

Geo News

Newsletter of GSI

Issue No. 61 February 2016

• <http://www.geographicalsocietyireland.ie> • Geographical Society of Ireland

Note from the Editor

Fellow Geographers,

I am pleased to present issue 61 of Geo News. This issue covers the winter period 2015 up to February 2016 and there are many items to share.

It is an exciting time for the Geographical Society of Ireland, just this month the Society launched its first issue of *Irish Geography*. Recently the Society took back full ownership of the Journal from Taylor and Francis. The journal dates back to 1944, but this is the first online edition of *Irish Geography*, and we have highlights from the launch evening which was held in St. Patricks College Drumcondra (DCU) Department of History and Geography.

Incidentally, SPCD-DCU will be the venue of the 48th **Conference of Irish Geographers** which will take place from Thursday 5th of May to Saturday 7th of May 2016. We have some details here for you.

With the upcoming General Election in Ireland, one theme that has emerged throughout the debate is the notion of a two-tiered recovery which juxtaposes the booming capital of Dublin against the backdrop of a declining rural Ireland. This is an interesting Political and Geographical topic and colleagues from Trinity College Dublin have passed on a call on behalf of the Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems, run by the International Geographical Union. We have full details of the call here.

Last but not least, we have some short research submissions from postgraduate students in University College Dublin School of Geography.

The work for issue 62 will begin in earnest following the circulation of this issue, so please submit any

items you'd like to include. As always I look forward to receiving your news items for dissemination in GeoNews.

Happy Reading!

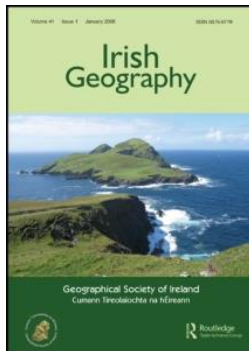
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In this Issue

The Geographical Society of Ireland (re)Launch of <i>Irish Geography</i>	2
The 48 th Conference of Irish Geographers.....	3
A look back at Geo-Week 2015.....	4
Call overview: Colloquium of the Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems	5
Mapping University College Dublin: Three Geographies using mobile technology	8
Outdoor WiFi on UCD Campus.....	8
Waste and disposal areas on UCD Campus...	9
Location of AEDs on UCD Campus.....	9
Other News and Updates	10

The Geographical Society of Ireland (re)Launch of *Irish Geography*



The Geographical Society of Ireland recently took back full responsibility for publishing the Journal of *Irish Geography*. The journal has been published by the Geographical Society of Ireland since 1944. *Irish Geography* publishes research articles focused on the geography of Ireland. Topics also cover the Irish diaspora and overseas networks. The journal is a rich tapestry of multi-disciplinary contributes, published in a range of formats; from full and short articles, to commentaries and reviews on or about Ireland's geographies.

Speaking personally, it was an issue of *Irish Geography* from 1987 which carried an article by John Sweeney entitled *The Urban Heat Island of Dublin* (Volume 20, Issue 1) that sparked my own imagination and interest in urban climates as an undergraduate student. But as I delved deeper into the journal, I found countless fascinating and illuminating articles. This issue of *Irish Geography* is no exception and if the standard of articles found in this issue are any indication, the future of *Irish Geography* is bright indeed!

To mark the occasion of the first full cycle of publishing *Irish Geography* through the Society, there was an event held in St. Patrick's College Drumcondra (DCU) on Thursday 18th of February. Dr. Niamh Moore-Cherry, UCD, was guest editor of the **Re-thinking the post-crash city** special issue of *Irish Geography*. Given the academic and policy relevance of the theme, the Geographical Society of Ireland has decided to make this issue fully Open Access for a limited period of time.

<http://irishgeography.ie/index.php/irishgeography/issue/view/110>



Former Editors of *Irish Geography* (Left to Right): Padraig Carmody (TCD), Joe Brady (UCD), Ruth McManus (SPD), Willie Smyth (UCC), John Sweeney (MU)



From Left to Right: Gerald Mills (UCD) and Willie Smyth (UCC)



From Left to Right: Gerald Mills (UCD), Willie Smyth (UCC), John Connolly (SPD), John Sweeney and Karen Till (MU)

Pictures courtesy of Dr Susan Hegarty, SPCD-DCU Department of History and Geography

The 48th Conference of Irish Geographers

The Geographical Society of Ireland and the Geography Department (School of Geography & History DCU) are delighted to host the 48th Conference of Irish Geographers which will take place from Thursday 5th of May 2016 to Saturday 7th of May 2016. The organisers of the 2016 Conference of Irish Geographers (CIG) now invite submissions for papers for the full conference programme. We encourage submissions from all branches of geography for papers which address the conference theme **Memory, identity and landscape - Geographical perspectives**.

Paper proposals should include the following information:

- Registration number (registration is required before submission of the paper)
- Name of presenter, affiliation and the correspondence email address
- Title of paper and abstract (no more than 250 words)
- Type of presentation (i.e. paper, poster, etc.)
- An indication as to the appropriate themed session (if applicable)

We particularly welcome contributions from postgraduate students

There will be several side events at CIG 2016 including a graduate workshop on topics such as: thesis completion, applying for post-doctoral funding and for Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions. A 'Flash Session' will be also held during the CIG, where presenters have three minutes to present their research or innovative teaching practices.

For any academic queries about the conference, please contact:

info@conferenceofirishgeographers.ie

For any paper submissions about the conference, please contact

papers@conferenceofirishgeographers.ie

If you intend to submit a paper for a themed session, please liaise with the session organiser in the first instance. Session organisers should contact the organising committee at the address below as soon as possible.

NOTE: session organisers will be asked to provide the details of participants and their papers.

Important dates

- Final date for registration of themed sessions: **PASSED**
- Early bird registration closes: 10th March 2016
- Final date for submission of papers: 24th March 2016
- Final date for conference registration: 7th April 2016
- Conference of Irish Geographers: 5 - 7 May 2016

For the latest information, go to <http://www.conferenceofirishgeographers.ie/>

A look back at Geo-Week 2015

GeoWeek ran from 15th to the 22nd of November 2015. This is the 2nd year the GSI has coordinated events for GeoWeek and we have a roundup of the events and our competition winners. The theme was **“Explore! The Power of Maps”**

TCD & DU Events

The DU Geographical Society and TCD Geography combined forces to organise events for GeoWeek 2015. The Geogsoc and the Department held a range of events from geographically themed games, to public showcase of geospatial technologies.

NUI Galway

As part of Geography Week 2015 the Geography Department at NUI Galway hosted a workshop for members of the Galway Geological Association (GGA) demonstrating how past environments are reconstructed using biological proxies.

Ireland from Maps Exhibition

The National Library of Ireland's, Ireland from Maps exhibition was on display in Enniscorthy Castle for the duration of GeoWeek.

UCD

Our colleagues in UCD held a number of public lectures and seminars on the power of maps and reconstructing past environments.

Maynooth University

Local Transition Year students visited the Geography Department for a seminar on Mapping and had a chance to see the 'octocopter' mapping drone in action!

Queens University Belfast

QUB marked the occasion of World GIS Day at GAP - Web My Map!

More information at:

<http://www.geographicalsocietyireland.ie/geowee-2015.html>

Congratulations to the Winners of the GeoWeek competition, 2015!

- St Kevins College- best represented school (Prize of [Terraform](#) map)
- Sarah Miskella - Ramsgrange Community College (First Place: Prize [OSI Then and Now Map](#) of Hook Area – below left)
- Sarah nic Eoin, Lauren Ní Cheallaigh agus Aoife Nic Eoin, (Second Place - Prize [OSI Then and Now Map](#) of Spiddeal Area – below right)
- Dylan Campbell, St. Kevins College Winner 3 - (Prize €25 book token, sponsored by [Kilkenny First Arts, Maynooth University](#))



Call overview: Colloquium of the Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems of the International Geographical Union



**Sustainability of Rural
Systems: Balancing
Heritage and Innovation**
Liège, Belgium, 17-22 July 2016



Call for papers!

Key dates and registration details

- Communication of abstracts by March 1st, 2016
- Communication of the decision of acceptance, March 21st
- Registration before May 31th: full registration fee €500
- Early bird Registration by April 15th: early bird fee €390
- Early bird PhD Students and scholars from UN developing regions, 300€ (by April 15th)

Thematic sessions

1) New technologies and the new rural ways of life	2) Agronomic innovations and their social and environmental impacts
<p><i>Key words: NICT – remoteness – new rural way of life</i></p> <p>With the development and proliferation of new information and communication technologies, the remoteness of some areas of the countryside is less important than heretofore. New economic activities are possible including, for instance, those relating to light industry or to call services. New consumption of services is also possible. These technologies change daily life and rural culture. This session aims to bring together international case studies and theoretical reflections concerning this transition in order to shed light on the new rural ways of life including new opportunities, risks and challenges for the countryside.</p>	<p><i>Key words: research and innovations – sustainability – preservation-inclusiveness</i></p> <p>Agricultural practices, including organic agriculture, are increasingly linked with agronomic research and innovation. This session aims to discuss the social and environmental impacts of these innovations in order to attain more effectively the sustainability of countryside systems. Innovation impacts on the landscape and leads to consideration of the preservation of some landscapes as heritage. It may also have an important impact on rural society, including the extent to which farmers are included in rural life.</p>

<p>3) From ecosystem services to agroservices</p> <p><i>Key words: agroservices – agroecosystems</i></p> <p>The concept of ecosystem services is acknowledged nowadays as an important way to promote sustainable development and increase awareness of the roles of nature in human activities. The session aims to reflect on the importance of agriculture to human activities and to consider the pertinence of the concept of agroservices.</p>	<p>4) Energy issues in rural areas</p> <p><i>Key words: energy production – smart development - landscape</i></p> <p>In recent decades energy production has assumed renewed importance in the countryside after a period of marked centralization. However, due to the distribution of wind, solar, and water power resources, some rural areas are experiencing significant reuse of land, which is both an opportunity for the local economy and an injustice if it results in spoiling the rural landscape in order to produce energy for cities and industrial areas that may be located a great distance away. Case studies including smart developments are particularly welcome.</p>
<p>5) Multifunctional forests and the countryside</p> <p><i>Key words: rural capital – functions – management</i></p> <p>In many regions both forests and agricultural lands are multifunctional. Different activities are based on the services these forms of rural capital can offer. For instance, besides the economic function of the forest, recreation and environmental functions are increasingly acknowledged in forest management. The countryside is a place of production and commodification where the symbolic value of ‘countryside’ is in debate.</p>	<p>6) Tourism and recreation</p> <p><i>Key words: touristic innovation – visitors in rural areas</i></p> <p>Tourism and recreation are becoming important activities from an economic point of view in many parts of the world. An increasing number of people spend considerable time and economic resources on these activities. Tourism is seen as an opportunity for many rural areas; however the positive impacts may not be so evident. What kinds of innovation (social, economic, technological) could enhance the satisfaction of the visitor and ensure a positive impact for the rural community? Case studies and proposals for a research agenda should enrich this session.</p>

Abstracts guidelines

Authors are invited to submit abstracts under the themes given above but are not limited to these themes. Abstracts will be sent for review and participants will be informed by 21st March whether an abstract has been accepted. Inclusion of an abstract in the Colloquium Handbook is dependent on receipt of the Registration Fee by 31st May.

Abstracts of no more than 300 words in length should be sent to Dr Charline Dubois at Charline.Dubois@ulg.ac.be by March 1st, using the following format:

Language: English or French

Font: Times New Roman 12pt

Spacing: single spacing

Alignment: all text should be left aligned

Title of paper: Uppercase Title and name of author/s: in bold; title, first name followed by surname in capitals; followed by the institutional address in plain text; and email address in italics

Corresponding author: if different from the first author, write in brackets after the name

Institutional affiliation: the institutional affiliation of each author should be given

Endnotes or sub scripts: should not be used

Please note: faxed abstracts will not be accepted

Field visits

Three days of fieldwork will deal with the above themes and include one day of discussion at the Libramont agricultural, forestry and agri-food fair that welcomes more than 200,000 visitors each year.

Outline Timetable

Sunday 17th July: registration of the delegates, an introduction to the Belgian context and a walking tour of Liege

Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th July: paper sessions and a first field visit to the Pays de Herve, a multifunctional green area inside the urban ring where food production is undergoing a dynamic process of transformation

Wednesday 20th July: the region of Ghent, with a focus on managing agriculture and nature in the urbanized Flemish landscape. A short walking tour of Ghent will be included.

Thursday 21st July: study of multifunctional forests in the Ardennes (around Vielsalm)

Friday 22nd July: discussion with local actors during the agricultural, forestry and agri-food fair of Libramont

Proceedings

Following the colloquium, and subject to peer review and selection, an opportunity will be given to include papers in two special issues of *Belgeo* and *BSGLg* in 2017. Both Belgian journals are peer reviewed and indexed by Scopus. Details relating to submission will be circulated later.

The book of abstracts will be published on-line

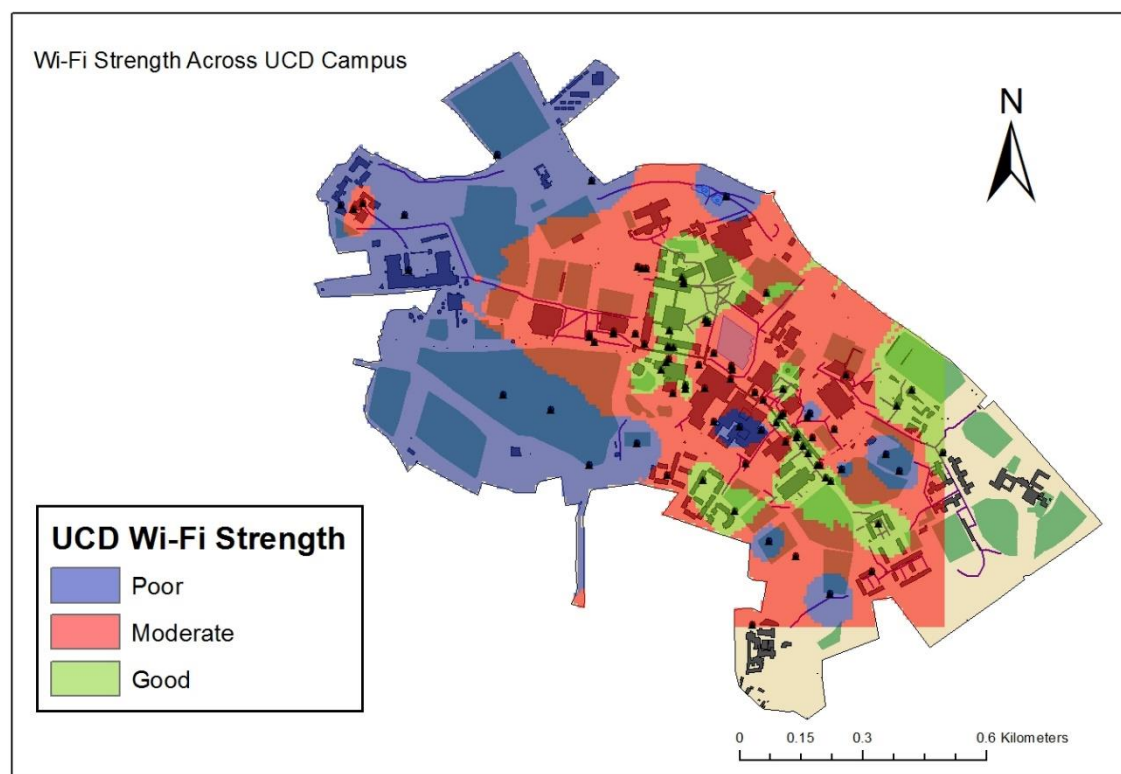
Mapping University College Dublin: Three Geographies using mobile technology

The advent of Geographic Information Systems for understanding geographic relationships and problems dates back over 5 decades. With the modern power of smart-phones, and the era of *big data*, it is now possible to map out personal geographies on the go. Here, MA students from the School of Geography UCD present three geographies of their campus, generated using mobile smart phones.

Outdoor WiFi on UCD Campus

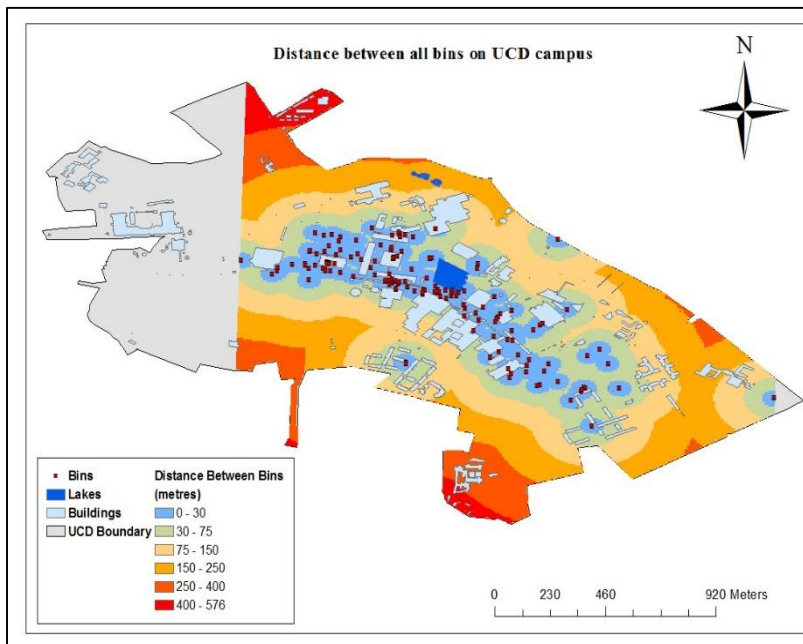
Shane Bradley, Caroline Greene, Clare McAleavey and Luke Monaghan

This project centred on the availability and strength of Wireless Fidelity (WiFi) across UCD campus. For this project, WiFi signal strength across campus was monitored at 60 random locations using mobile (cellular) smart phones. The areas sampled allowed for the creation of a signal-strength map for the entire campus, illustrating potential gaps in the WiFi network for staff and students.



Waste and disposal areas on UCD Campus

Johanna Helbig, Jack McCarthy, Sophie Nolan and Jean Williams



This research assessed the current environment of UCD campus, thus contributes to enhancing a more sustainable waste management system in UCD. The study highlights that there are not enough recycling facilities provided on UCD main campus Belfield. However, general waste is well catered for along the main walkways and main buildings.

- Out of all bins only 11% are recycling bins
- Only 9% of recycling bins are within the distance of 75 m from the main eateries on campus

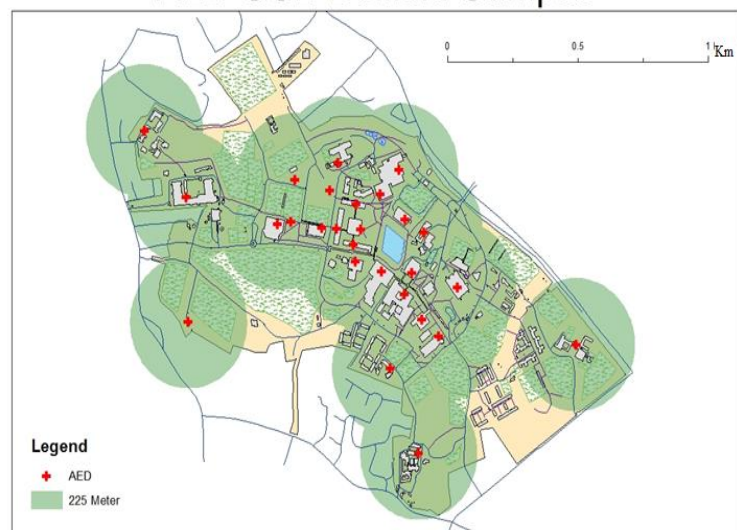
Location of AEDs on UCD Campus

Harry Connor, Jelle Jongbloed and John Sheils

This project centred on Health and Safety issues on UCD campus. The research focused on the potential risks of Sudden Adult Death Syndrome (SAD) or Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) event taking place in relation to the current network of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) on UCD campus. The research also tested the resilience of the current AED network to theft / vandalism. Based on sampling running speeds of different staff and students to and from AED locations, we determined that no AED should be greater than 225 meters from any location on Campus. Therefore, the green buffers on our map illustrates

“safe zones” on UCD campus, where, in the event of someone experiencing SCA, an intervening person would be able to run to an AED (and back) and administer defibrillation in under 5 minutes.

AED UCD Belfield Campus



Other News and Updates

Maynooth Academics receive national Teaching Awards



Dr David Wraith, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, and the TEN (Transformative Engagement Network) team from Maynooth University have been recognised as outstanding teachers and supporters of learning by the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. The TEN Team—comprising Prof Anne Ryan, Dr Bernie Grummell, Dr Conor Murphy, Prof Martin Downes, and Maggie Noone—received a special commendation for ‘Transcending Knowledge Transfer’.

Dr. Gerald Mills receives an award



Dr. Gerald Mills (UCD) received an award as part of the Inaugural Dublin Conference Ambassador Recognition Awards on 21st January 2016. The award was in recognition of the 8th International Conference on Urban Climates (ICUC8), which was hosted at UCD in 2012. ICUC8 focused on the effect of cities on the overlying atmosphere and brought together climate scientists, meteorologists, geographers, urban planners/designers, building engineers and architects. Nearly all of the 500 delegates travelled from abroad, chiefly from Japan, Germany, France, the UK and US.

Professor Anne Buttimer received a Conference Ambassador Award for Geographers



Professor Anne Buttimer received a Conference Ambassador Award for Geographers from Bord Fáilte.

This award was given in recognition of the numerous occasions of which she hosted International meetings in Dublin especially during her Presidency of the International Geographical Union 2000-2004.

NUIG Explore Award

Geography staff and students at the end of year EXPLORE awards lunch. EXPLORE is where NUI Galway students and staff partner up and deliver their innovative ideas. It is a proven model for co-creation, co-design and co-delivering - both on and off campus. The Discipline of Geography hosted 3 of the 19 University awards for the 2014/15 academic year. The 3 projects were: The Aether Drone Project (Dr Eugene Farrell), Geo-Bogs: Conserving Ireland's Natural Heritage (Dr Terry Morley and Dr Audrey Morley) and YOLO (YOUNG peoples' Life Opportunities) (Dr. Kathy Reilly).



Conferences

AAG Annual Meeting

Where?

San Francisco, United States

When?

29 Mar – 02 Apr 2016

Who?

http://www.aag.org/cs/events/event_detail?eventId=1022

Conference of Irish Geographers 2016

Where?

St. Patricks College Drumcondra, Dublin, Ireland

When?

5-7 May 2016

Who?

<http://www.conferenceofirishgeographers.ie/#!welcome/cjpx>

Call for Content!

If you would like anything featured in the next newsletter please email the editor (paul.alexander@nuim.ie)

There is also a new online submission form:

<http://www.geographicalsocietyireland.ie/geo-news.html>

We would also encourage members to send in discussion pieces / articles / research highlights / Pictures for inclusion in GeoNews.

Current Committee, 2015-2016

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Dr. Gerald Mills, University College Dublin

Vice-President:

Dr. Niamh Moore-Cherry, University College Dublin

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