in the FE sector. The College has offered a programme in this area of teacher education since 2000 and revised the Graduate Diploma in 2011 in line with new Teaching Council requirements. With effect from 1 April 2013, applicants for registration qualification, in addition to degree qualification requirements.



KEY AREAS OF ACTIVITY IN 2011-12

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CPD FOR PRIMARY TEACHERS DURING THE SUMMER

Twenty-five courses were offered in July and August 2011 to a total of 344 primary school teachers. The feedback was very positive again this year, with teachers reporting that the courses left them with lots of ideas to try out in the new school year. Courses were offered in a range of areas including literacy and reading comprehension, ICT for supporting literacy among children with special needs, the Internet as a resource, local history, interactive white boards, science teaching, spirituality, Gaelic games (including an advance course), SPHE in the context of a Health Promoting School. As part of the preparation for the new four year BEd, a course was also offered to help host teachers in their roles as mentors to students while on school placement. Some courses were provided through the support of external agencies such as the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA), the National Centre for Technology in Education (NCTE), and the Health Services Executive.

MARY IMMACULATE COLLEGE STUDENTS HONOURED AT FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

The Mary Immaculate College community had great cause for celebration when two of the College's Liberal Arts students were named to the Dean's list at Frostburg State University in the USA for outstanding academic achievement in the spring semester 2012. The two students, Sinead Boyle from Tralee and Nicola Sammon from Thurles, were studying in Frostburg State University as part of the off-campus placement programme, which takes place in third year of the BA in Liberal Arts at Mary Immaculate College. This programme enables students to expand their knowledge and skills through study abroad and/or work placements. Students undertake



MIC Students Sinéad Boyle and Nicola Sammon

either one year-long placement or two placements of a semester's duration. Sinéad is studying Gaeilge and Theology & Religious Studies for her BA degree and she did her Autumn semester work placement at Gaelscoil Mhic Easmainn, Tralee, Co. Kerry. Nicola is a student of Gaeilge and History and did her Autumn semester work placement at Gaelscoil Bhríde, Thurles, Co. Tipperary. Both students chose to attend Frostburg State University (FSU) for their Spring Semester 2012. FSU is a comprehensive, residential regional university and serves as an educational and cultural centre for Western Maryland, USA.



Margaret Healy, MIC, Dr Dawn Knight, Newcastle University, Elaine Riordan, University of Hull and Dr Anne O'Keeffe, MIC.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY HOSTS MARY IMMACULATE COLLEGE IVACS SYMPOSIUM

Mary Immaculate College Limerick has set up a vibrant international research network connecting leading researchers and PhD students in the field of Corpus Linguistics. This inter-institutional network is conducted through the IVACS (Inter-Varietal Applied Corpus Studies) Research Centre. This year the IVACS annual research symposium was hosted by the Faculty of English at the University of Cambridge, with papers presented by researchers from Mary Immaculate College, University of

Limerick, Newcastle University, University of Nottingham, Leeds Metropolitan University, University of Leeds and University of Cambridge. The network, which was formally established in 2002, has grown strategically so as to broaden its expertise base through links with other key corpus-based researchers and research centres, especially in the UK.

NATIONAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Mary Immaculate College lecturer, Dr Kathleen Horgan, was one of five recipients of a National Award for Excellence in Teaching 2011 at a reception hosted by the Department of Education and Skills in Dublin, on Monday, 7th November. Dr Kathleen Horgan, who leads the Microteaching programme in the Faculty of Education at MIC, was chosen by the National Academy for Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning (NAIRTL) as one of only five



Dr Kathleen Horgan with Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairi Quinn T.D.

recipients of this prestigious award, which honours those who are both exemplary teachers and innovative researchers in Higher Education in Ireland. This year the National Academy received 36 nominations from 17 Universities and Higher Education Institutions, all putting forward candidates for the award. Dr Horgan was nominated by Mary Immaculate College, in recognition of the pivotal role she plays in fostering and inspiring excellence in teaching, learning and scholarship both within and outside of the College.

MARY IMMACULATE COLLEGE STUDENTS SCORE 10/10 IN GAELIC GAMES

The Gaelic Games club in Mary Immaculate College had an incredible year in 2011/2012. Teams representing the College reached 10 finals and were victorious in all 10 finals.

MIC Fresher Hurlers had an incredible year winning the Division 2 Championship & League Finals. In both finals the teams overcame University of Ulster at Jordanstown (UUJ). The team's management consisted of Eamonn Cregan, Gearoid Power & Shane Nolan. Team Captain was Eanna Hogan, Tipperary.





SPORT

MIC Fresher Footballers were victorious this year in winning the Division 2 Championship, League & also the Galtee House Perpetual Cup organised by Limerick County Board. Team captain was Jamie Wall, Cork, and the team was managed by former Limerick player Brian Begley.

MIC Ladies footballers secured the double this year by obtaining the Giles Cup & Division 2 League. The team travelled to Belfast for the Giles Cup weekend. They overcame NUI Maynooth after extra time to secure the cup. The team was managed by Richard Bowles & Don Ryan. Goalkeeper Brid Madigan from Limerick and team captain Niamh Ni Chaoimh were selected on the O'Connor All Star team for their performances throughout the tournament.





The MIC Camogie Team captured the Fr. Meachair Cup & and the Division 2 League Final this year. Led by Captain Mairead Ryan, Limerick, they overcame St. Patricks, in the final of the Fr. Meachair Cup held at WIT Sports Grounds. In the League final they defeated neighbours UL. Team Management consisted of Eamon Cregan, Gearoid Power & Shane Nolan.



The MIC Senior Hurling Team overcame IT Tralee in the Ryan Cup final. Waterford's Shane O Sullivan was captain of the side who dominated the competition throughout. Congratulations also to Conor Conney, Galway & Sean Curran, Tipperary, who made the Irish Daily Mail Future Champion All Star team. The team was managed by Eamon Cregan & Gearoid Power.





Pictured at the Mary Immaculate College's GAA Club presentation held in MIC on 5/4/2012 were: Back row: Liam Shinnock, Vice President of Munster Ladies Gaelic Football Association; Eamon Brown, Chair of the Munster Camogie Council and Shane Florish, Chairman of Limerick Ladies Gaelic Football. Middle Row: Liam Lenihan, Chairman of Limerick County Board; Prof. Eugene Wall, Vice President of Mary Immaculate College; Robert Frost Vice Chairman of the GAA Munster Council and Jamie Wall, Captain of MIC Fresher Footballers Front Row: Shane O'Sullivan Captain of MIC Senior Hurling Team; Mairead Ryan Captain of MIC Camogie Team; Niamh Ni Chaoimh Captain of MIC Ladies Footballers and Eanna Hogan Captain of MIC Freshers' Hurling Team.

COLLINGWOOD CUP 2012

Mary Immaculate College participation in this year's Collingwood Cup competition was nothing short of sensational. The College team was a ranked outsider having never progressed past the first round of this competition but this year Mary I came out on top.



GAA COACH EDUCATION IN MARY IMMACULATE COLLEGE

Gaelic Games Coaching Courses for Students were held on an on-going basis throughout 2011/2012. Foundation Award Courses, the introductory level, were held in October, November, January, March and May. Award 1 courses, for experienced coaches, were held in January and May. These courses were complemented by a series of Child Protection in Sport workshops held in February and in May. Almost 200 students attended the courses illustrating the commitment of our prospective teachers and coaches to providing best practice in coaching Gaelic Games in schools and clubs. The courses were provided



Students attending a Foundation Award Coaching Course in Tailteann in Mary Immaculate College

by the GAA and included tutors Richard Bowles, Joe Redington (MIC), Paudie Butler (National Hurling Officer), Pat Culhane (Munster GAA), Noel Hartigan, Ger Downes, Sean Herbert, James Ryan, Paul Finn (Limerick GAA). Coach Education is also a part of the Teacher Summer Courses in Mary Immaculate College with 2 GAA Coach Education Courses available for teachers. These are coordinated by Richard Bowles and Joe Redington from Mary Immaculate College.

TOP OF THE TABLE FOR STUDENT CHOICE

NEW

ENTRANTS

MIC continued to attract Ireland's top students onto its four undergraduate programmes in Education and the Liberal Arts, including a number of students who have received 600 or more points. This year the College again maintained its appeal to those wishing to study Education, with CAO points for the College's primary teaching programmes remaining at 470, (430 for Gaeltacht applicants), making it among the most popular course choices in the country. Yet again this year, the BEd in Education and Psychology, the only course of its kind in the country, actually witnessed an increase in points, now standing at an impressive 555 (random selection).



B ED STUDENTS REFLECT ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ART AND SCIENCE IN 'HALL OF MIRRORS'

Visual Art students on MIC's BEd programme saw incredible results from their research work reflected in the opening of the 'Hall of Mirrors' exhibition in Limerick City Gallery of Art which took place in the Summer of 2012.



Hall of Mirrors is a major Art/Science collaborative project which was specifically developed for exhibition in the context of Dublin City of Science 2012, to coincide with Euro Science Open



Forum that took place in Dublin City in July 2012. The exhibition was comprised of a series of new interactive exhibits informed by scientific research on visual perception and motion tracking.

These exhibits were the fruit of a long collaboration between artists Cleary and Connolly and scientists Noel O'Connor (CLARITY) and Patrick Cavanagh (LPP Paris Descartes).



The Visual Art Education team in Mary Immaculate College were invited by the artists Anne Cleary and Denis Connolly to work on the educational component of the exhibition which resulted in the Hall of Mirrors becoming the focus of the Visual Art Education Elective in 2012. Within their elective, the BEd students explored and acknowledged the inter-relationship between Art and Science, and how the areas cross over and inform one another. The project attempted to provide new ways of working, as students engage in a more cognitive manner with the art making and thinking process, and provided opportunities for students to actively engage with the artistic process. The BEd students engaged and responded to the exhibition concepts and produced visual notebooks full of explorations and creativity that focused on the students' own personal responses to the exhibition, which in turn enabled them to develop innovative and fun ideas while promoting imagination and exploration in how to teach and learn through art and science.

Both artist and Visual Art staff wanted the students to actively participate in the project. It was envisaged that to immerse the students in the making of art and the experiences and confidence gained in working with contemporary art and in turn impact not only on the student, but will resonate with future generations of children.



Commenting on the exhibition, Anne-Marie Morrin, Lecturer in Visual Art at MIC, said: "The Visual Art team are delighted that the students' responses to the Hall of Mirrors exhibition was exhibited alongside international Artists and Scientists. All their hard work and commitment to the elective has resulted in something quite extraordinary - a fantastic opportunity to have their ideas and thoughts displayed in such a prestigious setting as Limerick City Gallery of Art."

INTERNATIONAL LINKS Mary Immaculate College signed an agreement with DeSales University in Center Valley, PA, USA. With this new partnership, both institutions agreed to exchange students each semester for study abroad programmes, and will explore the opportunity for faculty and staff exchanges in the future. The ethos of the University has much in common with that of Mary Immaculate College, in terms of supporting students on their journeys in an atmosphere of intellectual freedom and dignity. The opportunity to study at DeSales will be particularly appealing to MIC's Bachelor of Arts students, when deciding where to go on their off-campus placements. The off-campus placement programme, which takes place in third year of the BA in Liberal Arts at Mary Immaculate College, enables students to expand their knowledge and skills through study abroad and/or work placements. Students undertake either one year-long placement or two placements of a semester's duration.

MARY IMMACULATE COLLEGE SIGNED NEW PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY

Mary Immaculate College signed an agreement with Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Connecticut, USA. With this new partnership, both institutions agreed to exchange students each semester for study abroad programmes, and will explore the opportunity for faculty and staff exchanges in the future. Sacred Heart University is the second-largest Catholic University in New England. It provides its students with a comprehensive, hands-on education rooted in the liberal arts and Catholic intellectual tradition. The ethos of the University has much in common with that of Mary Immaculate College, in terms of encouraging great thinking, innovative proposals, a supportive community and a strong belief in diversity, including religious diversity, across its campus. Areas of special interest for both institutions are Theology, Religious Studies, and Education.



Dr Seamus Carey, Dean of the Colleges of Arts and Sciences at Sacred Heart University and Prof. Michael A Hayes, President of Mary Immaculate College

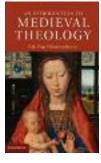


Following a successful application for funding coordinated by the MIC Research Office to SCoTENS (Standing Conference of Teacher Education North and South), a conference on the theme of "A Critical Analysis of North-South Educational Partnerships in Development Contexts" was held in MIC on November 30th. The conference assessed and evaluated partnerships and considered how future planning and policy decisions, both nationally and internationally, may be improved.



Pictured above are Fr. Bernard O'Connor, OSFS, President of DeSales University, and Professor Michael A. Hayes, President of Mary Immaculate College.

In April 2012, An Introduction to Medieval Theology by Dr. Rik Van Nieuwenhove was published by Cambridge University Press. The book is an introduction to the core theological concepts of selected key figures in medieval theology from Augustine to Van Ruusbroec.



The Irish Manuscripts Commission published Dr. Lesa Ní Mhunghaile's new edition of Charlotte Brook's 'Reliques of Irish Poetry', in which she presents new translations and analyses of the poems, songs and other writings in Irish translated by Charlotte Brooke in 1789. This publication marked one of the first interactions between the oral tradition in the Irish language and print culture in Ireland and is important in the wider context of the discovery of popular culture by the upper classes and an associated interest in antiquarianism, at a time when traditional popular culture was thought to be

on the wane. In launching the book,

Professor Micheál MacCraith praised the exquisitely produced volume (featuring a reproduction of the original 1789 text which used the beautiful 'Parker' or 'Brooke' font to typeset the Gaelic poetry) and the invaluable service which Lesa has performed for Charlotte Brooke's work and all who had long wished for a scholarly examination of it.



PRIMARY SCIENCE ACTIVITIES IN MARY IMMACULATE COLLEGE

Dr. Maeve Liston received sponsorship from an American charity, the Irish American Partnership in Boston to support existing science activities being run at Mary Immaculate College. The funding was used to support the provision of workshops for primary teachers and summer courses in science. These workshops focused on the development of teachers' scientific knowledge and scientific process skills necessary to teach the primary science syllabus. The workshops aim to develop the teachers' confidence in teaching science by strengthening the teachers' understanding of key scientific concepts by allowing them the opportunity to engage with scientific phenomena and to carry out inquiry based science investigations and activities. Some of the funding was also used to finance science activities for primary school pupils from schools around Limerick during Science Week 2011 and 2012.

SCIENCE WORKSHOP IN ELECTRICITY

A science workshop for primary school teachers taking part in the Mallow Schools Project was held in Buttevant, Co. Cork on Tuesday October 18th 2011. The workshop was designed and presented by Dr. Maeve Liston, Lecturer in Science Education, Mary Immaculate College. The workshop was sponsored by the Irish American Partnership in Boston in supporting science activities being run by Mary Immaculate College. The workshop focused on the development of science knowledge and skills necessary to teach the primary science syllabus Electricity Unit.

The objectives of the workshop are:

- Strengthen teachers' understanding of the concepts involved by introducing a number of activities and examples that can be used in the classroom.
- Develop science process skills through the teaching of electricity.
- Introduce approaches and methodologies to develop children's understanding of and misconceptions in the topic electricity.
- Develop teachers' confidence in teaching science integration of science and mathematics. The workshops involved gathering data from inquiry based science investigations.

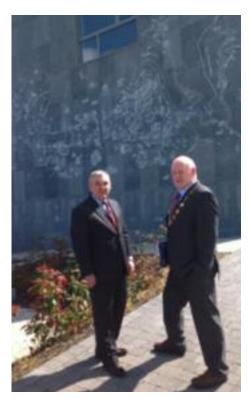
The two hour workshop was a great success with 30 teachers attending. The interactive workshops provided the participants with the opportunity to carry out science investigations, becoming familiar with and gaining first-hand experience of scientific process skills, carrying out investigations and fair testing required for the teaching of Primary Science.

SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY

Marking his first official tour of Mary Immaculate College, Mayor Gerry McLoughlin noted that much had changed since days gone by when the campus grounds were perceived as 'out of bounds.'

The Mayor was welcomed by President of the College, Prof. Michael A Hayes and taken on a tour of the campus, which included the TARA building and its specially designed Students' Union, purpose-built lecture theatres, extensive computer facilities and language laboratories, as well as the 510-seat Lime Tree Theatre, which will be officially opened in October 2012, with an exciting programme of local, national and international productions set to tread the boards in its first season.

Following the visit, Prof. Hayes commented, "I was delighted to welcome our new Mayor. As an institution, our engagement with the community is of growing importance to us and I was very heartened by the Mayor's positive comments in relation to our many access and inclusion initiatives, which are designed to welcome the wider community onto our campus."



Mayor Mc Loughlin admires David Lilburn's 'A Map' on the TARA Building at MIC

MIC STUDENTS MOTIVATE NEXT GENERATION OF CAMOGIE AND LADIES' FOOTBALL STARS Mary Immaculate College invited 10 local primary schools to attend a camogie blitz and a football blitz for 3rd and 4th class girls. The blitzes took the form of 'Go Games,' a noncompetitive format where each team gets the opportunity to play three games and to receive some coaching but no scores are taken and substitutes can come on and off as they wish.

The blitzes were organized in conjunction with Deirdre Murphy (Regional Camogie



Deirdre Murphy, Regional Camogie Development Officer (back row, 1st on the left)with MIC student volunteers

Development Officer), William Harmon and Tara Ryan (Regional Ladies' Football Development Officers) and Joe Redington (MIC Gaelic Games Development Officer). The schools that took part in the camogie blitz were: Presentation GNS; St Nessan's; Patrickswell GNS; St Patrick's GNS; Monaleen School; Our Lady Queen of Peace; St Paul's NS; An Mhodhscoil; Mary Queen of Ireland, Caherdavin and Ballybrown NS. Meanwhile, those involved in the football blitz were: Killinure NS; Ballybrown NS; An Mhodhscoil; Knockea NS; St Patrick's GNS; Our Lady Queen of Peace; Ahane NS and Lisnagry NS.

Dr Michael Finneran, Head of the Department of

Arts Education and Physical Education at MIC, congratulated those responsible for organising the blitzes, saying, "This is a fantastic initiative and a wonderful way of providing an experience for our students and for the children who participate, as well as building the College's relationship with local schools."

In April, Mary I Students' Union, in conjunction with Nicola Hurley and Eva Devaney held their second annual Easter Egg Hunt for the children of student parents and this year an arts and craft workshop was incorporated into the day's activity.

Nicola Hurley, MIC Student Parent Co-Ordinator, along with Mary I Students' Union (MISU) launched the Student Parent Handbook.

PILOT OF INCLUSION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

In 2011-2012, MIC working in partnership with the Brothers of Charity Services in Clare, introduced the pilot of a new inclusive programme of education called the Inclusion Partnership Programme. The main aim of the pilot programme was to create a pathway for adults with intellectual disabilities to access a third level experience that carries an achievable award in inclusive settings. During the course of this academic year, two students supported by the Brothers of Charity Streetwise programme attended mainstream lectures and had the opportunity to engage in College life. They are actively becoming involved in the social dimension of College life, attending a variety of social events and activities througout the course of the academic year.

THE PROGRAMME IN CONTEMPORARY LIVING

In September 2011, 15 students enroled on the Programme in Contemporary Living. Participating students had the opportunity to engage in all College activities, becoming involved in the various College societies and electing their own class representative who attended meetings with the Student Union. Working with a dedicated team, the students undertook 4 different modules over the course of the academic year and worked with course tutors, support staff and student mentors to complete



The Programme in Contemporary Living Award Ceremony May 17th 2012

course work and assignments in each of the following subject areas: Career Development, Creative Arts Appreciation; Social Science and a Special Project Module .

In December 2011 the students hosted an exhibition and information event entitled 'Celebrating Ability', which showcased their projects, artworks and achievements throughout the semester. In May 2012 each of the 15 participating students received their awards from the College President, having successfully completed each of the 4 modules on the programme.



STUDENT LIFE PAST AND PRESENT

Michelle Ní Chróinín, graduate of the MA in Irish Media Studies, was appointed to the Board of TG4 by Minister for Communications, Pat Rabbitte, in April 2012. Michelle, who is originally from the West Cork Gaeltacht of Baile Bhuirne, graduated in 2010 with a Master's Degree in Irish Media Studies.





In 2011, one of our graduates, Cian McCormack, who is a reporter with Morning Ireland, won the PPI/BAI National Radio award of 'News Reporter of the Year 2011.' He won the top prize in the two previous years as well in addition to previous awards e.g. the Law Society's Justice Media Award for National Radio in 2006. Cian was a Media & Communication Studies and History student and went on to do a Master's degree in journalism and work as a freelance print journalist. He also taught Journalism here at MIC for a while in the late 1990s.

MA in Irish Media Studies graduate, Páidí Ó Lionáird, was honoured at the annual Irish language media awards, Gradaim Chumarsáide an Oireachtais 2012, held in Galway on 18th May.



TEACHING & LEARNING

DOCTORAL AWARDS

Claire McGrail-Johnston, Department of English Language & Literature, supervisor Dr Eugene O'Brien.

Filippo Cassina, Department of Geography supervised by Dr Catherine Dalton and Dr Elvira de Eyto (Marine Institute).

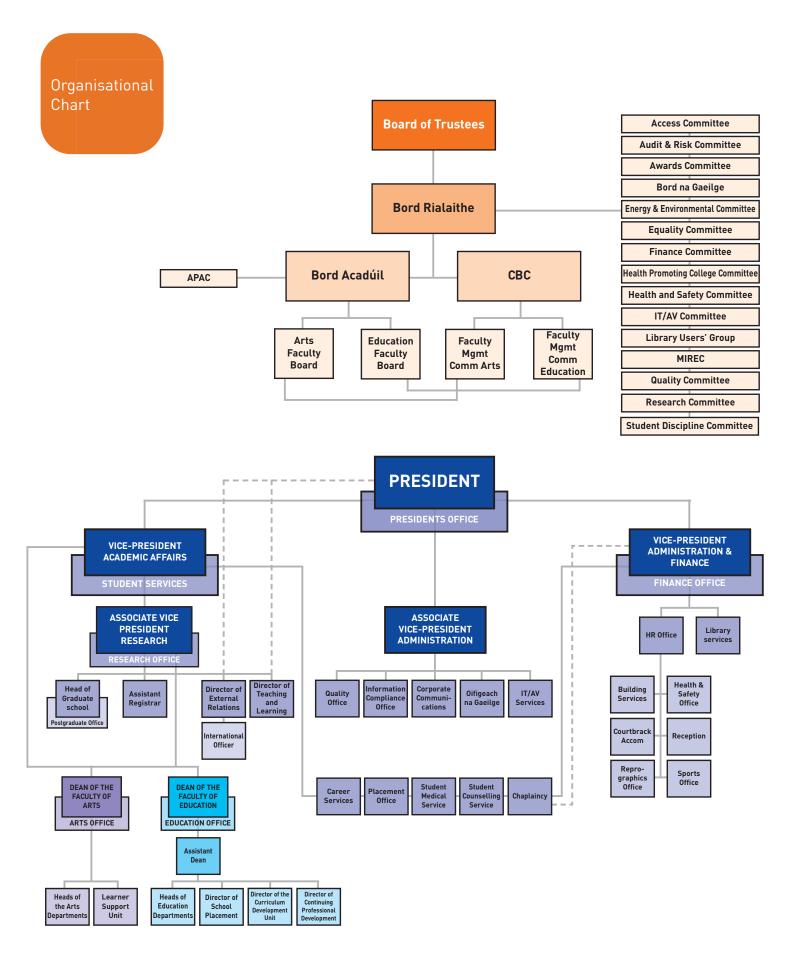
Treasa Campbell, Department of Philosophy supervised by Dr. Steven Bond and Dr. Eugene O'Brien.

Treasa Bowe, Education, supervised by Dr. Martin Gleeson.

Seán Ó Cathalláin, Department of Language, Literacy, and Mathematics Education supervised by Professor Dick Johnstone and Dr. Greg Mannion.

Aoife McLoughlin, Department of Psychology supervised by Dr Marek McGann.

Andrew Hunt, Department of Philosophy, supervised by Dr Catherine Kavanagh.



ACCOUNTS

Coláiste Mhuire gan Smál Ollscoil Luimnigh

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2012

	Note	2012 Euro	2011 Euro
INCOME			
Grants	1	9,699,087	9,899,797
Capital Grant – Building Development	1	1,255,196	1,084,467
Student Fees	2	14,896,379	14,986,282
Release of non-core funding for Library Development	12	1,279,883	
Other Income	3	3,491,470	3,704,212
Research and Self-Funding Programmes	8(c-e)	2,143,211	1,855,867
Non Deferred funding for Pensions	13(b)	5,429,571	6,474,499
Total Income		38,194,797	38,005,124
Transfer to Capital Account	9	(1,456,588)	(3,035,809)
Transfer from Development Reserve	10	433,342	1,301,510
Transfer to Accommodation Reserve	11	(234,304)	(291,110)
Transfer to Library Development Reserve	12	(1,279,883)	
		35,657,364	35,979,715
EXPENDITURE			
Operating Expenditure	4	(25,925,959)	(25,976,305)
Pension Costs	13(c)	(7,902,727)	(7,863,863)
Research and Self-Funding Programmes	8(c-e)	(2,143,211)	(1,855,867)
(Deficit)/Surplus for year		(314,533)	283,680
Opening Balance		3,206,730	2,923,050
Balance at 30 September		2,892,197	3,206,730

On behalf of An Bord Rialaithe

Michael Hayes

Prof. Michael A Hayes President John Coady

Mr John Coady Vice President Administration & Finance

Overview of Energy Usage 2012

There are several electricity meters and one main natural gas meter feeding the campus at MIC. Electricity and thermal energy usage at the Main Buildings, Summerville House, Courtbrack and Gerard House are being monitored and reported on a monthly basis. MIC is managing energy consumption using best available energy measurement equipment. Additionally, the transport related energy/diesel is being recorded. In 2012, MIC consumed 7,349.3 MWh of energy consisting of:

- 1,900 MWh of electricity,
- 5,445 MWh of natural gas,
- 4.3 MWh of transport fuels (diesel)

Actions undertaken in 2012

MIC is complying with new energy efficiency legislation (S.I. 542, 2009) and its energy performance, in terms of kWh per full time equivalent student, is being monitored and reported to the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) each year.

> During 2012, MIC undertook a range of initiatives to improve its energy performance including the installation of energy efficiency lighting, upgrading heating systems and improving the fabric insulation in a number of buildings.

> > Таі

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STUDENT NUMBERS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2011-12

Туре	Full-time	Part-time	Total
Undergraduate			
Honours Degree (L8)	2513		2513
Total Undergraduate	2513		2513
Postgraduate			
Postgraduate Diploma / Cert.	187	24	211
Masters Taught (L9)	51	83	134
Masters Research (L9)	46	2	48
PhD (L10)	53	1	54
Total Postgraduate	337	110	447
Total UG & PG Enrolments	2850	110	2960

GRADUATION NUMBERS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2010-11

COURSE	NO. GRADUATED	
Bachelor of Arts	169	
Master of Arts (Biblical Studies)	1	
Master of Arts (Christian Leadership)	1	
Máistir sna Dána (Gaeilge)	8	
Master of Arts (History)	15	
Master of Arts in Irish Media Studies	9	
Master of Arts (Modern English Literature)	2	
Master of Arts (Philosophy & Literature)	3	
Master of Arts (Theology)	2	
Master of Arts (Theological Studies)	2	
Master of Arts (Research & Thesis)	7	
Doctor of Philosophy (Arts)	7	
Certificate in Youth and Community Work	9	
Graduate Certificate in Teacher Development	9	
Graduate Diploma in Adult Education	15	
Graduate Diploma in Information & Communication Technologies in Primary Education	9	
Graduate Diploma in Special Educational Needs (SEN)	42	
MEd. (Special Educational Needs) (SEN)	9	
Bachelor of Education	456	
Graduate Diploma in Education (Primary Teaching)	59	
Bachelor of Education in Education and Psychology	32	
Bachelor of Arts (Early Childhood Care and Education)	49	
MEd.	21	
MEd. (Adult & Continuing Education)	5	
Master of Education (Early Childhood Education)	1	
MEd. In Information & Communication Technologies in Primary Education	10	
Mastr of Education in Teacher Development	2	
Doctor of Philosophy (Education)	3	
TOTAL GRADUATED	957	



COLÁISTE MHUIRE GAN SMÁL OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH MARY IMMACULATE COLLEGE UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK