

GOVERNMENT TIMES

The newsletter for Department of Government students and staff
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CONGRATULATIONS!



Well done to all of our students who graduated last week from a variety of programmes – PhD, MBS Government, MBS International Public Policy and Diplomacy, MSc Government and MComm. Particular congratulations are due to Dr Barry Healy and Dr Julie Connelly - see above with Drs Aodh Quinlivan, Clodagh Harris and Andrew Cottey.

Ombudsman coming to Department



The newly-appointed Ombudsman and Information Commissioner, **Peter Tyndall**, has accepted an invitation from **Dr Aodh Quinlivan** to come to the Department of Government and deliver a lecture to his Executive MBA class on Friday 28 March.

Aodh commented, 'We are delighted that Peter Tyndall is coming to visit us. His two predecessors, Kevin Murphy and Emily O'Reilly, were with us previously and it is nice for us to continue the linkage with the office of the Ombudsman. With new Freedom of Information legislation on the way, Peter Tyndall's lecture is timely.'

Editorial Page



Best Wishes to BSc Government III Students Embarking on Placements

As we enter the final weeks of another busy academic year we are delighted to bring you a lively issue of ***Government Times***. As you can see on the front cover, we featured prominently at last week's spring conferring ceremony. Of the three Commerce Faculty PhDs conferred, two were from the Department of Government and we are very proud of Julie Connelly and Barry Healy. It was also fitting that the conferring ceremony lecture was delivered by Admiral Mark Mellett, a Department of Government graduate from the MComm programme.

On the cover page we also break the news of the impending visit by the Ombudsman and Information Commissioner, Peter Tyndall. It is wonderful that the Department of Government continues to attract leading political figures (e.g. An Taoiseach) and leading administrative figures (e.g. Peter Tyndall).

While most of our students still have four weeks of lectures and study opportunities before the summer exams, our BSc Government III students have already completed their lectures and will shortly be embarking on work placements – locally, nationally and internationally. We wish all of the students well and ask them to bear in mind that they are ambassadors for the Department of Government and UCC.

Given the importance of placements on the BSc Government, it is entirely fitting that we remember Tom Whalen in this issue. Tom, who died on 4 March 12 years ago, established the internships in the New York State Assembly.

In this issue we also draw attention to guest lectures which have already happened or which are scheduled to happen in March. Next up is an open lecture on Wednesday by Daithí O'Ceallaigh, a former senior Irish diplomat, who will address the topic, 'Irish-British Relations: Current Status, Future Challenges'. The lecture will take place in Aras na Laoi, G19, from 4:00 to 5:30pm.

Aodh Quinlivan
Director BSc Government
Co-editor of *Government Times*

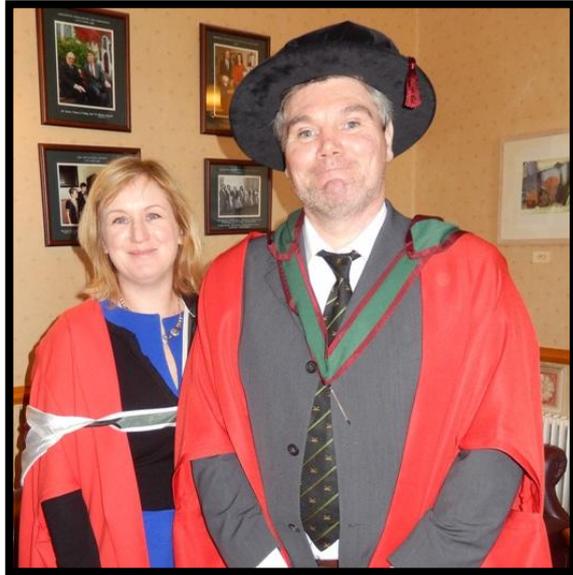
Lisa-Marie Sheehy
Auditor Government and Politics Society
Co-editor of *Government Times*



ISSUE 57

Page 1	COVER STORY: Congratulations to Spring Graduates; Ombudsman on the way
Page 2	Editorial Page – Good Luck to Placement Students
Page 3	Contents Page
Page 4	Graduation Pictures
Page 5	Invitation to Book Launch
Page 6	Executive MBA Class Visit City Hall
Page 7	Guest Lectures on MBA Public Sector Module
Page 8	More Pictures from Recent Government Ball
Page 9	Remembering Patrick O’Sullivan and Tom Whalen in March
Page 10	Exciting Times on Diplomacy Masters

Spring Graduation Pictures



Invitation to Book Launch

UCC's Department of Government and the Political Studies Association of Ireland (PSAI) warmly invite you to celebrate the publication of

The Uyghur Lobby: Global Networks, Coalitions and Strategies of the World Uyghur Congress

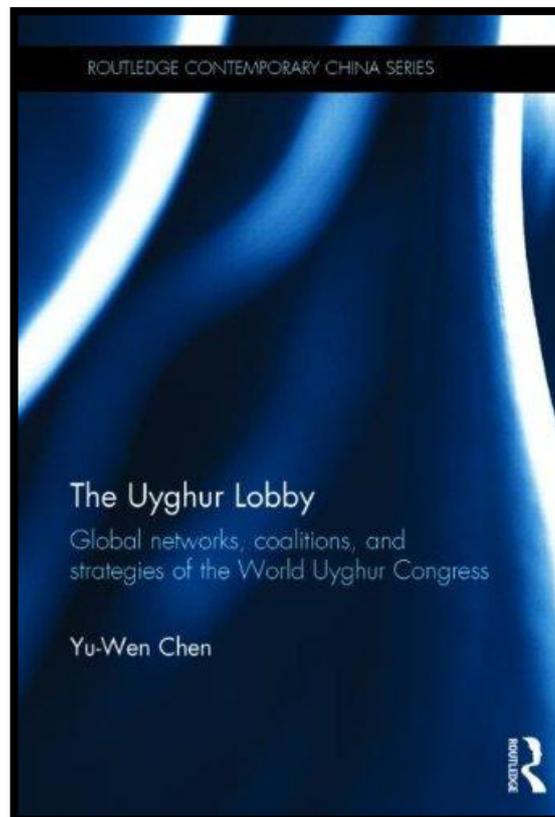
(Routledge Contemporary China Series, 2014)

by **Dr Julie Yu-Wen Chen**

at 2:00pm Friday 14 March

To be launched by **Dr Andrew Cottey**, Head of Department of Government and **Dr Leung Wing-Fai**, Department of Chinese Studies, University College Cork

*Venue: Social Area, 2nd Floor, Block B, O'Rahilly Building, University College Cork
(Right next to the Department of Government)*



All Welcome

Executive MBA students attend Cork City Council meeting and find it ‘enlightening and frightening’



Dr Aodh Quinlivan accompanied his Executive MBA class to Cork City Council on Monday 24 February. The students – who study the ‘Public Sector’ module – had a private meeting with the Lord Mayor of Cork, Councillor Catherine Clancy, at 5:00pm (see picture above in the Lord Mayor’s office).

The students then attended the public meeting of council which ran for a marathon five hours from 5:30 to 10:30pm. In the words of one of the students, the meeting was ‘enlightening and frightening all at the one time.’

Among the items on the agenda was the proposed closure of the North Monastery School which was heavily criticised by all councillors. The meeting eventually was adjourned in controversial circumstances at 10:30 as the Lord Mayor struggled to retain control during an emotive debate on the motion ‘That Cork City Council, on behalf of the people of Cork, call on the leadership of Sinn Féin who may have any knowledge of the final resting place of murdered victims of the Provisional IRA to disclose this information to the Gardaí/PSNI immediately.’

Exciting speakers lined up for MBA ‘Public Sector’ module, including the Ombudsman and Information Commissioner

As featured on our cover page, the Ombudsman and Information Commissioner, is coming to Dr Aodh Quinlivan’s MBA class on Friday 28 March. This will be the culmination of a great series of guest lectures as follows: -

- ❑ 7 March: **MARIE SHERLOCK (SIPTU)** *Innovation in the Irish Public sector- achievements to date and future challenges : Trade Union Perspective*
- ❑ 14 March: **PADRAIG LOVE (PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS SERVICE)** *Public Sector Reform Programme – HR Focus*
- ❑ 21 March: **HILARY MURPHY FAGAN (DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC EXPENDITURE AND REFORM)** *Current Reform Initiatives*
- ❑ 28 March: **PETER TYNDALL (OMBUDSMAN AND INFORMATION COMMISSIONER)** *Roles: Focus on FOI Cases*



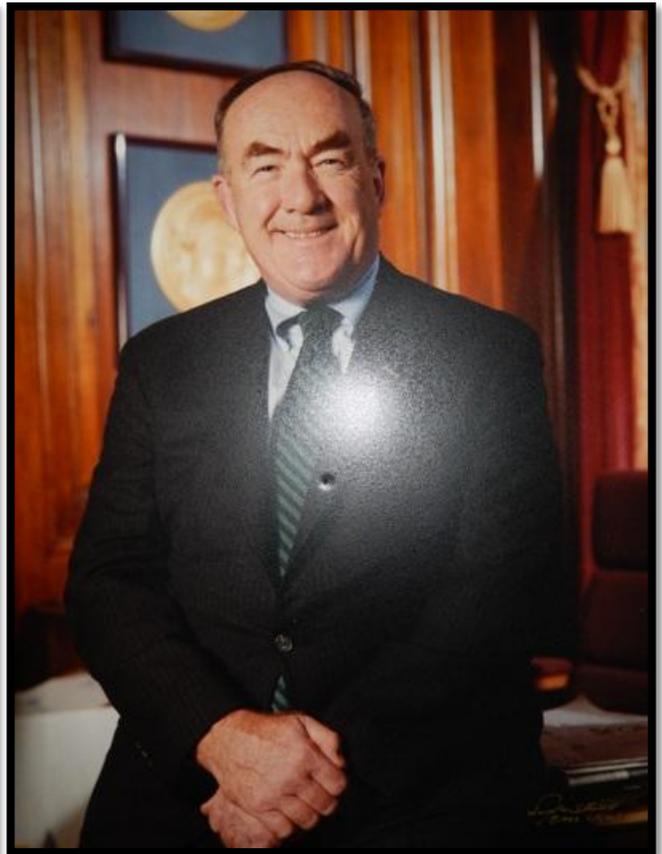
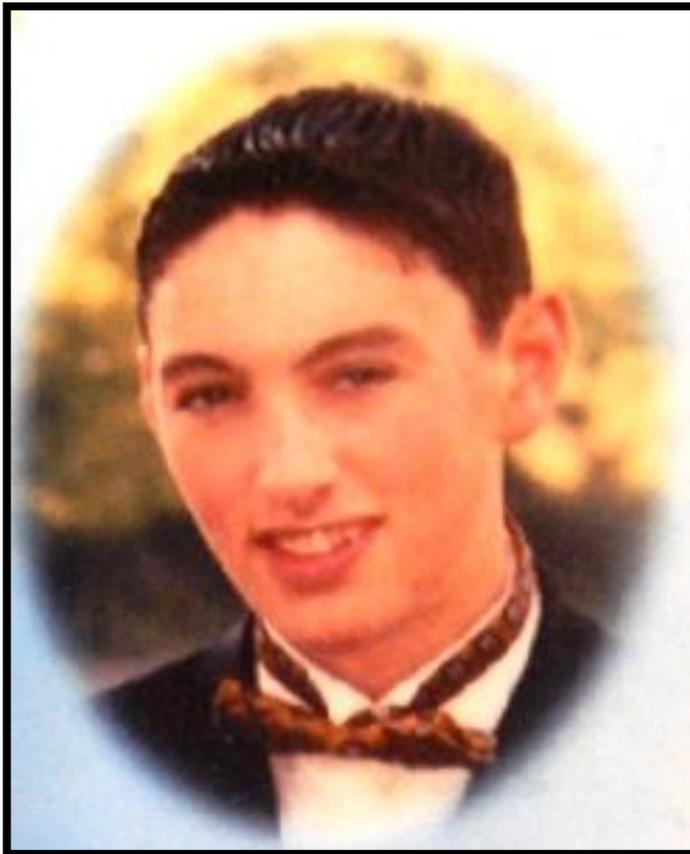
Above: Marie Sherlock and Peter Tyndall

More Pictures from the Government & Politics Ball 2014 {Courtesy of Emmet Curtin Photography}



March: A Month of Remembrance in the Department of Government

March is always very poignant for the Department of Government as it brings two significant anniversaries. Monday 3 March 2014 marks the 13th anniversary of the death of Patrick O’Sullivan, a BSc Government second year student who tragically lost his life in an accident. We try to keep Patrick’s memory alive with an annual essay competition which was won this year by Pádraig Mac Consaidín on the topic, ‘Wit and Humour in Politics’.



Tuesday 4 March 2014 marks the 12th anniversary of Thomas (Tom) Whalen III. Tom, the much loved former Mayor of Albany, the state capital of New York, was a visiting lecturer in the Department of Government. Tom established our third year work placement in the New York State Legislature which is a distinguishing feature of the BSc Government programme.

The department’s Student of the Year award bears Tom’s name and his portrait hangs proudly in the departmental corridor.

Patrick O’Sullivan and Tom Whalen – Never Forgotten

Two great guest lectures on the MBS International Public Policy and Diplomacy



The MBS International Public Policy and Diplomacy hosted a guest lecture by Commander Patrick Burke on Wednesday 19 February, entitled 'Ordered Chaos: Law on the Battlefield – Is Lawfare the New Warfare?' Commander Burke is a Defence Forces Legal Adviser currently attached to 1 Brigade, Collins Barracks, Cork. As a naval officer he has held various appointments ashore and afloat including command at sea and Legal Officer Naval Service during 'Operation Seabright' which was the largest interdiction of cocaine at sea by the Naval Service. He has served as a Legal Adviser for over 12 years and has deployed overseas to missions in Bosnia, Chad and Lebanon. He has also acted as Legal Adviser to Irish units deployed in Kosovo and Liberia. Pat has completed courses in the law of armed conflict with the International Institute of Humanitarian Law in Italy, the UK Land Warfare Centre, the US Naval War College and the University of Liverpool. He has lectured previously at UCC for the Law Department on the law of the sea and the law of armed conflict. The lecture focused on lessons from Pat's experiences in the field and the emergence of 'lawfare' as a concept to hold parties to armed conflict accountable for their actions.

The following Wednesday saw a lecture by Michael Verling on the topic 'Peacekeeping, Peacebuilding and Election Monitoring: Experiences from the Field.' Michael Verling, a former senior Army Officer, served for two years in Croatia as an official and a human rights monitor for the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Following Croatia he was offered a UN post in Kosovo/a with UNMIK as a Municipal Administrator for the Self Government of Kosovo/a. He was in the Army for 40 years, serving in Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Lebanon. Following retirement as Commanding Officer of the 1st Field Artillery Regiment he completed his MA at University of Limerick and immediately started to work in Croatia. He has lectured at UCC for the Department of Government on the Middle East, the Balkan conflict and democratisation. He has also served as an international election monitor in a number of countries, including Ukraine. The lecture focused on lessons from Michael's experiences in the field.



- ◆ **@BScGovUCC is the Twitter account for the BSc Government programme**
- ◆ **@PolSocUCC is the Twitter account for the Government and Politics Society**
- ◆ **@uceuropa is the Twitter account for the UCC Europa Society**
- ◆ **@diplomacy_ucc is the Twitter account of the MBS International Public Policy and Diplomacy**