

# GOVERNMENT TIMES

The award-winning newsletter by students and staff of UCC's Department of Government

ISSUE 70 – Friday 3 February 2017

## Forthcoming lectures in the Department of Government



The Department of Government is delighted to announce some exciting public lectures this month. On Thursday 16 February, the second Annual Public Lecture Series of the Centre for Local and Regional Governance (CLRG) is taking place and, amongst the speakers, are Micheál Martin TD and Professor Colin Copus of De Montfort University, Leicester (see page 7). On Wednesday 1 March, the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Philip Monahan Memorial Lecture is being held and the guest speaker is the Chief of Staff of the Irish Defence Forces, Vice Admiral Mark Mellett (see page 11).



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Happy New Year!

We start with an apology that this is the first issue since the end of September but we had some unexpected setbacks, including illness. However all is well now and we are eager to produce some exciting issues of **Government Times** between now and the end of the semester.

We kick off with Issue 70 which contains 20 pages of stories and news! As you will read, we have some exciting guests coming to speak to us over the next few weeks, including Micheál Martin TD (16 February), Seán Kelly MEP (20 February) and Vice Admiral Mark Mellett (1 March).

On 1 March, as part of the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Philip Monahan Memorial Lecture, we will also be presenting our student awards to the Student of the Year, Graduate of the Year and the Patrick O'Sullivan essay competition winner. The details of the essay competition are on page 18; get your entries in by 22 February and help us keep Patrick's memory alive.

In this issue, we also salute the BSc Government graduation class of 2016 and the department's post-graduates who were conferred before Christmas.

We won't delay you any further from enjoying issue 70!

## *Diandra & Aodh*



**Co-editors of *Government Times* 2016/2017**  
**Diandra Ní Bhuachalla (BSc Government 2)**  
**Aodh Quinlivan (Director, BSc Government)**

# GRADUATE PROFILE



## **SEÁN KENNY** **(BSc Government 2004)**



My name is Seán Kenny. I studied Government and Public Policy and Graduated in the second class of the running of the course in 2004 after 4 years. I really enjoyed the course content, the social life, the political conversations and the lifelong friends that the course provided me with. Political science and history continue to remain my passion up to the present. Upon graduating with my BSc Honours, I began an apprenticeship as a Certified Public Accountant with an office in Douglas named Twohig and Co (2004-8) where I trained and qualified by completing yearly exams, studying and attending lectures by night in 2007. I stayed on at the office working as a qualified accountant for two years.

I had always been interested in the economic and humanitarian problems of the African continent and so applied for a Development work contract in 2008 which I acquired with VMM in August of that year. I was based in a small rural village in Zambia with minimum resources in a Hospital. My position there involved training local employees in hospital accounting, administration, statistics and computer skills. I completed this 2 year contract in August of 2010. I found it to be an amazing experience which shall always keep with me.

Though I remain an accountant by trade, my experience in Africa and the financial crisis which occurred when I was there, led to a deep interest in Economics over the long run. I applied for a Masters in Economic History in Lund University, Sweden which led to a fully funded PhD which I completed in September 2016 called "Money and Debt: Empirical Studies in Northern Europe 1840-2015". Through the years at Lund, I concentrated primarily on macroeconomics which principally deals with the interaction of central banks, government fiscal policy, trade and growth at national and international level. Both the policy aspects of my days at GPP and the balance sheet knowledge which I gained as CPA lent themselves to analysing the banks and sovereign states which my current position requires. Throughout my PhD, I additionally learned statistical measurement methods and econometric testing and have since conducted research combined with other universities, institutes and central banks.

While in the near term, my new position allows me to continue research within academia here at Lund, I aim to continue collaborating with other public and private policy institutes. I remain open to all alternatives in macroeconomic research. I live in the nearby city of Malmo with my fiancé who hails from there and our three children.



**Dr Seán Kenny presenting at a seminar in Lund University, Sweden.**

# CLRG NEWS



The CLRG, through Director, Dr Aodh Quinlivan, was delighted to participate in UCC's inaugural 'Learning Neighbourhoods' initiative. The initiative celebrated learners of all ages and brought learning to the community. The selected areas in 2016 were Ballyphehane and Knocknaheeny and Dr Quinlivan delivered a lecture entitled *All Politics is Local – Especially in Cork*.

The CLRG looks forward to contributing to Learning Neighbourhoods in 2017 in the selected communities of Mayfield and Togher.



## ***The Challenge of Local Government Modernisation***

- **MICHEÁL MARTIN TD**, Leader of Fianna Fáil
- **DR THERESA REIDY**, Department of Government, UCC
- **RACHEL WALL**, De Montfort University
- **PROFESSOR COLIN COPUS**, De Montfort University



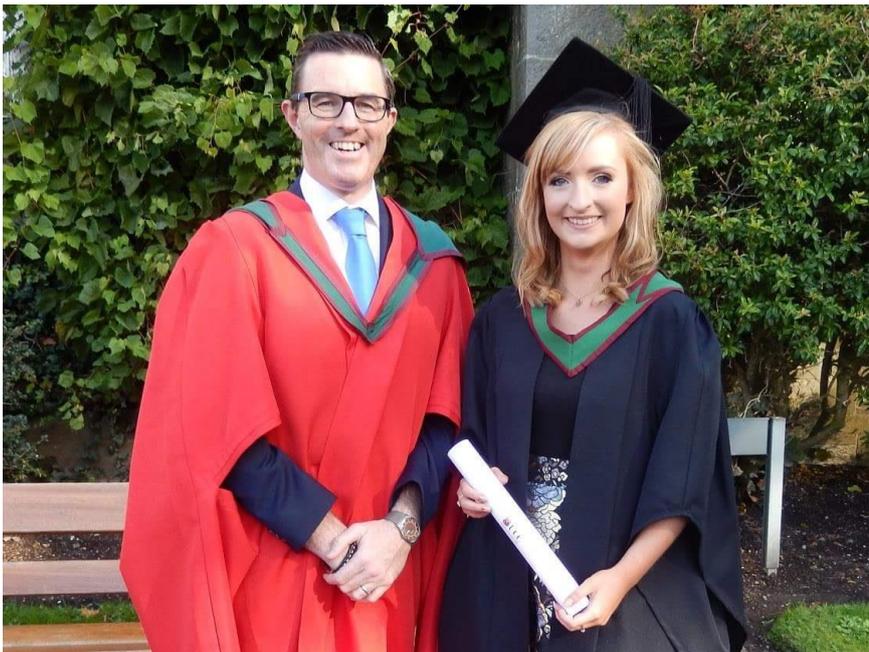
**Thursday 16 February 2017**

**Boole 1, 7:00-8:30pm**

**Chaired by Dr Emmanuelle Schön-Quinlivan**

# GRADUATION PICS!

## BSc Government Class of 2016





# GRADUATION PICS!

## Not forgetting post-graduates



Congratulations to Dr Tony Costello (supervised by Dr Mary Murphy) and Steven Browne (supervised by Dr Aodh Quinlivan).

# 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Philip Monahan Lecture



## Vice Admiral Mark Mellett

### Chief of Staff of the Irish Defence Forces

Vice Admiral Mellett, a graduate of the Department of Government at UCC, will deliver the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Philip Monahan Memorial Lecture on **Wednesday 1 March in the Aula Maxima**. It will be a broad-ranging speech about leadership challenges in a complex national and international environment. He will cover topics like migration, the EU, Brexit and possibly Donald Trump!

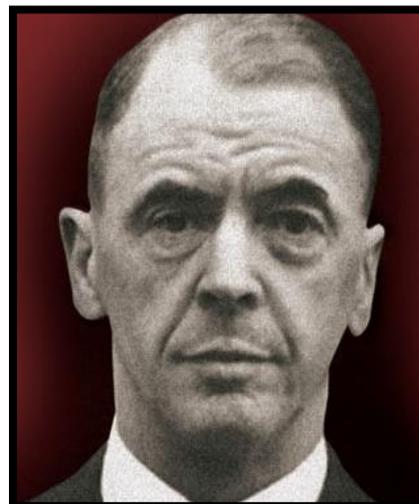
The event starts at 6:30pm and it will also feature the presentation of three annual student awards, as follows:

- Thomas Whalen Government Student of the Year
- Richard Haslam Government Graduate of the Year
- Patrick O'Sullivan Essay Competition Winner

# ALL WELCOME

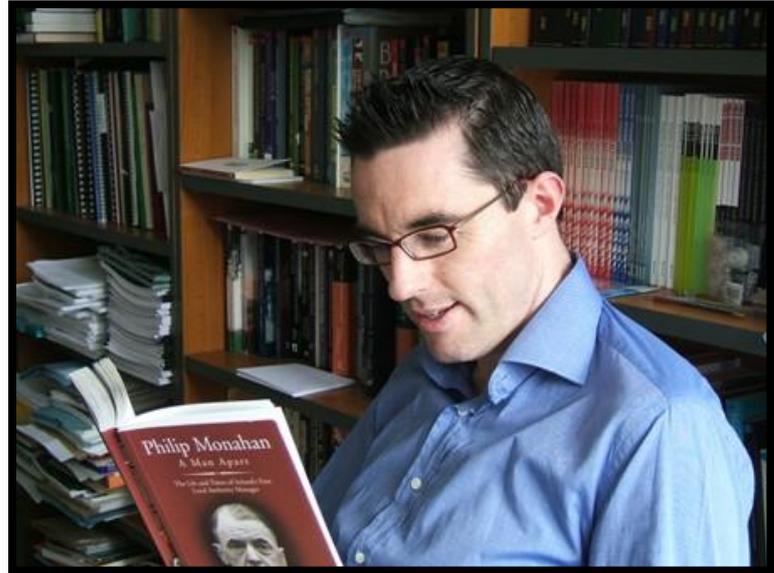
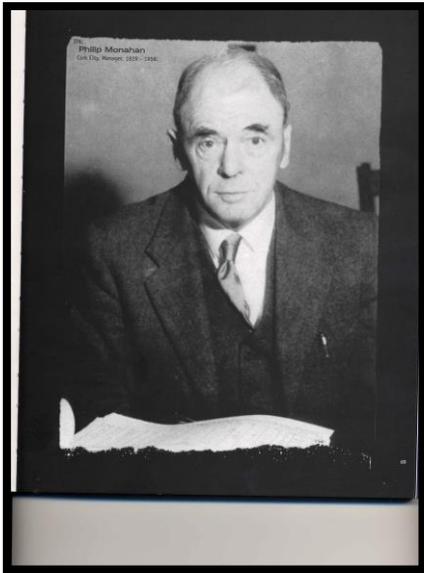
# Philip Monahan Lecture Series

Each year the Department of Government at University College Cork hosts a prestigious public lecture to celebrate the memory of Philip Monahan. Monahan was Ireland's first local authority manager and he served as City Commissioner and then City Manager in Cork from 1924-1959. Monahan set the highest standards of probity and integrity in public administration and he defined the role of City Manager and the practice of public management in Ireland. The lecture series was inaugurated in 1997 and, as can be seen from the list below, has attracted



1. **Professor Tom Garvin**, Department of Politics, University College Dublin (1997)
2. **Dr John Hume**, Nobel Peace Prize Winner (1998)
3. **Francesco Rutelli**, Mayor of Rome (1999)
4. **John Dennehy**, Secretary General, Department of Education and Science (2000)
5. **Professor Robert Putnam**, Professor of Public Policy, Harvard University (2002)
6. **Dr Mary McAleese**, President of Ireland (2003)
7. **David Begg**, General Secretary, Irish Congress of Trade Unions (2005)
8. **David Norris**, member of Seanad Éireann (2006)
9. **Robert Faucher**, Deputy US Ambassador to Ireland (2007)
10. **Dermot McCarthy**, Secretary General to the Irish Government (2008)
11. **Ivana Bacik**, member of Seanad Éireann (2009)
12. **Charlie Bird**, RTÉ broadcaster (2010)
13. **Emily O'Reilly**, Ombudsman and Information Commissioner (2011)
14. **John Bercow MP**, Speaker of House of Commons (2012) \*Lecture took place in February 2013
15. **Enda Kenny, TD**, Taoiseach (2013) \*Lecture took place in January 2014
16. **Professor Brigid Laffan** (2014), Director of Robert Schuman Centre, European University Institute, Florence
17. **Colm O'Gorman** (2015), Amnesty International Ireland

# Who was Philip Monahan?



## ***Philip Monahan*** **1893-1983**

Philip Monahan's life was interwoven with significant figures and events in Irish political and cultural history. Heavily involved in the Irish Volunteers and Sinn Féin, Monahan was imprisoned by the British authorities on three occasions. During his third incarceration he shared a cell with Éamon de Valera in Lincoln Jail and assisted in his escape. Following his release Monahan served as an elected representative on Drogheda Borough Corporation, where he was elected as Mayor, and on Louth County Council. He took the pro-Treaty side in the Civil War and was shot in the neck in 1922.

After recovering, he was sent to Kerry as Commissioner in 1923 by Minister Ernest Blythe to replace the dissolved county council and to administer Republican Kerry on behalf of the Irish Free State government. His final move was to Cork, where he managed the city for thirty-five years. His greatest achievements were the initiation of the Corporation's new housing programme, the eradication of the slums and the creation of the differential rent system. As Commissioner and subsequently City Manager, Monahan set high standards of probity and integrity in public administration – *suaviter in modo, fortiter in re* – flexible in method, constant in principle. He defined the role of the City Manager and the practice of public management in Ireland.

Quinlivan, Aodh (2006), *Philip Monahan – A Man Apart: The Life and Times of Ireland's First Local Authority Manager*, Dublin: Institute of Public Administration

# Memories from the 17<sup>th</sup> lecture

## COLM O'GORMAN

### *Our Emerging Republic*

*How courageously facing our often troubled past will help us build a better future*



# Who will win our student awards?

On the occasion of the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Philip Monahan Memorial Lecture, three Department of Government student awards will be presented – Student of Year; Graduate of Year; Patrick O’Sullivan Essay Winner. Whose names will be added to these prestigious lists?

## THOMAS WHALEN STUDENT OF YEAR



2000	Holly Hardwicke
2001	Elizabeth Harrington
2002	Peter Ryan
2003	Hannah Lane
2004	Ann-Marie Tierney
2005	Denis Twomey
2006	Andrea Merrigan
2007	Darragh Mehigan
2008	Patrick Higgins
2009	Tracey O'Rourke
2010	John Kenny
2011	Pádraig Mac Consaidín
2012	Louis O'Keeffe
2013	Jack Corbett
2014	Michael Lyons
2015	Richard Creedon

# RICHARD HASLAM GRADUATE OF YEAR AWARD



2003	Holly Hardwicke
2004	Elizabeth Harrington
2005	Jeremiah O'Sullivan
2006	Brenda Keating
2007	Tim McCarthy
2008	Matthew Ryan
2009	Colm Diamond
2010	Neepa Sodhi
2011	Laura Murphy
2012	Tracey O'Rourke
2013	John Kenny
2014	Pádraig Mac Consaidín
2015	Jack Barry



The 2013 Graduate of the Year, John Kenny with An Taoiseach Enda Kenny TD

# PATRICK O'SULLIVAN ESSAY WINNER



2002	Andrew O'Leary
2003	Donal Holohan
2004	John O'Sullivan
2005	John O'Sullivan
2006	Cormac Cahill
2007	Ian Mawe
2008	Niall Duggan
2009	Andrew Aherne
2010	Declan Keating
2011	Pádraig Mac Consaidín
2012	John Somers
2013	Pádraig Mac Consaidín
2014	Don O'Neill
2015	Luke Foley



**The 2010 Patrick O'Sullivan Essay Winner, Declan Keating, with the Deputy Lord Mayor of Cork, Councillor Catherine Clancy**

# The Patrick O'Sullivan Essay Writing Competition 2016/2017 Academic Year



This essay writing competition celebrates the life and spirit of Patrick O' Sullivan, who tragically died on 3 March, 2001. Patrick should have been amongst our first group of students who graduated in September 2003. Patrick had a deep interest in politics and he also possessed a great sense of humour. We try to combine both of these elements in this annual essay competition.

## YOU CAN'T TRUMP TRUMP



500 word essay, 1-2 pages

Please supply your name and class year on a separate cover page

NO need to adhere to academic assignment guidelines re: referencing etc.

Essays can be as light-hearted and as irreverent as you wish!

Submit to: Aodh Quinlivan, Room 2.54, Department of Government, or electronically to [a.quinlivan@ucc.ie](mailto:a.quinlivan@ucc.ie)

**DEADLINE: - Wednesday 22 February 2017**

The writer of the winning essay will receive the Patrick O' Sullivan Perpetual Shield at the Annual Philip Monahan Memorial Lecture on **Wednesday 1 March**.

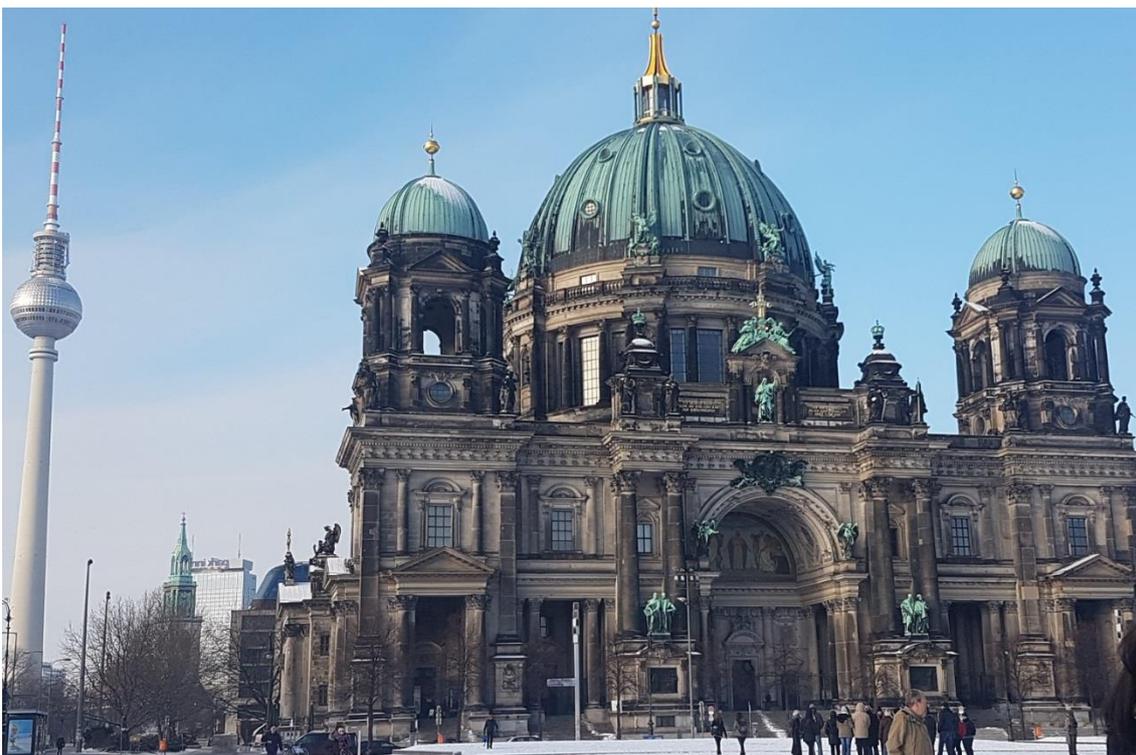
**NOTE: This competition is open to all under-graduate students of our BSc Government degree and to Arts, Commerce and international students studying Government modules.**

# Europa Society Report from Berlin

By Diandra Ní Bhuachalla

The UCC Europa Society, chaired by 4<sup>th</sup> year BSc Government student Lorna Murphy, has been constantly on the go this year. The aim of this society is to enhance students' knowledge about all things Europe, to emphasise the importance of integration, and to achieve all of this while remaining neutral about European current affairs. Between holding Mingle Linguals to help improve the linguistics and communication skills of both our Irish and International Students, to hosting topical and sometimes controversial debates on European topics, that will influence the lives of youths. Through their hard work and determination to provide vivid information to UCC students, they were granted the opportunity to visit Berlin earlier this month for four days. Altogether, fourteen students travelled to Germany, four of these not being part of the committee. Europa is always looking to expand its reach to students, so having the ability to open it up to the overall student population was an amazing touch. For anyone who is aware of what Berlin offers, you will understand that it was the ideal place for this society to travel. For anyone who is unaware, keep reading to find out the array of activities available in this beautiful, historic city.

Now this is a story all about how Lorna's life got flipped turned upside down - and I'd like to take a minute, just sit right there. I'll tell you how we ended up getting off at Stadtmitte. On touchdown, we were immediately hit by the Baltic conditions, which was a major shock to the system! Adding a typical Irish touch we said "ahh it'll be grand, OMG look at the snow, that's proper snow now, not like the stupid Irish stuff!" The excitement was unbearable, and seeing as the UCC Snow Sports Society were constantly uploading pictures of their ski trip, we felt like we were right there with them. We glided into the airport and were greeted by the scariest security guard we had ever seen and signs in a language that we could not understand, "there's surely some unnecessary letters there". You can only imagine our delight to see our language officer Marie waiting to meet us, having travelled from her hometown of Cologne. Top Tip: Have some idea of the language of the country you travel to.



We trudged through the snow to find our lovely hostel where we were threatened by a most welcoming receptionist, that if we made noise after 10pm the police would come and take us away. All fourteen of us, with our carry-on luggage loaded into the twelve person lift and we arrived at our dorms, which we only saw for the 8 hours that we slept every night. For our first bonding session and to really get into the spirit of things, we headed to an authentic German restaurant. Without getting into details let's just have another Top Tip: When dining in a German restaurant, if one wishes to eat their specialities, ask the waitress if there is a specific way to eat the sausage, or else you may find yourself unpleasantly surprised. The daily routines consisted of some brave souls embarking on their journey at 8am to fit in as much as possible their pictures and stories were incredible! The scenery and whole atmosphere of Berlin was amazing; our days were jam-packed with sight-seeing, museum tours and the odd spot of shopping in the January sales of course (trying to keep the baggage weight under and actually shutting the bags was a last minute panic)! Along with the typical Berlin tourist attractions such as the Berlin Wall, Check-Point Charlie, The Berliner Dom and the TV Tower, some of our group were lucky enough to visit the Reichstag. An unforgettable tour which was obviously the main point of interest for the BSc Government students!

The UCC Europa Society would like to thank the Societies Guild for awarding us the opportunity to travel to such an amazing place and Congratulations to the societies organising committee for such a memorable trip. The pictures speak for themselves.

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