

**Special points of interest:**

- Spotlight on our award winning students
- Dublin Summer Internships
- New Digital Journal of Irish Studies Launched
- Keough-Naughton Institute Fall Conferences
- NEH Seminar
- Success at ACIS

**Inside this issue:**

Aaron Willis, Murphy Irish Exchange Fellow	2
Caitlin Myron, Fulbright Award Winner	2
Summer Interns in Dublin	3
<i>Breac—A Digital Journal of Irish Studies</i>	3
Irish Studies Class on What it Means to be Irish American	3
Shan-Yun Huang	4
Fall Conferences	4
NEH Seminar	5

## Keough-Naughton Institute Students Win Honors



Wes Hamrick

James W. “Wes” Hamrick, a former graduate student in the Department of English, has been awarded the National Endowment for the Humanities Keough Fellowship. Wes received his Ph.D. from Notre Dame in January, 2013.

Wes will use the Fellowship to expand upon his dissertation “From Gaeltacht to Grub Street: The Eighteenth-Century Public Sphere in a Four-Nations Context.”

### Wes Hamrick wins NEH-Keough Fellowship

“My dissertation looks at the interaction between manuscript and print culture in England, Scotland and Ireland during the eighteenth century and argues that the so-called ‘public sphere’ during this period, while dominated by English, is in fact multi-lingual, with significant roles played by writing in Irish and Scots Gaelic as well as Scots English.”

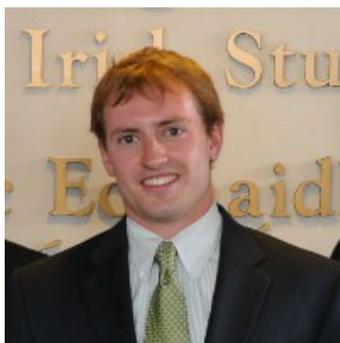
Wes received a B.A. in English and Economics from Brown University in 1998 and an M.A. in English from the University of Vermont in 2004 where his thesis was “Edmund Burke and Eighteenth-Century Ireland.” Other honors include an Eli Lilly Presidential Graduate Fellowship, 2005-2010, and an English Graduate Teaching Fellowship 2010-2011, as well

as numerous grants to study Irish and travel to Ireland.

Wes speaks and reads both Modern Irish and Scots Gaelic. He has given several presentations and invited talks on Eighteenth Century Scotland and Ireland, and assisted in teaching undergraduate classes on Irish Literature.

In addition, his essay “And in retirement, I can bless the shade”: Trees and Politics in Anne Finch’s Jacobite Poems of Retreat” will be published by Studies in English Literature this summer.

### Ian Garrahy wins Donald and Marilyn Keough Award



Ian Garrahy

The Donald and Marilyn Keough Award for Excellence in Irish Studies was awarded to Ian D. Garrahy, a senior from East Greenwich, Rhode Island. Ian graduates with a B.S in Preprofessional Studies from the College of Science and a minor in Irish Studies. In thanking the Institute, Ian said “As the grandson of an Irish emigrant from Co. Clare, I relished in learning about the history and cul-

ture of my heritage. Irish Studies cultivated in me a better understanding of my family's identity. I could not have had a more enjoyable experience with Irish Studies, and I will always reflect fondly on the significant impact that the department had on my Notre Dame experience.”

Ian is taking his talents to medical school this summer.

## Aaron Willis named Murphy Notre Dame Cork Exchange Fellow

Aaron Willis, a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of History, was named the 2013-2014 Murphy Irish Exchange Fellow. In its second year, the Exchange Fellowship was established to promote research in Irish Studies through a greater understanding between graduate students at Notre Dame and University College Cork in Cork, Ireland.

In alternating years, a graduate student from each institution will be fully integrated into the academic life and social cultures of each institution.

Aaron, who is currently working on his dissertation titled "The Constitution of a Pragmatic Empire: The British Atlantic Toleration and the

Quebec Act, 1763-1776," is thrilled to have the opportunity to study at UC Cork.

"I look forward to the opportunity to engage with the faculty and students at UCC. They will provide a new source of feedback for my work and will provide fresh observations on the project. Working in a different university for a year and gaining exposure to new institutional experiences will be a major benefit of the exchange. Living in a new city and taking part in the academic life of UCC is an exciting prospect."

The Murphy Irish Exchange Fellowship is funded by a grant from the Keough-Naughton Institute of Irish

Studies and is administered by Institute Director Christopher Fox. Marie-Luise Theuerkauf, a Ph.D. student in the Departments of French and Early & Medieval Irish at UCC, was the first Murphy Irish Exchange Fellow. Marie recently returned to Cork.

Aaron received his B.S. in Political Science from Santa Clara University and an M.A. in History from Texas A&M University.



Aaron Willis

## Caitlin Myron selected Fulbright Irish Language Student Award Winner

Caitlin Myron has some captivating plans following her graduation this month. The English major and Irish Language and Literature minor won the Fulbright Irish Language Student Award, providing her a 12 month stay at an Irish university, tuition waivers and a stipend. She plans to study for a Masters degree in Modern Irish at National University of Ireland Galway. "The award gives me the opportunity to master the Irish language in its natural environment," Caitlin says. She intends to expand her senior thesis on the Irish language poet Seán O' Ríordain.

Caitlin credits her Irish Language and Literature professors Tara MacLeod and Sarah McKibben, as well as Donald and Marilyn Keough Professor of Irish Studies and Professor of English Declan Kiberd, her thesis advisor, for her interest and success in Irish Language and Studies.

Caitlin also received the 2013 Irish Language and Literature Department Dis-

tinguished Student Award. Named after Brother Simeon, C.S.C, the prize is awarded each year to a senior for Distinction in Irish Language.



Caitlyn Myron with Peter McQuillan, Chair of the Irish Language and Literature Department

## Keough Summer 2013 Interns

Thanks to generous support from Ireland Council families, ten rising seniors will spend seven weeks in Dublin this summer interning with the organization of their choice. Under the guidance of the crew at the Keough Naughton Notre Dame Centre in Dublin, the students will live, work and enjoy Irish culture.

Interns and their placements are:

- Samantha Caesar— Department of Foreign Affairs - Anglo Irish Section
- Regina Gilmour— Localise (NGO)
- Kaitlin Demchuk— Department of Foreign Affairs—Press Office
- Adam LaPlaca—Centre for Cybersecurity and Cybercrime Investigation
- Evan Graham—National Gallery of Ireland— Education Department
- Annie McCarthy—Festina Le Lente (NGO)
- Will Peterson—Abbey Theatre
- Alyssa Mall—Poetry Mall
- Mary Fraleigh—Gaelic Players Association
- Melissa-Rae Moors— National Folklore Commission.

The internship provides round trip airfare, living accommodations and a stipend. Students are invited to apply in January of their junior year and each year the interest in the pro-



Sam Caesar will be interning in the Department of Foreign Affairs

## Graduate Students Launch Digital Journal

After months of planning and preparation, English graduate students John Dillon and Nathaniel Myer launched *Breac— A Digital Journal of Irish Studies* this spring.

John and Nathaniel said it best as they describe their enterprise, “Breac begins with Irish Studies and looks outward. It pairs the work of

accomplished and emerging scholars in short, focused issues with the hope of cultivating international discussions in a digital forum. The goal is to create a new space for conversation that pairs the accessibility of a digital medium with the commitment to cultural, linguistic, disciplinary, and historic diversity.”

The peer-reviewed academic journal will be published twice a year. *Breac* takes advantage of its digital medium and will feature pictures, videos clips and sound bites. The “BreaCam” permits live streaming of talks and events.

The inaugural issue focuses on themes of migrations

and diaspora and features a preface by literary critic Margaret Kelleher, essays by notable academics and John’s interview with writer Roddy Doyle. To see the first issue and subscribe to future issues, visit [breac.nd.edu](http://breac.nd.edu).

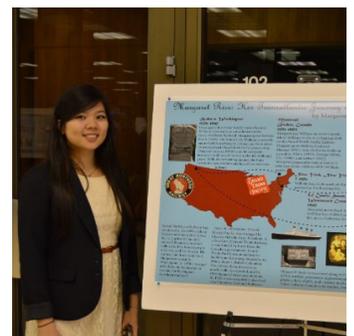
## The Irish in US: Comparative Perspectives on Being Irish and Irish-American

This past semester, Keough-Naughton Fellows Patrick Griffin (History), Ian Kujit (Anthropology) and Brian Ó Conchubhair (IRLL) team taught a class reflecting on the historical and cultural intertwining of America and Ireland. During the semester, over 70 students researched the story of an Irish immigrant to the United States and placed that narrative into the wider context of

what is known about Irish immigration to North America as far back as 1640.

The class culminated in a poster display in Hesburgh Library Concourse where students ably discussed their discoveries. Many students focused on a family member’s experience. Their professors believe “the students’ research promotes a better understanding of

how arrival in America shaped Irish identity in the aftermath of such events as The Famine, and how the Irish in turn shaped their new environment.”



Margaret Zhao

## Meet New Graduate Shan-Yun Huang

Proving that interest in Irish Studies is worldwide, Shan-Yun “Bruce” Huang, a native of Taiwan, received his Ph.D. in English this month. His dissertation *Growing Away: The Bildungsroman and Decolonization in Twentieth-Century Irish Literature*, focuses on the various forms of young men and women “growing away” from society in Irish Bildungsroman and how this pattern of thwarted development reflects on Ireland’s decolonization in the twentieth century.

Bruce’s regard for Irish Studies arose from his study of James Joyce, which led to his curiosity about Irish life and culture. He first obtained an M.A. in English from the Department of Foreign Language and Literature at the National Taiwan University, where he also earned his undergraduate degree. He translated his essay, “Ulysses, History and National Libration”, from English back into Chinese for a collection of essays about Joyce, titled “Joyce in Taiwan.”

It remains the single title in Chinese in our Sweetman Library. Bruce credits his Irish Studies professors, especially co-Directors Joe Buttigieg and Maud Ellmann; and readers Declan Kiberd and Susan Harris, for their encouraging support. He found each enthusiastic about Irish Studies and that carried over to his work.

Bruce is returning home to Taiwan this month in fulfillment of his scholarship from the Government of Taiwan.



Shan-Yun “Bruce” Huang

## Keough-Naughton Fellows to Host Conferences in Ireland Fall 2013

The Keough-Naughton Institute is sponsoring two major conferences this fall in Ireland.

Fellows Diarmuid Ó Giolláin, Declan Kiberd and Director Christopher Fox are co-chairing “Sovereignty, Debt and Equity in a Time of Crisis” at the Royal Irish Academy in Dublin on October 22-24. This conference will examine the Irish debt crisis as the Irish Republic approaches the centenary of its proclamation in the Easter Rebellion of 1916. The conference will bring together leading international

scholars in the fields of economics, history, sociology, literature and law, and key figures in the Irish media.

Given the international and interdisciplinary scope of the conference, it received funding from the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, Seng Foundation Program for Market-Based Programs and Catholic Values and the Nanovic Institute for European Studies.

Under the direction of Brian Ó Conchubhair, the conference “Roger Casement (1864-1916): The Global

Imperative” will take place in Tralee, Kerry on October 24-26. This conference will explore the life and times of Roger Casement and his engagement in Irish and transnational affairs and issues.

The conference is funded by the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, Arts and Letters’ Teaching Beyond the Classroom, University of Limerick and Kerry County Council.

More details can be found on our website, [Irishstudies.nd.edu](http://Irishstudies.nd.edu).



Diarmuid Ó Giolláin



Declan Kiberd



Christopher Fox



Brian Ó Conchubhair

## National Endowment for the Humanities Seminar

The NEH Seminar this May consisted of a series of interactions with Malcolm Sen, the 2012-2013 Keough-Naughton Institute National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow, and invited readers Elizabeth DeLoughrey of UCLA and Gauri Viswanathan of Columbia. The pair reviewed Malcolm's work "Postcolonial Environments and Transnational Aesthetics: Contemporary Narratives from India and Ireland," offering their expert advice. Later, the trio presented to the Irish Studies community, offering both a general review of the literary subject and specific comments toward Malcolm's work. John Sitter, of

Notre Dame's English Department, moderated the seminar.

Malcolm and others noted the specific, knowledgeable assessment the readers made which will assist him as he prepares his work for publication.

The culmination of Malcolm's year with Keough-Naughton Institute was marked with a reception.



Elizabeth DeLoughrey, Malcolm Sen and Gauri Viswanathan



John Sitter and Gauri Viswanathan

## Notre Dame Scholars Recognized at 2013 ACIS Meeting

Graduate students James "Wes" Hamrick and Ailbhe Darcy received awards at the American Conference of Irish Studies annual meeting in Chicago this April. Wes won Honorable Mention in the Adele Dalsimer Prize for Distinguished Dissertation category for his work "From Gaeltacht to Grub Street: The Eighteenth-Century Public Sphere in a four-Nations Context." Ailbhe was the inaugural recipient of the Krause Research Fellowship in Irish Studies, winning a scholarship to fund her graduate work in Irish Studies.

Two of our Faculty Fellows were posted to the ACIS Executive Committee. Replacing Sarah McKibben, Briona Nic Dhiarmada was named Language Representative. Brian Ó Conchubhair was elected Vice President, a position automatically elevating to President.

In addition, many Keough-Naughton Institute Fellows and graduate students represented Notre Dame at the Conference, giving lectures and moderating panels.



Sarah McKibben, outgoing ACIS Language Representative



**Just a few of our highlights. Thanks for a great year!**

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