



ANNUAL CCS CERTIFICATE AWARDS CEREMONY

Dr. Kevin Reilly, President of the University of Wisconsin System, was our honored speaker and distributor of Certificates in Celtic Studies at the annual end-of-year awards ceremony in May. Dr. Reilly spoke about the English language as it has been “tweaked” by the Irish, focusing his remarks on his experiences in Ireland and on reading that most polyglot of Irish writers, James Joyce. The audience joined in a discussion of Joyce’s *Finnegans Wake*, with a lively reading from the text by actor and CCS community supporter Eamonn O’Neill.

Certificates were given to three students who have finished their coursework during this academic year: Darren Brook, Spencer Hamann, and Danile Tesker.

Spencer Hammon, one of our awardees, continued his tradition of supplying music to our events by giving us a song that he composed for the occasion.

A student of the Irish language, Spencer’s song fitted in well with Dr. Reilly’s address, since it also combined Irish and English in its humorous look at the student’s perspective on learning Irish. See the text of Spencer’s song on page 3.



President Reilly addressing the audience at the Certificate Awards ceremony



Darren Brook, CCS Irish teacher Bairbre Ni Chiardha, President Reilly, Daniel Tesker, CCS Assoc. Director Nancy Walczyk, and Spencer Hamann

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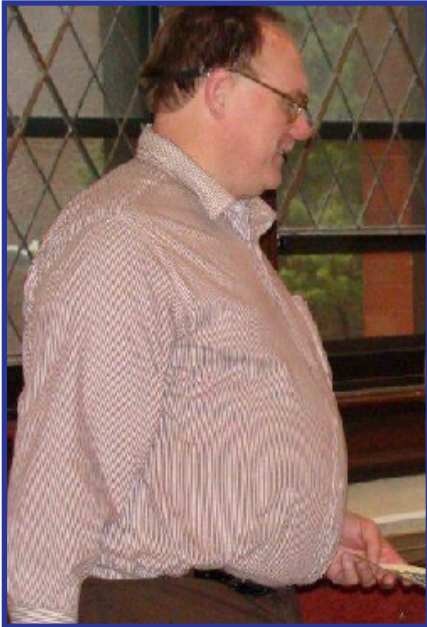
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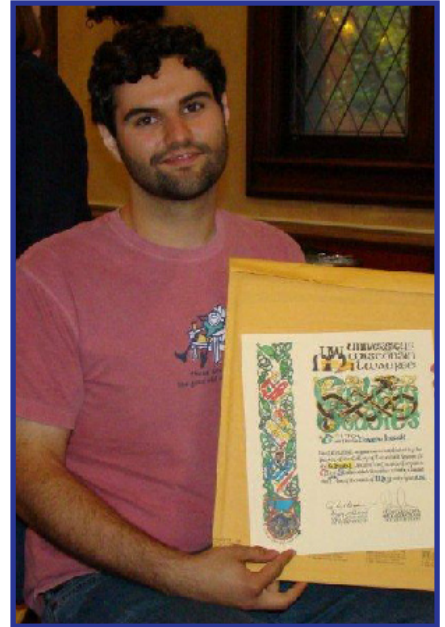
certificate awards ceremony



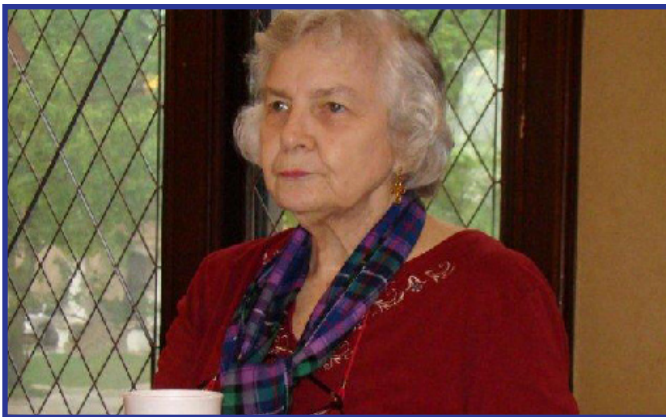
Certificate awardee Daniel Tesker



Eamonn O'Neill gives an impromptu reading of *Finnegans Wake*



Darren Brooke displays his Certificate in Celtic Studies



Guests enjoyed tea and snacks courtesy of the Celtic Women's organization



spencer's song



Spencer Hamman, a CCS Certificate awardee, entertains the crowd

Balbh (Speechless)

I am an American, no Irish in me
veins
But Erin's culture and her music,
they are **mo grá** **geal féin***
And having spent so many years
getting **Béarla*** under my belt
I turned my head to Ireland, and
with **Gaeilge*** I dealt
In the years of late I've toiled, **Fo**
cloir Póca* in me hand*
And clinging to me glance card,
desperate to understand
And though comprehension may
be just out of sight
I've put my **srón** down to the
stone and fought out the good
fight

Chorus

A hAon , a dó , a trí *, learning
Gaelic is mighty fine
A Ceathair , a cúig , a sé , but I've
nearly lost me mind

I may forget a **fada**, and my
grammar's quite a mess
And aspirated 'H's cause me great
mental distress
If you ask me how I'm doing, I
may recoil in fear
But if you're **fíor**- lucky a 'go
maith' is what you'll hear

Chorus

Ask of me no **ceisteanna** , I'll tell
you no **bréaga**
When I must speak about **mé féin**
I'm very **neirbhíseach**
But ask about '**An Simpeansaí**',
my recitation's keen
And when it comes to **seanfhocail**
I do a mighty '**Seacht Sicín**'
When I am an old man, with
fleeting health and hair
I'll die and float to heaven, and
meet St. Peter there
If he prompts me speak I'll say a
prayer St. Patrick's not around
For if I must speak **as Gaeilge**,
he'll send me right back down

Chorus



Bairbe Ni Chiardha, a Gaelic instructor, listens as her former student performs



Irish Language Day

Learning a bit of Irish language, song, and dance



Dineen Grow, Tim McMahon, Bairbre Ni Chiardha, Aine Ní Mhuineachain, Sean Beglan, and John Glesson made up the faculty for Irish Language Day.

Is Gaeilge a dead or dying language? That's been the diagnosis ever since the 19th century, but the Irish language is alive and well and flourishing in 21st century Milwaukee! That would have to be the consensus of those who gathered at UWM's Hefter Center on a February day to explore the language, the sean nos song tradition, and the sean nos dance tradition.

Language instruction was available to beginner, intermediate, and advanced level students. UWM's Irish language instructions--Dublin native John Gleeson and Connemara native Bairbre Ni

Chiaroha--were joined by Dineen Grow from Madison to encourage students to polish their Irish language skills. There were even a few sessions for the children.

In the afternoon, Aine Ní Mhuineachain conducted classes in Sean Nós singing, while Sean Beglan led students through traditional Sean Nós dances. The day ended in true Irish fashion, with a ceili in Greene Hall.

Attendees browse the bookstore, run by *Conradh na Gaeilge*, who provides many of the Center's Irish language texts

Sean Beglan, *right*, leads students through the steps of a traditional broom dance.



the douglas hyde lecture

Timothy McMahon, associate professor of history at Marquette University, delivered the annual Douglas Hyde Lecture at the Irish Language Day. The subject of his talk, "The March of a Nation: Dublin's Gaelic Processions," was derived from his recent book, *Grand Opportunity: The Gaelic Revival and Irish Society, 1893-1910* (Syracuse University Press, 2008).

McMahon complicates the commonly held belief that the Gaelic League was a peasant-centred, backward-looking, "priest-ridden" and quasi-political organization, and shows that the revival was interpreted in different ways by those who participated in it, and that they did so from a variety of motives. The Gaelic League constantly found itself in a double bind with regard to its language activities. The organization had been founded "for the sole purpose of keeping the Irish language spoken in Ireland," but a high turnover in membership and a decline in revenue forced the leadership to find ways to make joining the League more attractive. In addition to language lessons, branches began offering cultural entertainment, such as musical and sporting events, dances, and lectures on a variety of topics. Individual members often joined the League for reasons that had only marginally to do with the Irish language. In the local and national festivals, and in the popular annual language processions held in Dublin between 1902 and 1913, the language consistently took a back seat to economic and cultural displays and entertainments that evolved from the League's increasing links with business and industry, the cooperative movement, the temperance movement, agricultural organizations, and the Gaelic Athletic Association.



Tim McMahon describes the Gaelic League's annual procession to an engrossed audience.



While such links were aimed at fostering a broader interest in the language, in practice participants attracted through such associations were more interested in using the League to further their own ends rather than the other way around. As the League broadened its appeal, native speakers in the Gaeltacht became increasingly alienated, especially since there was never any concerted effort to involve representatives of these communities in leadership positions within the organization. As general goodwill towards Gaelic culture grew, and many people came to see the language as the central symbol of Irishness even if they did not speak it themselves, the use of Irish still faced many practical barriers: until the declaration of the Free State, for example, the Post office continued to refuse to deliver mail addressed in Irish that did not originate from the Gaeltacht.

The cover of *Grand Opportunity*, taken from the Syracuse University Press website

myths, tales or stories?

CCS welcomed Dr John Eastlake, who shared his insights into Curtin Hall's namesake, Jeremiah Curtin.

Ethnologist, folklorist, and mythologist, Jeremiah Curtin made a crucial contribution to the development of Irish learning, ethnology, and folklore at the end of the nineteenth century. Curtin (1835-1906) is one of the more remarkable figures of a period not lacking in larger-than-life personalities. He was raised in Wisconsin, graduated Harvard College in 1863, and served in the United States' delegation to Russia in 1864. In 1883, he took a post with the Bureau of American Ethnology (BAE) in what would become the Smithsonian Institute. He also worked as a translator, with eventual commercial success, allowing him to pursue his own interests more freely. His primary interest throughout his life remained the acquisition of languages for the purpose of collecting myths and folklore from diverse 'primitive' cultures. He was purported to have been competent in 70 languages, including Irish, by the time of his death. His childhood home on 92nd and Grange is preserved in the care of the Milwaukee County Historical Society.



On April 22nd, 2010, Dr. Eastlake discussed his new paper on Curtin's fieldwork with Native American and Ireland, paying particular attention to how Curtin evaluated the myths, tales, stories, and other materials he collected.

John Eastlake (pictured, far right) is a IRCHSS Post-Doctoral Fellow hosted by Roinn an Bhéaloidis in University College Cork. Eastlake completed his Ph.D. in Irish Studies in 2008 at the Centre for Irish Studies, National University of Ireland, Galway. His doctoral work examined the production and

reception of collaboratively-produced Native autobiographies representing the life-stories of Irish and Native American authors/subjects. His new project is entitled "*Jeremiah Curtin: Cross-cultural, Collaborative Textual Production of Irish and Native American Mythologies*". This study is evaluating Curtin's Irish publications in comparison with his publications of Native American myths, allowing for a greater understanding of Curtin and his work, and exploring further instances in the intersection of Native American and Irish cultures. Eastlake is co-editor of *Anáil an Bhéil Bheo: Orality and Modern Irish Culture*, (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2009), and has written widely on Native Autobiographies such as *An tOileánach/ The Islandman* and *Black Elk Speaks*.

highland games at hart park

One of the oldest ethnic fests in Milwaukee is the annual Scottish Highland Games. Held on the first Saturday in June, the games feature individual bagpipe competition, dance competition, cultural displays, clan information tents, athletic games, and demonstrations ranging from swordplay to sheepherding by intense-looking border collies.

The clans gathered again this year at Hart Park in Wauwatosa, and the rain graciously held off until the massed bagpipe bands finished piping and drumming “Scotland the Brave” and, in a memorial to veterans past and present, “Amazing Grace.”

Celtic Studies was represented by Nancy Walczyk and CCS co-director Jose Lanter. If you missed these games, you have another chance to explore things Scottish at the Wisconsin Highland Games that will be held over Labor Day weekend at the Waukesha County Exhibition grounds.



the story behind our flag



The strikingly beautiful flag that the Center for Celtic Studies displays at our events is the gift of Breton singer, folklorist, and enthusiast for all things Celtic - Nolwenn Monjarret. A popular singer and dancer at the Celtic Women's conferences, Nolwenn donated this flag to the Center in memory of her father, who designed the flag that features, from upper left, the flags of Brittany, the Isle of Man, Scotland, Wales, Cornwall, and Ireland. The flag that we proudly display belonged to Nolwenn's father, Polig Montjarret.

Polig Montjarret (1920-2003) was a celebrated and tireless collector of Breton music. He was active in forging cultural links between the Celtic regions of Europe, and he founded Le Festival Interceltique in Lorient, Brittany, in 1977. This festival has grown into one of the major Celtic festivals in Europe. He is commemorated in Lorient by the Polig Montjarret Square that contains a statue of him.

Nolwenn carries on her father's work as a noted Breton folksinger. She has recorded with the Chieftains and has visited Milwaukee to speak at the Center and to perform at the Celtic Women's conferences.

study abroad in London



Start planning *now* to spend your Spring Semester 2011 in London, one of the world's great cities. Join Nancy Walczyk, the Center's Associate Director, for UWM's Study Abroad program from January 14 through April 8. This 12-week semester allows you to finish your coursework a month earlier than your on-campus colleagues.

You will study with other American students from UWM's partnership programs in the American Institute for Foreign Study. Classes take place on the University of London campus in the heart of the city--just a short walk or a quick ride on the Tube from the theatre district, galleries, Piccadilly Circus, and other great sites. The UL hosts 125,000 students from all over the world, and you will have access to the University's Union and other resources for your studies and recreation.

The academic week runs from Monday through Thursday, with weekend excursions either on your own or with the program. Courses are taught by faculty from partnership U.S. campuses as well as instructors from London. The courses are specially selected to maximize the benefits of being in London and will integrate site visits into the coursework.

Applications are due October 1st, 2010 at the CIE Study Abroad Office.

For more information, contact Nancy Walczyk at: nwalczyk@uwm.edu

study abroad in London

Celtic Studies Courses in London

Both of Dr. Walczyk's course will apply toward the Certificate in Celtic Studies.

In **British Folklore (Celtic 294)**, you will explore the Celtic concept of the Otherworld and its inhabitants--fairies, pookas, nixies, brownies, and other folk. In **Literature of the British Celts**, you will read some of the earliest literature in northern Europe, including myths, and learn how these early myths were later used as part of the cultural nationalism movements in the Celtic regions of the British Isles.

Other courses offered for the Spring 2011 semester are:

British Life and Culture (required for all students)

Art of the 20th Century

World History Since 1550

History of the Western World

The Shock of the New: Modern & Contemporary Art

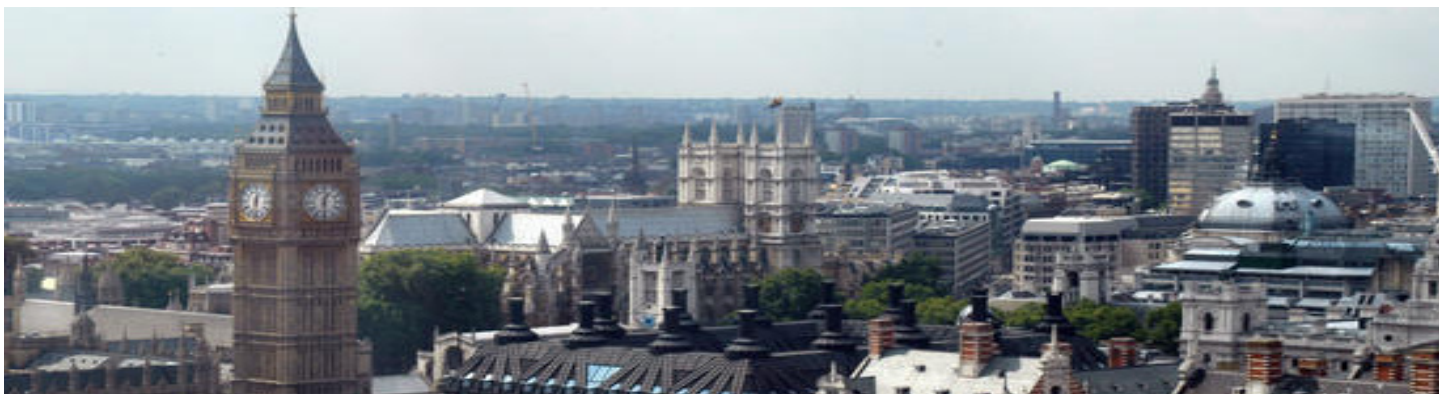
Journeys of the Spirit: The Search for Meaning

From Alphabet to Hypertext: The Story of Reading and
Writing

English: Literatures in English II: 1750-1865

English: The Bible and Literature

You will work with Ms. Yomaria Tejada in UWM's Study Abroad office to plan your course selections.



save the date

Kick-Off Ceili

Come enjoy Celtic music and dance while you get to know CCS staff, alumni, and current students. Learn about upcoming classes, our Certificate Program, and study abroad opportunities.

Complimentary refreshments available. Free and open to the public.

When: Friday, September 17th

7:00-10:00pm

Where: UWMs Green Hall

Located at 3347 N Downer Avenue

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Samhain 2010

Celebrate Halloween with the folks who invented it.

Join the Center for Celtic Studies to celebrate the Celtic New Year. Enjoy seasonal refreshments and entertainment in the company of faculty, staff and students of the center.

When: Friday, October 29th

5:00-8:00pm

Where: UWM's Hefter Center

Located at 327 N. Lake Drive

Both Events are Free and Open to the Public

fall 2010 class schedule

Celtic Studies

103: First Semester Gaelic

001: TR 7:00pm-8:15pm, John Gleeson

002: MW 3:30pm-4:45pm, Bairbre Ní Chiardha

133: Celtic Crossings: Overview and History of Cultures of the Celtic World

W 5:00pm-7:40pm, Nancy Walczyk

192: Freshman Seminar: Fact & Fiction in Celtic Film

TR 11:00am-12:15pm, John Gleeson

203: Third Semester Gaelic

MW 12:30pm-1:45pm, Bairbre Ní Chiardha

250: Selected Topics in Celtic Studies

001: Ireland in the 20th Century

M 6:00pm– 8:40pm, John Gleeson

350: Anglo-Irish Relations

TR 9:30am– 10:34am, Tim Crain

Anthropology Department

306: European Archaeology

M 9:30am– 12:10pm, Bettina Arnold

English Department

306: Survey of Irish Literature

TR 11:00am-12:15pm, Josepha Lanter

622: Seminar in Irish Literature

001: Drama from Yeats to McDonagh

T 3:30pm-6:10pm, Josepha Lanter

Faculty Members

Bettina Arnold, Professor,
Anthropology. Iron Age European
Archaeology

Liam Callanan, Associate Professor,
Creative Writing,

Tim Crain, Senior Lecturer, History.
Northern Ireland, Scottish History

John Gleeson, Senior Lecturer, Celtic
Studies. Irish language, Irish history,
Film

Christine Hamlin, Lecturer.
Anthropology, Celtic Archaeology

Andrew Kincaid, Associate Professor,
English. Irish literature

Josepha Lanter, Professor, English.
Irish literature

Michael Liston, Professor, Department
of Philosophy

Bairbre Ni Chiardha, Associate
lecturer. Celtic Studies & Irish language

Gabriel Rei-Doval, Assistant Professor,
Spanish and Portuguese

Ruth Schwertfeger, Professor,
German. Irish and European cultural
studies

Nancy Madden Walczyk, Senior
Lecturer, English. Celtic and Irish
literature, Irish women's studies

Tami Williams, Assistant Professor,
English, Film

scholarships

The Irish Pub, Ancient Order of Hibernians, St. Andrews Society, Shamrock Club, Paddy Clancy, and Irish Fest scholarship applications are available in the Center for Celtic Studies Office, located in Holton Hall, Room 290. The St. Andrews scholarship funds studying in Scotland. The Paddy Clancy Scholarship funds study at the University of Limerick in Ireland. The Shamrock Club, AOH, and the Irish Pub Scholarship's provides financial assistance to any individual interested in furthering his or her knowledge of Irish culture and heritage. Irish Fest Scholarships can be applied to any area of study. Please note that the scholarships have various deadlines.



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upcoming ccs & community events

UWM Linguistics Symposium

“Language Death, Endangerment, and Revitalization”



In Fall 2011, the Center for Celtic Studies will be one of the sponsors of the 26th UWM Linguistics Symposium, which will take place from October 20-22. The theme of the Symposium will be “Language Death, Endangerment, and Revitalization,” and Celtic languages will be one of the areas of analysis and attention. The event will also pay tribute to the memory of Professor Michael (Mickey) Noonan (*pictured, left*), a member of the Celtic Studies Advistory Committee who suddenly died last year and who was the original promoter of the event.