

Geo News

Newsletter of GSI

Issue No. 62 September 2016

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

Note from the Editor

Fellow Geographers,

Welcome to Issue 62 of GeoNews, which follows on from another successful Conference of Irish Geographers (CIG 2016) held in St. Patrick's College Drumcondra / Dublin City University in May 2016, as well as another productive summer filled with interesting news from our members.

I am happy to include in this issue a special featured piece from the Supporting Women In Geography (SWIG) Irish chapter, organised by Dr. Karen Till, Rachel Mc Ardle, Aoife Delaney and Lorna O'Hara – who held a SWIG event addressing issues that surround female geographers. There is an introduction to SWIG alongside a report from the event and details **on how to get involved in this important initiative in this issue.**

I am also happy to include in this issue an announcement that Professor Anne Buttimer has been honoured with a University College Cork Alumni Lifetime achievement award.

In issue 61, details of the *New rural geographies in Europe: actors, processes, policies* conference was included, we have an update here with some key deadlines approaching fast! There are also some key geographical events coming soon that we wanted to bring to your attention.

Following another summer of record breaking heat and rain, adaptation to extreme weather is quickly moving up the agenda of local authorities. It is timely therefore that we have a piece from Climate Ireland on a series of Adaptation Workshops run for local authorities in support of the development of climate change adaptation plans.

Building Ireland is returning to RTÉ television with Dr. Susan Hegarty exploring the geographical landscapes of Ireland, we have all the details you need here.

Last but by no means least, Dr. Joe Brady has send in a fitting tribute to Professor Dennis Pringle, who received a lifetime contribution award from the Geographical Society of Ireland. Dennis became editor of GeoNews in 1987, and oversaw the production of 16 issues of the newsletter. He authored *A Short History of Geonews*

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which appeared around the same time as the Society's 75th Anniversary (2009).

I mentioned his piece back in Issue 57, when I first became editor for GeoNews. I am fortunate to be editor in a time where hand written submissions do not have to be retyped for inclusion in the newsletter, moreover the present format of GeoNews is far more concise, rarely running over 10 pages in length (regrettably far short of the 40 pages referred to by Dennis as a "respectable" length).

Nevertheless, I am indebted to the work of Dennis (and all former editors) for keeping GeoNews alive, for their innovations, dedication and ingenuity – in short, I would like to add my voice in congratulating Dennis in receiving this honour from the society.

Finally, I would encourage all of you to send in any contributions for inclusion in issue 63 (I would happily accept hand-written contributions!) which will appear around winter-time.

Until then, Happy Reading!

Paul Alexander

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Professor Dennis Pringle Receives Lifetime Contribution Award from the Geographical Society of Ireland

By Dr. Joe Brady



The Geographical Society of Ireland honoured Dennis Pringle with a Lifetime Contribution Award at an event held in the Geography Department, Maynooth University on Thursday, 15 September, 2016. Dennis was one of a small group of young geographers who joined university departments in Ireland in the 1970s. He was quick to get involved in the Geographical Society of Ireland, where he and others set about the business of the society with energy, enthusiasm and innovation. The latter was not always appreciated by the 'senior' members but it is ensured that the Society was lively. It was also busy with a programme of meetings each year, which were generally well attended, fieldtrips and the production of Irish Geography. Dennis was soon a member of the committee and then Secretary and ultimately President. He learned that the Society operated on a shoestring; in fact, it did not own a shoestring. Since there was no money, everything was done by the individual labour of the members of the committee.

GeoNews is an excellent example of his work, enthusiasm and dedication to the Society. It would have remained unsung,

and even taken for granted, was it not for the excellent idea of a Lifetime Contribution Award.

He took over as editor of GeoNews in 1987 for issue 21 and continued in that role until issue 36. Afterwards he remained a valued adviser to his successors. We are fortunate that he decided to write a short piece on the occasion of the Society's 75th Anniversary, *A Short History of Geonews*¹.

In it, he describes the production process and you just marvel at the ingenuity, craftiness and dogged determination that ensured a quality production which appeared on time. Nothing was straightforward and all unnecessary expense had to be avoided; this required the unwitting assistance of the Maths Department and their laser printer.

The account will raise a smile but it also says much about Dennis and why it is fitting that he was honoured by the Society.

Past Editors of GeoNews

Editor	Issue(s)	Period
John Andrews (Trinity College Dublin)	1-4	1977-1978
Tony Parker & Joe Brady (University College Dublin)	5-20	1978-1987
Dennis Pringle (National University of Ireland Maynooth)	21-36	1987-1995
Mark McCarthy (University College Cork)	37	1995
Ray O'Connor & Almar Barry (University College Cork)	38-46	1996-2000
Adrian Kavanagh & John Sweeney (National University of Ireland Maynooth)	47-56	2005-2014

¹ Available online at http://eprints.maynoothuniversity.ie/2918/1/DP_GeoNews09.pdf

Professor Anne Buttimer to Receive prestigious UCC Alumni Achievement Award



Each year University College Cork honours up to five distinguished alumni who have achieved great success in their chosen field and/or life work. An Alumnus Achievement Award is regarded as the highest non-academic honour University College Cork can bestow upon a graduate.

This year, Professor Anne Buttimer is the recipient of the award, in recognition of her outstanding achievements in the field of Geography. Anne is graduate of University College Cork, where she received a BA in Geography, Latin and Mathematics in 1957.

List of honours, Professor Anne Buttimer

Year	Award
2016	Alumni Achievement Award, University College Cork
2016	Conference Ambassador Award, Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, Bord Fáilte
2014	Vautrin Lud Prize
2014	AAG Lifetime achievement honours
2013	First woman recipient of Honorary Doctorate from Université Joseph Fourier, Grenoble
2009	Wahlberg Medal, Swedish Society for Anthropology and Geography
2004	Honorary Doctorate, Tartu University
2000-Present	Fellow of the Royal Irish Academy
2000	Millennium Award, Royal Scottish Geographical Society
1999	Honorary Doctorate, University of Joensuu
1997	Murchison Award, Royal Geographical Society
1991	Ellen Churchill Semple award, University of Kentucky
1986	AAG Honours Award
1976	Fulbright Hays Visiting Professor in Social Ecology to Sweden

The 2016 awards ceremony and dinner will take place in UCC on **Friday, 25 November, 2016**. Awards are made to those individuals who:

- have achieved excellence in his/her profession or life's work
- have demonstrated leadership/innovation in his/her particular field
- are a source of inspiration to students and pride to the whole university community
- reflect the values outlined in UCC's strategic plan
- exemplify the benefits of a UCC education

We are delighted to share the news about Anne's success and add our sincerest congratulations to her on this outstanding achievement!

Dr. Susan Hegarty continues to explore people and landscape interactions in RTÉ's acclaimed *Building Ireland*



BUILDING IRELAND returns to explore and explain how Ireland's great building and engineering achievements came to be, and their impact on the development of our towns and cities. In the company of an enthusiastic team of experts, the series marries local heritage with construction technology and engineering. Architecture, geography and engineering are the disciplines brought to bear; each programme focuses on a prime example of Ireland's built

heritage and recounts the fascinating story of its construction

This summer on RTÉ One, Dr Susan Hegarty (Geography, SPD/DCU) joins two colleagues (Tim Joyce, OPW and Orla Murphy, Architecture, UCD) as they explore some of the finest examples of Ireland's building and engineering heritage. Supported by the Geographical Society of Ireland, the series looked at how geography has influenced, and been influenced by, major engineering and architectural feats of the eighteenth and nineteenth century. This six-part documentary series from Esras Films in association with Brian Gray was produced for RTÉ One with Sound and Vision funding from the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland.

The first episode (see details of schedule below!) delves into the history of Spike Island, a prime defensive location in the middle of the second largest natural harbour in the world. Geographer Susan Hegarty leads the team on a visit to Fortress Spike Island in Cork Harbour built to defend an Empire, only to become an island prison. Engineer Tim Joyce investigates the military engineering of the vast complex while Architect Orla Murphy explores the Victorian character of Cobh's residential architecture

Congratulations to all involved in this wonderful production.

Each show will be shown on RTÉ One TV

BUILDING IRELAND Programme 1: Spike Island - 30.09.16 at 20.30

BUILDING IRELAND Programme 2: Kilkenny Castle - 07.10.16 at 20.30

BUILDING IRELAND Programme 3: Ardnacrusha - 14.10.16 at 20.30

BUILDING IRELAND Programme 4: Kerry Tourism - 21.10.16 at 20.30

BUILDING IRELAND Programme 5: Dublin's Distilleries - 28.10.16 at 20.30

BUILDING IRELAND Programme 6: Galway's Corrib Canal - 04.11.16 at 20.30

Special Feature: Introducing SWIG Ireland

By Rachel Mc Ardle, Aoife Delaney and Lorna O' Hara

About SWIG

Supporting Women In Geography (SWIG) is an international group that aims to create a supportive network for academics. It has numerous chapters across US cities, as well as some European countries and began in Ireland as an informal woman's networking group based at Maynooth University. At lunch/meetings, staff and postgraduate students would discuss the particularities and hardships of being a woman in academia, and geography specifically. Issues such as, speaking up and voicing opinions and ensuring that we are listened too, childcare, maternity rights, being taken for granted, learning to say no, not taking on odd jobs all the time, ensuring the work outside of academia (e.g. emptying the dishwasher) is shared equally amongst all staff and dealing with competitive and often degrading peers etc., were all up for discussion. Often we would brainstorm through problems people were having, based on experience and advice.

**"SWIG IS ABOUT EQUALITY;
IT IS ABOUT MEN AND
WOMEN WORKING TOGETHER
TO CREATE A FAIRER
ENVIRONMENT FOR FEMALE
ACADEMICS"**



SWIG Ireland Launch – CIG 2016

When the organiser of this group (Dr. Karen Till) mentioned the international group SWIG, we became interested in

creating SWIG Ireland. In May 2016, we launched the idea at the Conference of Irish Geographers (CIG-2016) through an informal happy hour. We received very useful feedback and a lot of support from both female and male geographers.

Following the launch at CIG, we organised an event on September 16th addressing issues that surround female geographers and also to discuss the future direction of SWIG Ireland.

The event included a panel discussion with Prof. Anna Davies, Dr. Niamh Moore Cherry, Dr. Lidia Manzo and Ms. Louise Collins Sarsfields. We discussed the importance of establishing formal mentoring, peer groups and networking outside of the discipline with Dr. Niamh Moore Cherry highlighting that SWIG should not be completely about the negatives of what women face in academia but about illustrating what universities are missing out on because women are not as visible or appreciated.

This was supported by Prof. Gerry Kearns who asked probably the most interesting question of the session: *what is the role of men in supporting women?* This is quite an important question as SWIG is about equality; it is about men and women working together to create a fairer environment for female academics who face issues around precariousness, maternity rights, childcare, confidence, leadership, even simple things such as being recognised and listened too.

Ms. Lorna O'Hara responded to Prof. Kearns question by suggesting that our male peers should take a step back and provide space for women to have a voice and to listen to women, which was supported by Dr. Karen till who anecdotally explained she has often been in meetings and observed a female provide an idea only to be ignored and then for a male to suggest the same idea and be applauded.

It was then suggested that conversations on issues directly felt by female staff should not be dominated by males, they should act in support, provide thoughts on how to rectify the situation and actually listen and give women space to voice opinions and ideas.



"Almost 2/3 of casual workers in third level sector are female"

Then Mr. Joe Robinson introduced the idea of the "not all men hashtag" arguing that not all discourse around women is about men. Thus, the conversation sought an understanding and recognition that becoming defensive or dismissive when gender inequality is mentioned, or support is asked for, or even not wanting to join a group such as SWIG because it's about "feminism" and "how men are always to blame" is in itself gender inequality and missing the key idea that SWIG is about.

We want all voices heard and appreciated, we want precarity, especially at early career stages, for both genders to not be an issue, and we need the support of our

male peers in order to do this as we need both genders to call attention to issues facing female academics. For instance, a number of anecdotes were revealed during this session such as Prof. Anna Davies being the only female Professor within Geography on the island (more women should be getting this recognition and our male peers should be supporting this and promoting their female peers in this regard), Mr. James Merricks White brought our attention to an infographic on the first study of precariousness in third level institutions which found that 62% of casual workers are female (Third Level Workplace Watch, 2014). As a community, we should be fighting against precariousness at both the Departmental and University scale for both male and female staff.

So simply, we want SWIG Ireland to be useful to women, and to be a way to show solidarity, support and advice. Internationally, SWIG focuses on issues that women are disproportionately affected by, such as childcare and maternity leave, as well as more general sexism and misogyny, and offers practical solutions on how to deal with these issues.

However, we are also excited to use SWIG as a vehicle to celebrate the diverse perspectives that women can bring to geographical and societal debate and we wish to illuminate the important role that women play in Geography with regards to introducing the views of different, often historically under-researched members of society, as well as providing a space for all geographers to explore the potential that women and men have when working together to encourage and begin changing

how Geography departments work and even how universities work. The key to this ethos is the idea that women are not alone and that collectively women can have a powerful impact on institutional change.

Moving Forward

Finally, after the panel we held the first AGM and began forming an interim committee and a taskforce to develop SWIGs Constitution. Over the coming months, we hope to gain more members and hopefully see the beginning of chapters opening around the country. The next big event will be at the Conference of Irish Geographers 2017 where we will be electing our first committee and organising a happy hour and possibly even sponsoring a plenary or organising a session.

Acknowledgments

We would like to extend a huge thank you to a number of people who have been amazingly supportive over the last few months and who we know will remain key advocates and supporters of this initiative.

Firstly, we must thank the GSI who allowed us to speak at their AGM at CIG and have offered us a space on their website, the chance to write for GeoNews, and have created a liaison officer between us and them. We would also like to thank Dr. Karen Till for encouraging us to begin this initiative and for her continual support and advice, Prof. Anna Davies, Dr. Niamh Moore Cherry, Dr. Lidia Manzo and Louise Sarsfields Collins for taking part in our panel discussion but we also need to thank Dr. Moore Cherry for all her support and help to connect with the GSI. Finally, we would like to thank Prof. Gerry Kearns for chairing this event and congratulate him on his new role as Head of Department of Geography at Maynooth University.

Bibliography

Third Level Workplace Watch (2014)
Precarity in Irish Academia [Online].

Available at:

<https://3lww.files.wordpress.com/2014/11/3lwwinfographic.jpg> (Accessed 18th September 2016).

“WE WANT ALL VOICES HEARD AND APPRECIATED, WE WANT PRECARITY, ESPECIALLY AT EARLY CAREER STAGES, FOR BOTH GENDERS TO NOT BE AN ISSUE, AND WE NEED THE SUPPORT OF OUR MALE PEERS IN ORDER TO DO THIS AS WE NEED BOTH GENDERS TO CALL ATTENTION TO ISSUES FACING FEMALE ACADEMICS”

SWIG will organise a meeting to be held at Conference of Irish Geographers 2017

At this meeting, SWIG will elect our first committee, organise a happy hour and possibly sponsor a plenary and organise a special session.

If you would like to join please email swig.Ireland@gmail.com or tweet us @SWIGIreland

Proudly supported by the GSI: <http://www.geographicalsocietyireland.ie/supporting-women-in-geography.html>

About the Authors



Rachel Mc Ardle is a third year PhD student at the Department of Geography and the National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis (NIRSA). She was awarded the John Hume Scholarship in order to complete her PhD. Her research is looking at temporary urbanisms in Dublin, from 2013-2016. The case studies range from a pop-up park, to a squat, to a festival.

Rachel graduated with a BA Arts (Geography) degree in 2013 with a First Class Honours degree and from a MA Society and Space in 2014, both awarded by Maynooth University. Her research builds on her MA thesis, which was based on Granby Park, a temporary pop up park in Dublin in 2013. Further, she is a co-founder of the Supporting Women in Geography (SWIG) group and the Premature Geographers blog.

Aoife Delaney is a Doctoral Student of the National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis (NIRSA) and the Department of Geography in Maynooth University, as part of the ERC-funded Programmable City Project. Her research endeavours to map out the Coordinated Management and Emergency Response Systems (CMaERS) in both Dublin and Boston with respect to flooding response. These systems will be explored in terms of how the system is organised and run in practice, its cracks or where fault lines occur and how the smart city will interact and change the organisation, practice and resiliency of CMaERS.



Aoife graduated from a Bachelors of Arts (Geography) Degree in 2013 with a First Class Honours and from a Masters of Arts Society and Space Degree in 2014, both awarded by Maynooth University. Her Undergraduate thesis studied the Digital Divide occurring between different second level schools in Kildare, Ireland and her MA thesis studied the evolution of Silicon Docks. Further, she is a co-founder of the Supporting Women in Geography (SWIG) group and the Premature Geographers blog.



Lorna O'Hara is a third year doctoral student and activist at the Department of Geography in Maynooth University, Ireland.

An Irish Research Council funded scholar, Lorna's research focuses on so-called 'fourth wave feminist' movements, examining the similarities/differences between international feminist groups and artistic projects that have a focus on increasing awareness about/changing violence against women and the control of women's bodies. Her research is a comparative case design which analyses groups and artists in three major European cities: Berlin, Dublin and Paris. Furthermore, her research focuses on a number of online/urban spaces used by these projects/movements at multiple scales, from the body to the international, as well as the various artistic and embodied practices used by groups/artists in each respective city.

Lorna graduated in 2011 with a First Class Honours Bachelor of Arts (French & Geography) from Maynooth University and graduated with a M. Phil in European Studies in 2013 from Trinity College Dublin. Her undergraduate thesis focused on the social impact of climate change on poor upland communities in the Peruvian Andes and her M. Phil thesis focused on the development of the women's movement under the dictatorial state in East Germany before and during the period of German unification. Lorna is co-founder of the Supporting Women in Geography (SWIG) group and co-organiser of the Berlin Ireland Pro Choice Solidarity group in Berlin, Germany.

Climate Action in Ireland: Local Authority Adaptation Workshops



Global climate is now changing in an unprecedented manner and the effects of these changes are already evident, the rate and scale of these changes is expected to increase and intensify into the future.

Following the publication of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act (2015) there is now a statutory obligation for the Irish sectors (Transport, Agriculture, Energy) to develop adaptation plans for climate change, and for Local authorities to develop adaptation strategies as part of their local development plans moving forward; this is to be overseen by the newly formed Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment (DCCA).

Once the National Adaptation Framework is completed in late 2017, Local Authorities

will need to move quickly to integrate adaptation planning into their existing workload. To help facilitate this, DCCA along with the EPA are supporting the delivery of 3 regional adaptation workshops by the Climate Ireland development team.

The workshops are aimed specifically at equipping local authorities with the understanding and tools needed to begin the process of planning for climate adaptation, taking into account the geographical variations across the three regions (in terms of existing and emerging sensitivities and impacts).

The workshops are being co-ordinated by Dr. Barry O'Dwyer (UCC – MaREI / Environmental Research Institute) and Climate Ireland (www.climateireland.ie).



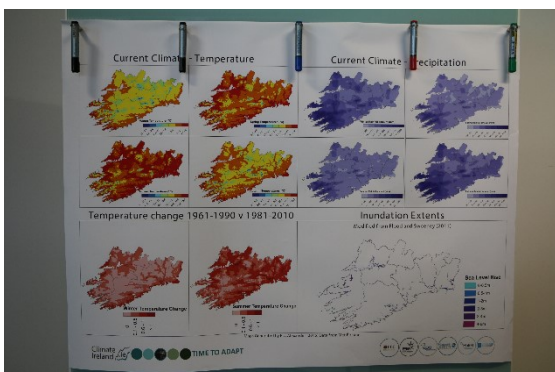
The first of the workshops was delivered to local authorities in the Southern Regional Assembly on the 13-14th September 2016 held in the Marine and Renewable Energy Institute (MaREI) Beaufort Building in Ringaskiddy, Co. Cork.

Over the two days, participants from local authorities learned about climate change, the economic, social and environmental impacts of extreme weather events as well as emerging risks from climate change in Ireland. Participants then worked in breakout groups to identify existing and possible future climate sensitivities within the Southern Region, and specific to their local authority, and then began considering adaptation options for various climate related risks (present and future).

Speakers from the EPA, the Department, Climate Experts working in Ireland and Kristen Guida from Climate UK, all delivered talks during the workshop.



Following the success of the first workshop, two more regional workshops will be held for the Eastern-Midlands Regional Assembly (which will be held in Dublin, 3-4 October) and the Northern-Western Regional Assembly (which will be held in Roscommon, 26-27 October).



We wish the organisers and participants the best of luck with the remaining workshops! For more information see www.climateireland.ie or contact B.odwyer@ucc.ie.

Geographical Society of Ireland successful bidders for IGC-2024

The Geographical Society of Ireland is delighted to be the hosts designate for the International Geographical Congress 2024 and looks forward to welcoming the world to Dublin in 8 years' time!

The International Geographical Congress (IGC) is the largest international gathering on geographers in the world. It takes place every four years and is sometimes referred

to as the Olympics of Geography. As well as academic paper sessions, the congress includes a range of other activities including keynote plenaries on topics of major international importance, workshops for early-career researchers, field excursions in the host country and the Geography Olympiad for high-school students.

In December, an open call was issued for applications to host IGC-2024. The Geographical Society of Ireland, which has a core goal of enhancing the international reputation of geography in Ireland, submitted a bid to host the event in Dublin and was competing with bids for Copenhagen/Malmö, Melbourne and Prague.

The bid was led by GSI President Niamh Moore-Cherry working with Frances Fahy and Gerald Mills (Vice-Chairs), with the strong support of Anna Davies and Rob Kitchin (Local Organising Committee members), Jonathan Cherry (representing the proposed venue of DCU) and Zhao Zhang. Martin Sokol and his colleagues in the Financial Geographies Network provided excellent support during the lobbying in Beijing.

Following 8 months of intense preparation and work, a series of presentations were made to the IGU Executive Committee and to the General Assembly meetings held in Beijing during the IGC 2016 (21-26 August 2016). Following a vote by the General Assembly, made up of national contact points from member countries, Dublin emerged the decisive winner. Sincere thanks to the Irish Embassy in Beijing who were extremely supportive and hosted a "Taste of Ireland" reception for our international supporters.

The Geographical Society of Ireland also wishes to formally acknowledge the support of our international scientific committee, Keynote PCO conference management company, as well as organisations/institutions who strongly supported our bid: Fáilte Ireland; Royal Geographical Society-Institute of British Geographers; Regional Studies Association; Journal of Geography in Higher Education; Dublin City Council; Dublin City University and all Geography Departments on the island of Ireland. Now the hard work begins to make IGC-2024 a true festival of geography and IGC to remember!



Image from the 33rd IGC conference held in Beijing

Upcoming Events

Public Lecture: 'Serial Forced Displacements in the American City', Professor Mindy Fullilove, Colombia University and The New School.

14 October, Friday, 3-5pm: Haughton Lecture Theatre, Trinity College Dublin. Funded by the Irish Research Council New Foundations scheme and sponsored by the Departments of Geography at Maynooth University and Trinity College Dublin.



Professor Mindy Thompson Fullilove, MD HON AIA, is Professor of Clinical Psychiatry and Public Health at Columbia University and Professor of Urban Policy and Health at The New School in New York. Dr. Fullilove has conducted research on AIDS and other epidemics of poor communities, with a special interest in the relationship between the collapse of communities and decline in health. She has also published numerous articles, book chapters, and monographs, and has worked with planners, designers and architects on projects linking communities to healthy urban ecologies. Her book publications include *Root Shock: How Tearing up City Neighborhoods Hurts America*, and *What We Can Do About It* (2005, One World) and *Urban Alchemy: Restoring Joy in America's Sorted-Out Cities* (2013, New Village Press).

International Symposium: 'Mapping Spectral Traces VIII: The Place of the Wound: International and Irish artists, activists and scholars explore spatial justice'

17-19 October 2016, 9-5pm, Maynooth University, Renenhall Hall, South Campus

Indigenous, North American, South African, New Zealand and Irish artists, activists and scholars who share a common concern in addressing the painful histories of dispossession will engage in conversations that consider what it means to attend to places wounded by the legacies of historical violence. Through workshops, talks, walks and exhibition, participants will 'map' displacement, inequality and social-ecological damage, and explore alternative spatial imaginaries tied to decolonisation, memory-work, care and spatial justice, the better to meet local-global challenges. Funded by the Irish Research Council New Foundations scheme, with support from the Space&Place Research Collaborative, Department of Geography, Maynooth University; Ómós Áite, Centre for Irish Studies, National University of Ireland Galway; Maynooth University Social Science Institute; and the international Mapping Spectral Traces network. Organised and curated by Dr. Karen E. Till. For more details contact: karen.till@nuim.ie.

Exhibition launch, 'Mapping Spectral Traces Ireland'

17 October 2016, 5:30pm, Maynooth University IONTAS Building, North Campus. Exhibition runs through October 2016 (tbc).

Videos, interviews, photographs, and images of watercolour/mixed media works by Irish-based artists: Monica de Bath, Cathy Fitzgerald, Joe Lee, Silvia Loeffler, Fearghus Ó Conchúir and Vukasin Nedeljkovic. At the launch a selection of music will be performed by Aoife Kavanagh (violin and flute) and Shane Hennessy (guitar), and some of the artists will briefly introduce their work. Funded by the Irish Research Council New Foundations scheme, with support from the Space&Place Research Collaborative, Department of Geography, Maynooth University and the international Mapping Spectral Traces network. Organised and curated by Dr. Karen E. Till. For more details contact: karen.till@nuim.ie.

New rural geographies in Europe: actors, processes, policies

From **June 14-17, 2017**, the Thünen Institute in Braunschweig (Brunswick), Germany, will be the host of the international conference "New rural geographies in Europe: actors, processes, policies".

The call for abstracts with more detailed information on the thematic scope and conference structure is to be found here:

https://www.ruralgeo2017.de/fileadmin/ruralgeo/RuralGeo2017_Call_for_paper_and_sessions_abstracts.pdf

The online-tool for submitting paper abstracts is now open:

<https://www.ruralgeo2017.de/registration-submission/>

The Deadline is fast approaching: October 31, 2016

If you have any further question, please address them to: ruralgeo2017@thuenen.de

Other News and Updates

Professor Gerry Kearns Appointed Head of Geography, Maynooth University



Professor Gerry Kearns was recently appointed as Head of the Department of Geography, Maynooth University, following the end of Dr. Jan Rigby period as Head of Department 2011-2016. Gerry received his PhD in Geography from the University of Cambridge. His research is concerned with historical, political and medical themes in Geography. Gerry received a Murchison Award from the Royal Geographical Society as the most significant contribution to geographical scholarship in 2009 for his book *Geopolitics and Empire*. Gerry was also recognised as a Distinguished Historical Geographer at the Association of American Geographers Conference in 2015. We would like to wish Gerry the very best of luck in his role as Head of Geography at Maynooth.

GeoWeek 2016



Celebrate Geography Awareness Week November 13 - 19, 2016. This year's theme is *Explore the Power of Parks*. For more information, see <http://www.geographicalsocietyireland.ie/geoweeek-2016.html>

Conferences

10th Irish Earth Observation Symposium
University College Cork

Where?

NMCI, IMERC Campus, Ringaskiddy, Cork

When?

Thursday, October 27th – Friday, October 28th

Who?

<http://earthobservation.ucc.ie/ieos10/>

Call for Content!

If you would like anything featured in the next newsletter please email the editor (paul.alexander@ucc.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, 2016-2017

President:

Assoc. Prof. Niamh Moore Cherry, University College Dublin

Vice-President:

Assoc. Prof. Gerald Mills, University College Dublin

Secretary:

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Committee Members (without portfolio):

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Dr. Charlie Travis, Trinity College Dublin

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