The University of Notre Dame and the University of Limerick present

Ruairí Mac Easmainn/Roger Casement (1864–1916): The Glocal Imperative

24–26 October 2013
Tralee, Kerry, Ireland

a gathering of scholars from Ireland, United Kingdom, and North and South America, to examine and interrogate Casement’s local and global legacy
Roger Casement Timeline

1864  • Roger David Casement born

1873  • Anne Jephson (mother) dies

1877  • Captain Roger Casement (father) dies. Casement raised by John Casement (Magherintemple, Ballycastle, Antrim) and educated as boarder at Ballymena diocesan school

1880  • Clerical job with Elder Dempster, a Liverpool shipping company

1895  • Appointed British Consul for Mozambique

1898  • Appointed British Consul for Angola

1901  • Appointed British Consul for Eastern part of French Congo

1903  • Commissioned by British government to investigate human rights situation in The Congo Free State

1904  • The Casement Report - instrumental in King Leopold of Belgium relinquishing his personal holdings in Africa

1905  • Appointed Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George (CMG) for his Congo work

1906  • Sent to Brazil—first as consul in Pará, then transferred to Santos, later promoted to consul-general in Rio de Janeiro

1907 & 1911  • Casement pays two visits to the Putumayo Indians

1911  • Details rubber company’s use of stocks to punish Putumayo Indians

1913  • Retires from British Consular Service

1914  • Travels to U.S.A. to promote and raise money for Volunteers

1915  • Finances and organizes Howth gun-running

1916  • Germany offers 20,000 Mosin–Nagant 1891 rifles, 10 machine guns and accompanying ammunition

1917  • First anniversary of Casement’s execution marked by a great public gathering at McKenna’s Fort near Ardfert

1929  • Lengthy negotiations between the Irish and British governments for repatriation of Casement’s remains begin

1934  • Proposed Hollywood movie

1953  • Casement Park, Belfast, opened

1959  • Diaries declassified at British National Archives (Kew)

1965  • Baldonnell aerodrome renamed Casement Aerodrome

1966  • Mrs Florence Monteith Lynch, turns sods at Banna Strand, Tralee Bay, County Kerry

1967  • Construction of Roger Casement Memorial commences at Banna Strand

1968  • Eanna McCanna designs the Roger Casement Memorial, Banna, Ardfert

1969  • Gaelscoil Mhic Easmainn, Tralee, founded

2000  • Royal Irish Academy conference “Roger Casement in Irish and World History”

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24–26 October 2013

Tralee, Kerry, Ireland

Roger Casement was, and remains, a global humanitarian and international political figure. During this three-day conference, keynote addresses and panel discussions will explore the life and times of Casement and his engagement in Irish and transnational affairs and issues.

Roger Casement to his sister, Mrs Nina Newman from Pentonville Gaol

25 July 1916:

“When I landed in Ireland that morning (about 3 am) swamped and swimming ashore on an unknown strand, I was happy for the first time for over a year. Although I knew that this fate waited on me, I was for one brief spell happy and smiling once more. I cannot tell you what I felt. The sand hills were full of skylarks rising in the dawn, the first I had heard in years—the first sound I heard through the surf was their song as I waded through the breakers and they kept rising all the time up to the old rath at Currshone where I stayed and sent the others on and all round were primroses and wild violets and the singing of the skylarks in the air and I was back in Ireland again.”

—Séamus Ó Cléirigh (Ballycastle, Co. Antrim)

Casement and the Irish Language

Culture and History, p. 60
**Thursday/An Déardaoin 24th October/Deireadh Fómhair**

**5.00 pm**

*Premiere of photo exhibits*
Kerry Library, Moyderwell, Tralee

Organized in collaboration with Kerry Library, the Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil, the University of Notre Dame, and the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

*Roger Casement: Rubber, Amazonia and the Atlantic World, 1884–1916, and Commemorating Casement in Kerry/Ag Móradh Mhic Easmainn i gCiarraí*

Welcome by Tommy O’Connor, county librarian and Mayor of Kerry, Cllr. Seamus Cosaí Mac Gearailt

Remarks by Laura Izarra (Universidade de São Paulo) and Brian Ó Conchubhair (University of Notre Dame)

**Session/Seisiún I**

**7.30 pm**

*Official Opening and Reception*
Tralee Bay Wetlands Centre

Introduction by Professor Robert Norton, associate vice president for academic affairs and research, Notre Dame International, University of Notre Dame

**Keynote 1**
John Gibney (*History Ireland*)

*If the Casement guns had landed in Kerry: another version of the Easter Rising*

Chair/Cathaoirleach: Fr. Tomás Looney (President, Kerry Archeological & Historical Society)

**10.00 pm**

*Musical performance*
Carlton Hotel

Michael Brunnock, performing new songs inspired by the life of Roger Casement

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**Friday/De hAoine 25th October/Deireadh Fómhair**

**8.00 am**

Tour of Casement sites in North Kerry
pre-registration required
Departing outside Carlton Hotel

Ballyheigue, Banna Beach Memorial, McKenna’s Fort, lunch in Katie Browne’s Pub and Ballykissane Pier

**Session/Seisiún II**

**2.00–2.45 pm**

*Casement: Local & Global*

Michael Cronin (Boston College)

*Commemorating Casement in Ballyheigue rather than Ardfert*

Andrew McGrath (independent scholar)

*The Crime against Europe: Roger Casement’s Just War Theory*

Chair/Cathaoirleach: Brian Ó Conchubhair

**3.45–4.00 pm**

*Tea/coffee*

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**Session/Seisiún III**

**2.45–3.45 pm**

*Keynote 2*
Angus Mitchell

*The Trial of Roger Casement: Some Missing Dimensions*

Chair/Cathaoirleach: Tim Horgan

**3.45–4.00 pm**

*Tea/coffee*

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**Session/Seisiún IV**

**4.00–5.00 pm**

*Casement: Europe & World War I*

Jeffrey Dudgeon (independent scholar)

*Casement and the Easter Rising: Berlin, Dublin, and British Intelligence*

Justin Stover (Idaho State University)

*Left behind: the afterlife of Casement’s Irish Brigade, 1916–1922*

Matthew Erin Plowman (Grand View University)

*The Transfiguration of Sir Roger Casement: Anti-Imperialist, Nationalist, and Martyr in the “German-Hindu” Conspiracy*

Chair/Cathaoirleach: John Gibney
### Session/Seisiún V

**5.00–6.15 pm**

**Casement: Legacies & Controversies**
- Tim O’Sullivan (Athol Books)
  *The Case for Forgery: Old Arguments & New Developments*
- Matt Horton (University of California, Berkeley)
  *A Genealogy of Roger Casement: Protestant Irish Nationalists (1779-1916)*
- Michael Brunnock (independent scholar)
  *Casement in Song*

Chair/Cathaoirleach: Michael Griffin

### Session/Seisiún VI

**7.30 pm**

**Keynote 3**
- Siamsa Tire Auditorium, Tralee
- Robert Schmuhl (University of Notre Dame)
  *Roger Casement and America*

Chair/Cathaoirleach: Jimmy Deenihan, T.D., Minister for Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht Affairs

Zyber Theatre group presents the premiere of *Remember Casement*

### Saturday/Dé Sathairn 26th October/Deireadh Fómhair

**8.30–9.00 am**

**tea/coffee**

### Session/Seisiún VII

**9.00–11.00 am**

**Casement in Contemporary Literature**
- Leopoldo Bernucci (University of California, Davis)
  *History and Imagination in El sueño del celta by Mario Vargas Llosa*
- Laura Izarra (Universidade de São Paulo)
  *The Battle of the Imaginary over History: Masculinity and Heroism in absentia in El sueño del celta?*
- Mariana Bolfarine (Universidade de São Paulo)
  *Reading* The Knight of the Flaming Heart (1995) *in Ardfert*
- Eoin Flannery (Oxford Brookes University)
  *Crocodiles and Obelisks: the literary afterlife of Roger Casement in the works of WG Sebald and Jamie McKendrick*

Chair/Cathaoirleach: Brian Ó Conchubhair

### Session/Seisiún VIII

**11.00 am–12.00 pm**

**Keynote 4**
- Lucy McDiarmid (Montclair State University)
  *Casement in April 1916: Kerry Memories and Dublin Memoirs*
- Séamas Ó Síochán

**12.00 pm**

**Book Launch**
- Irish Academic Press Book launch
  *The Irish Volunteers 1913–1915: Recollections and Documents*, New Edition by Ruán O'Donnell & Micheál Ó hAodha
- Introduced by Tim Horgan

**12.00–1.00 pm**

**Lunch/Lón (on your own)**

### Session/Seisiún IX

**1.00–2.00 pm**

**Casement and the Revolutionary Generation**
- Tina O’Toole (University of Limerick)
  *Casement and the “New Woman”*
- Margaret O’Callaghan (Queen's University Belfast)
  *Alice Stopford Green: historian to the revolutionary generation?*

Chair/Cathaoirleach: Nóirín Ní Laighin

**2.00–2.15 pm**

**tea/coffee**

### Session/Seisiún X

**2.15–3.15 pm**

**Keynote 5**
- Nollaig Mac Congáil (National University of Ireland, Galway)
  *Casement and the Irish Language*

Chair/Cathaoirleach: Pádraig Mac Fhearghusa (Conradh na Gaeilge)
Session/Seisiún XI
3.15–4.30 pm  
**Casement and Poetry**  
Kurt Bullock (Grand Valley State University)  
*A Rhetoric of Remembrance: Casement's Poetry and the Nationalist Project of Historical Reclamation*  
Tomás Looney (KAHS)  
*The Founding of Volunteers in Killarney 1913*  
Matt Campbell (University of York)  
*Irish Poetry and the Ghosts of Roger Casement*  
John McAuliffe (University of Manchester)  
*Yeats' Poetry and Casement*  
Chair/Cathaoirleach: Aoife Ní Chonchubhair

Session/Seisiún XII
4.30–6.00 pm  
**Keynote 6: Dramatic Reading of The Dreaming of Roger Casement**  
Patrick Mason (Former Artistic Director, Abbey Theatre)  
Chair/Cathaoirleach: Michael Griffin

8.00 pm  
**Closing Banquet / Dinnéar na Comhdhála**  
(pre-registration required)  
Ballyseede Castle, bus departs Carlton Hotel at 7:30 pm

Associated Arts Events

**Daily photo exhibit**  
21 October–9 November  
Kerry Library, Tralee  
*Roger Casement: Rubber, Amazonia and the Atlantic World, 1884–1916 and Casement in Kerry/Ag Móradh Mhic Easmainn i gCiarraí*  
Organized in collaboration with Kerry Library, the Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil, the University of Notre Dame, and the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

**Musical Performance**  
24 October  
Carleton Hotel  
Michael Brunnock performing new songs inspired by the life of Roger Casement.  
Born in Kells, Meath, Brunnock played the Irish singer-songwriter circuit in Ireland as frontman for his bands the “Little Palace” and “The Van Winkles” before moving to New York where he established his solo career over a decade ago. He has toured extensively in the States, opening for the “Frames” and “The Swell Season” on recent sold out American tours, and has appeared on TV shows such as FOX 5’s *Fearless Music*.

**Theatre premiere**  
25 October  
Siamsa Tire Auditorium, Tralee  
*Remember Casement!*  
Presented by Zyber Theatre group

**Cast:**  
Producer/Director  
Pádraig Dennehy  
Roger Casement  
Eoin O’Sullivan  
Gertrude  
Aoife Ni Chonchubhair  
Local woman  
Margaret Slattery  
Alice Stopford Green  
Rhona Johnston  
Capt. Karl Spindler  
George Lowe  
British officials  
George Lowe  
Thomas Frank O’Connor
The University of Notre Dame provides a distinctive voice in higher education that is at once rigorously intellectual, unapologetically moral in orientation, and firmly embracing of a service ethos. Founded in 1842 by a priest of the Congregation of the Holy Cross, Notre Dame is an independent, national Catholic research university located adjacent to the city of South Bend, Indiana, in a metropolitan area of more than 300,000 residents approximately 90 miles east of Chicago.

Admission to the University is highly competitive, with nearly six applicants for each freshman class position. Seventy percent of incoming freshmen were in the top 5 percent of their high school graduating classes. The University’s minority student population has more than tripled in the past 20 years to some 23 percent, and women, first admitted to undergraduate studies at Notre Dame in 1972, now account for 48 percent of undergraduate and overall enrollment. Enrollment for the 2012–13 academic year was 12,126 students overall and 8,475 undergraduates.

One indicator of the quality of Notre Dame’s undergraduate programs is the success of its students in postbaccalaureate studies. The medical school acceptance rate of the University’s preprofessional studies graduates is nearly 80 percent, almost twice the national average, and Notre Dame ranks first among Catholic universities in the number of doctorates earned by its undergraduate alumni — a record compiled over some 80 years. The Graduate School, established in 1918, encompasses 48 master’s and 26 doctoral degree programs in and among 30 University departments and institutes.

The source of the University’s academic strength is its faculty, which since 1988 has seen the addition of more than 500 new members and the establishment of more than 200 endowed professorships. Notre Dame faculty members have won 49 fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities since 1999, more than for any other university in the nation.

At Notre Dame, education always has been linked to values, among them living in community and volunteering in community service. Residence hall life, shared by four of five undergraduates, is both the hallmark of the Notre Dame experience and the wellspring of the University’s rich tradition. A younger tradition, the University’s Center for Social Concerns, serves as a catalyst for student voluntarism. About 80 percent of Notre Dame students engage in some form of voluntary service-learning during their years at the University, and at least 10 percent devote a year or more after graduation to serving the less fortunate in the U.S. and around the world.

With 1,250 acres containing two lakes and 143 buildings, Notre Dame is well known for the beauty of its campus. The Basilica of the Sacred Heart, the 14-story Hesburgh Library with its 132-feet-high mural depicting Christ the Teacher, and the University’s historic Main Building with its famed Golden Dome are among the most widely known university landmarks in the world.
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