A Big Thank You

The generous contributions of our members and friends enables the Academy to carry out its work everyday and have made the following projects possible:

• Art and Architecture of Ireland
• R.J. Hunter Grants Scheme
• Kevin B. Nowlan Archive

All contributions are gratefully received and will be used ‘for promoting the study of science, polite literature and antiquities’ as the Academy has been doing for the last 230 years.

We are Ireland’s leading body of experts in the sciences and humanities. We influence policy-making in Ireland and abroad; conduct research and give grants; hold events and talks and run exhibitions; publish books and journals; and have a library of international importance. We would love to work with you...
13,053
RIA books sold in 2014/15

€163,726
in grants awarded in 2014/15

759
meetings and events
held in Academy House

4,484
visits to the St Patrick’s Confessio site on
17 March 2015

27
atlases published in the
Irish Historic Towns Atlas series, north and south

48
research projects
funded by the Royal Irish Academy in 2015
OUR WORK IN NUMBERS

25,000 people attended meetings, lectures and events in Academy House.

We won 5 awards for our work.

123 new biographies published by the Dictionary of Irish Biography.

20,000 new words identified by Foclóir na Nua Ghaeilge not found in 20th century print editions.

10,000 lives now contained in the Dictionary of Irish Biography.
KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The Digital Repository of Ireland officially launched, with over 20,000 unique digital objects

The Oireachtas Pairing Scheme started,
with 22 pairs of public representatives and academics taking part

Art and Architecture of Ireland, containing over 2 million words, 3,500 images and 3,000 pages,
was nominated for 2 and won 1 Business to Arts Awards and was published digitally by the Royal Irish Academy

Free online access to the Dictionary of Irish Biography provided for
primary and secondary schools in Ireland

The inaugural Research Innovation Awards were awarded by the RIA
in association with the American Chamber of Commerce
230 YEARS OF THE
ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY

Mary E. Daly, President

2015 marks the 230th anniversary of the founding of the Royal Irish Academy. While this is not an anniversary that is commonly celebrated, there is value in reflecting on the values underpinning the late-eighteenth-century Academy and their relevance to the Academy today. The RIA was a product of the Enlightenment and the belief that scientific knowledge could be used to promote and improve society. While much has changed in the intervening years, the belief that scholarly expertise can inform and benefit society remains at the core of the Academy’s mission. We are living in a world of mass education, where a majority of Irish school-leavers attend higher education and the economy, health services and everyday life are more dependent on the fruits of past research. Nevertheless, the Academy must continue to reiterate the message that research in the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences, theoretical and applied, is important, both for its intrinsic value and its capacity to inform and improve lives.
‘The Academy must continue to reiterate the message that research in the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences, theoretical and applied, is important, both for its intrinsic value and its capacity to inform and improve lives’
Over the past year the Academy has been extremely active in transmitting this message. Parliamentary Pairing, first trialled in Stormont, was extended to the Oireachtas in June, when over twenty TDs and Senators were paired with scientists to explore issues relating to the environment. The Academy's Policy Group has evolved into a highly effective unit, with the capacity to respond to calls from government and international agencies in a timely manner. The priority themes identified for 2015 were the funding and governance of higher education, and cultural heritage—topics that have long been central to the Academy's interests. The Academy's concerns about higher education and research strategy are evident in the list of conferences, workshops, lectures and policy papers. One discussion session was organised at the request of the Cassells Expert Group on Future Funding of Higher Education, and the Academy convened a stakeholders’ meeting to assist the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in drafting a consultation document on cultural policy—'Culture 2025'. The Academy is keen to assist government in these ways while also retaining its independent voice; I am conscious that this independence is critically important to members.

Art and Architecture of Ireland (AAI), launched in the autumn of 2014, has gained due recognition with awards from the Royal Hibernian Academy and Business to Arts. The launch of AAI in New York in May 2015 and an exhibition by the Academy's Documents in Irish Foreign Policy to mark the sixtieth anniversary of Ireland's accession to the United Nations have provided useful opportunities to make the Academy more widely-known in the USA. AAI will soon be available online in every school in Ireland, joining the online Dictionary of Irish Biography. 2015 has seen the publication of the first thematic volume drawing on the DIB: 1916 Portraits and Lives, to be followed by Ulster Political Lives 1886–1922, which is funded by the Irish government's 2016 commemoration programme. In June the launch of the Digital Repository of Ireland—a trusted digital archive, funded by PRTLI 5—is both a landmark achievement and a challenge, given the need to ensure the long-term sustainability of the vital piece of national infrastructure.

On 2 September the Academy marked the 150th anniversary of the death of William Rowan Hamilton. Indeed, the annual Hamilton Day celebrations on 16 October are firmly established as a major annual event in the Academy's calendar. Efforts are now underway to ensure the John Bell Day—first launched in Belfast in November 2014—will achieve similar recognition, thereby continuing the Academy's role as a champion for research and custodian for Ireland's unique scholarly legacy.
It is your Academy

Laura Mahoney, Executive Secretary

After sixteen years working in Academy House, I am still a little surprised how often I hear Members and our stakeholders talk about ‘the Academy’ as if it was something separate and distinct from them.

As I write, the Academy has 491 Members on the island of Ireland. They are economists and physicists, geographers and geneticists, historians and engineers, linguists and philosophers—I could go on.

They are among the leading experts in their fields not only on the island of Ireland but also worldwide.

These 491 people, along with a staff of approximately 70 people and our hundreds of stakeholders, are what constitutes the Academy’s expertise, energy and reputation.
You all selflessly devote thousands of hours every year to benefit the Academy and Irish research and scholarship. You contribute to us in every way—not only intellectually and financially. You are members of our expert committees and panels, you write expert advice papers, undertake peer review and represent the Academy at important international conferences. We could not function without you.

But as the Academy develops we need more from our Members, stakeholders and friends:

— We need you to have a sense of belonging to the Academy
— We need you to have a sense of ownership of the Academy
— We need you to have a sense of a sense of responsibility for the Academy and the promotion of its work

The Academy can only grow stronger if our Members and stakeholders feel that sense of belonging, ownership and responsibility, and one of my goals in 2015–2016 will be to foster that sense of belonging and responsibility.

In order for the Academy to play an important and vibrant role in Irish society we want and need to work with you.

I hope you enjoy this report and find within its pages inspiration for new ways of working with us.
MEETING IRELAND’S NEED FOR INFORMATION ON CHALLENGING ISSUES
Learning from the Past, Mapping our Future?

Last October, the Irish Historic Towns Atlas (IHTA) ran their first regional comparative seminar in collaboration with Clare County Library and with the seminar hosts, the Hunt Museum. The seminar—‘Learning from the Past: Mapping our Future?’—looked at what we can learn from the evidence provided by urban experiences and how they can usefully inform planning and building decisions in the future. Academics, atlas authors and working practitioners offered differing perspectives as urban architects working, researching and teaching using sources such as the IHTA.

Influencing Public Policy with Academy Advice Papers

The RIA’s Academy Advice Paper series aims to inform those who make or influence policy. Academy Advice Papers are available online.

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education in Ireland

During last year’s Science Week the Academy and Silicon Republic collaborated to produce the Academy’s second online opinion series around the topic of STEM education. Authored by selected members of the Academy, the series outlines their opinions on current practices and future initiatives that may advance STEM education in Ireland. Authors include Brian MacCraith, MRIA, DCU, Chair of the STEM Education Review Group.
THE GLOBAL ISLAND

On 31 March, the Royal Irish Academy Standing Committee for International Affairs organised a discussion on the recently published strategic review of Ireland’s foreign policy ‘The Global Island’.

The debate, which focused on the future direction of Ireland’s foreign policy, was hosted by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Iveagh House. The event was aimed at early career professionals and international affairs practitioners.

It was followed by the launch of volume 25 of the Royal Irish Academy’s Irish Studies in International Affairs, which has a special focus on disarmament and non-proliferation.

WHAT’S NEW WITH DOCUMENTS ON FOREIGN POLICY AROUND THE WORLD?

In April 2015 Dr Michael Kennedy and Dr Kate O’Malley represented the Documents on Irish Foreign Policy (DIFP) at the State Department in Washington DC for the 13th International Conference of Editors of Diplomatic Documents. The conference is the primary point of contact between the 25 states who publish the records of their foreign relations. During the conference Kate curated a booked-out workshop seminar on developments in social media exploited by DIFP. Michael chaired a plenary session on project management, which included papers on the management and editing processes in Ireland, Germany, the Netherlands and the USA.
EXCELLENT RESEARCH:
IRELAND AND THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH COUNCIL

Last November, the Academy hosted Professor Jean-Pierre Bourguignon, President of the European Research Council, a body that is fundamental to facilitating research across Europe. During the event Professor Bourguignon stressed the importance of nurturing curiosity-driven research in Ireland, saying ‘To maintain a healthy research ecosystem, it is right to invest substantially in long-term curiosity-driven research as well as in more targeted endeavours’.

Professor Jean-Pierre Bourguignon, President of the ERC, speaking at the event
The Digital Repository of Ireland won three eGovernment awards for the collaborative project Inspiring Ireland, undertaken in partnership with Ireland’s national cultural institutions and the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

The Awards, which recognise excellence and innovation by public sector bodies spearheading change in the delivery of eGovernment services in Ireland, were presented by An Taoiseach Enda Kenny during a gala event at Dublin Castle.

‘Inspiring Ireland from the Digital Repository of Ireland is a really innovative and really important solution to a problem. We have a wealth of cultural heritage in Ireland. This project was about making that information—that richness of cultural heritage—available to the country and to Irish citizens abroad. But not only Irish citizens—equally people who have an interest in Ireland’ commented awards judge Paddy Hopkins.

Inspiring Ireland won the Overall Award at the event, as well as awards for the Open Source and Promoting Ireland Overseas categories.
The Academy with the support of funding partners the Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) and the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland (GSNI) launched the inaugural Scientist and Oireachtas Member Pairing Scheme on 26 May 2015. The scheme is a collaborative project between the RIA and the Houses of the Oireachtas, aiming to examine issues of national importance such as flooding risks, health and education service delivery, coastal erosion, geotourism and Ireland’s engagement with the European Union.

By facilitating relationship-building between Ireland’s elected representatives, civil servants and academics, the Academy aims to strengthen the role of evidence-based research in public policy formation.

Public representatives taking part in the scheme include Ministers Joe McHugh and Dara Murphy, Deputy Lucinda Creighton and Senator David Norris. Twenty-two scientist–representative pairings are participating.

The aim is to make the scheme a platform to highlight how scientific research can relate to key issues of concern for the public.
ENSURING THE FUTURE OF WORLD CLASS RESEARCH IN EUROPE

The Irish Humanities Alliance and Royal Irish Academy ran the ‘Excellent Science in the Humanities’ workshop, sponsored by the Irish Universities Association and the Irish Research Council. The aim of the Excellent Science Pillar in Horizon 2020 is to raise the level of excellence in Europe’s science base and ensure world-class research. The European Research Council (ERC) and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) are of particular interest to humanities researchers. The workshop featured keynote talks from those involved at the European level in both the ERC and MSCA, and it profiled Ireland’s most recent ERC grant recipients and featured advice from national contact points and evaluators.

Dr Eilionóir Flynn, NUIG, who was awarded the European Research Council Starting Grant

LEARNING FROM THE BEST—OUR MASTERCLASS SERIES

The Academy masterclass series was established in 2012 to provide an opportunity for young researchers to meet some of the leading stars in their field.

With one speaker and no more than 15 participants, all of whom are PhD, postgraduate or undergraduate students, a class is an effective platform for young students to engage with distinguished professors and learn about some of the challenges as well as the opportunities in their particular area.

So far in 2015 the Academy has welcomed 44 students in six masterclasses and more masterclasses are planned for this year. Among those that have given Academy masterclasses are internationally renowned experts Professor Enrico Colombatto, economist; Alan Titley, MRIA, professor of modern Irish; Professor Michael P. Conzen, geographer; Professor Pierre Rosanvallon, historian; Professor Monica Grady, space scientist; and Stuart Rice, MRIA, chemist.
GETTING THE BEST OUT OF YOUR PHD WITH THE IRISH HUMANITIES ALLIANCE

This year the Irish Humanities Alliance co-ordinated a series of doctoral supervision workshops. The workshops attracted both supervisors and students and focused on doctoral supervision in the humanities subject areas.

The events covered a range of topics including career mentorship, managing the student–supervisor relationship, planning for life after a doctorate, practice-based PhD research and the role of new technology in all of the above.

The workshop series was a collaboration between the Humanities Institute, UCD; the Moore Institute, NUIG; the Institute for Collaborative Research in the Humanities, QUB; GradCAM, DIT; and the Royal Irish Academy.

ARE NEONICOTINOID INSECTICIDES HARMFUL?

An RIA-hosted breakfast briefing for Irish stakeholders in Academy House to discuss the findings of a European Academies Science Advisory Council (EASAC) report scrutinised the scientific evidence for harmful effects by neonicotinoid insecticides. The event coincided with the publication of two major scientific studies on the issue and included attendees from the European Parliament as well as representatives from the National Parks and Wildlife Service, the Department of Agriculture, Teagasc and the Northern Irish Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute (AFBI).

Jane Stout, Professor of Botany, TCD, is the Royal Irish Academy nominee on the expert working group tasked with reviewing the evidence for the impacts of neonicotinoid pesticides, not only on bees, but on other pollinators and ecosystem service-providers as well.
A TOOLKIT FOR ACADEMIC RESEARCH

The Irish Humanities Alliance and Queen’s University Belfast held a conference on ‘Impact and the Humanities’ in Belfast, co-sponsored by the Irish Humanities Alliance and InterTradeIreland. The event was the first phase of a year-long policy project that will feature workshops in higher education institutions (HEIs) and a toolkit for academic researchers.

Impact is an urgent policy issue for academics, HEIs and policy makers due to its role in current funding, assessment and evaluation debates. The importance of this is clear within the EU’s Horizon 2020 Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, and the recent publication of Research Excellence Framework (REF) impact case studies in the UK. Due to their participation in REF, Queen’s University Belfast and Ulster University are uniquely placed to share their experience and begin the all-island debate on impact. The debate will be in the context of the EU, given the role it plays in framing impact and the practicalities of making applications for European research funding for researchers.
LEADERS IN HIGHER EDUCATION ADDRESS

2014 marked the inaugural year of the Royal Irish Academy’s biennial Leaders in Higher Education Address. The Academy aims to recognise the contribution that a leader in higher education has made by inviting them to address an audience in Academy House. Former Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairí Quinn, TD, gave the inaugural address, offering the audience his perspective on the opportunities and challenges facing the Irish education system while reflecting on his own experience as minister.

Professor Louise Richardson, the current Principal and Vice Chancellor of the University of St Andrews and the incoming Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford, will deliver the 2015 Leaders in Higher Education Address.

DATA SEAL OF APPROVAL FOR THE DIGITAL REPOSITORY OF IRELAND

In July the Digital Repository of Ireland was granted the Data Seal of Approval (DSA). The DSA is awarded by an international board of data repositories to those organisations that meet the national and international guidelines for digital data archiving.

The DSA ensures that data producers are given the assurance that their data and associated materials will be stored in a reliable manner and can be reused. It also provides funding bodies with the confidence that data will remain available for reuse and their investments will not be lost. As well as that, it enables data consumers to assess repositories where data are held and supports data repositories in the efficient archiving and distribution of data.

ACADEMY DISCOURSES

Professor David Spiegelhalter, University of Cambridge ● Why it’s good to take risks. Possibly. ● 7 November 2014

Dr Penelope Curtis, Director of Tate Britain ● The discipline of sculpture: rupture and continuity ● 21 November 2014: National Gallery of Ireland

Professor Enrico Colombatto, University of Turin ● What is Europe’s Future? ● 26 February 2015

Alan Titley, MRIA ● Gaeilge, Gàidhlig agus Manainnis: an scribhneoir cruthaitheach agus Gaeilgí leochaileacha an lae inniu ● 12 March 2015

Professor Pierre Rosanvallon, Collège de France ● Rethinking equality in a new age of inequality ● 10 June 2015

Professor Mike Hulme, Kings College London ● (Still) Disagreeing about climate change: what way forward? ● 28 September 2015
RAISING AWARENESS OF IRISH RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP
JOHN BELL REMEMBERED

4 November 2014 marked the inaugural John Bell Day. A mural depicting John Bell was created to celebrate the unveiling of Bell’s Theorem Crescent, the street that runs around the new Belfast Metropolitan College.
JOHN BELL’S MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO PHYSICS AND PHILOSOPHY

Michael Nauenberg, Emeritus Professor of Physics at the University of California, Santa Cruz

Today, it is generally accepted that the basic theory that explains nature at the atomic level is quantum mechanics. In 1926 the mathematical form of this theory was developed independently by Werner Heisenberg and Edwin Schrödinger, but its correct physical interpretation was first given by Max Born. Born pointed out that Schrödinger’s version of this theory, which introduced a function \( \psi \), implied that this theory is statistical, and that \( |\psi|^2 \) represented the probability for the occurrence of the possible events described by this theory. But this interpretation was unacceptable to Schrödinger, and also to Einstein, who was fond of saying that ‘God does not play dice’.

A resolution of this dilemma was proposed, in analogy with statistical mechanisms, that the lack of determinism in quantum mechanics was due to ‘hidden variables’. For example, Maxwell described the macroscopic behavior of a gas by considering the velocities of the atoms or molecules that are the constituents of the gas only in a statistical fashion. Then the actual velocities of each molecule at any given time are the hidden variables in his theory. In like manner, Einstein and others thought that the position and velocity of an atomic particle, given by quantum mechanics only in a statistical fashion, restricted in accuracy by uncertainty relations obtained by Heisenberg, actually have precise values that are determined by hidden variables.

In 1964, John Bell proposed a mathematical formulation that provided an experimental test for a general class of local hidden variable theories of quantum mechanics (1). He was stimulated in this endeavor after reading David Bohm’s 1951 interpretation of quantum theory, which was, however, a non-local theory, containing a mysterious ‘quantum potential’ that gave rise to instantaneous interaction among atomic particles separated by arbitrary distances in space. Bohm’s theory is a non-relativistic theory, and such interactions would violate the principles of special relativity.
\[ P(A, C) - P(B, A) - P(B, C) \leq 1 \]

John Bell’s theorem has been described as ‘one of the most profound discoveries of science’, PHYSICIST HENRY STAPP, LAWRENCE BERKELEY NATIONAL LABORATORY

Bell’s Theorem asserts that if certain predictions of quantum theory are correct then our world is non-local.

This means that sub-atomic particles can interact even if they are too far apart in space and too close together in time for them to be connected even by signals moving at the speed of light.
Bell’s hidden variable formulation is given for the correlations between the spins of two atomic particles in an initial state of total spin zero that afterward separate to a finite distance where the detection devices are located. Bell’s expression for this correlation differs from the result predicted by quantum mechanics, and is now well known as ‘Bell’s inequality’. This inequality transformed a relation by Einstein and collaborators (2) into a falsifiable theory—a fundamental requirement, as Karl Popper argued, for a scientific theory.

In 1972 John Clauser and Stewart Freedman carried out the first experimental test of Bell’s inequality at UC Berkeley (3). They measured the spin correlations of two photons in a spin zero state from the decay of an atom and found that these correlations were in good agreement with quantum mechanics, but in disagreement with Bell’s hidden variable formulation. Subsequently, Alain Aspect carried out this experiment with greater accuracy and confirmed this result (4; 5). His experiment also had an important flourish—the two photons were accelerated fast enough to ensure that the settings of one of the detecting devices used to analyse the photons could not possibly influence the setting of the other.

Apparently John Bell never urged experimental physicists to carry out this important test. John told me that when Alain was a student, he came to visit him at CERN (Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire) to discuss his proposal to test the Bell inequality. When John asked him, ‘do you have tenure?’, Alain responded ‘no’, and John then told him that he should wait before carrying out such an experiment.

Quantum correlations are very different from corresponding classical ones, to the extent that Einstein referred to such correlations as ‘spukhafte Fernwirkung’, which translates as ‘spooky action at a distance’. In recent years there have also been practical applications of this ‘spookiness’, called quantum entanglement, in cryptography and in opening up the exciting new field of quantum computing. Furthermore, Bell’s work has also shed light on philosophical discussions on what is meant by the nature of reality regarding atomic particles: do such particles have definite properties, such as position, velocity and spin, before these properties are actually observed by a macroscopic scaled measuring device? (6)

Interest in testing Bell’s theorem continues up to the present time. At the time of writing this note, an article appeared in the New York Times by David Kaiser entitled ‘Is Quantum Entanglement Real?’, where a proposal is made to close a so-called loophole in previous experimental tests. David Kaiser writes ‘Every experimental test of entanglement has been subject to one or more loopholes, which hold out the possibility, however slim, that some alternative, distinct from quantum theory and more in line with Einstein’s intuition, may still be salvageable. … The most stubborn remaining loophole is known as “setting independence”.’ (7). What Kaiser means is that two researchers detecting the correlated photons from the Clauser–
Freedman–Aspect experiment at distant places are somehow not free to independently select the settings of their respective detectors. As bizarre as this loophole is, Kaiser and his collaborators propose to settle it by fixing the detector settings by the random time of arrival of the light from two distant quasars that were created at the beginning of the universe!

For further details about John Bell and his contributions, I warmly recommend Louisa Gilder’s entertaining account in her book *The Age of Entanglement: When Quantum Physics was Reborn* (8).

References
Celebrating the Best of US-Ireland Research Innovation

2014/15 saw the inaugural Research Innovation Awards take place. This is a joint initiative between the Royal Irish Academy and the American Chamber of Commerce and is sponsored by KPMG and Ulster Bank.

The awards, jointly presented by the American Chamber of Commerce Ireland and the Royal Irish Academy, recognise excellence in research innovation that has taken place on the island of Ireland as a result of US foreign direct investment.

Each of the winning companies received an award specially commissioned by renowned designer Shane Holland. The trophy was inspired by one of Ireland’s greatest ever scientists, William Rowan Hamilton, who was President of the Royal Irish Academy (1837–1846). His discovery of quaternion algebra in 1843 is used today by scientists to position satellites in space and in the most advanced computer graphics.

SME Award: Alimentary Health
Alimentary Health developed the patented probiotic Bifidobacterium infantis 35624, the number one gastroenterologist-recommended probiotic in the USA. The product is helping millions of sufferers of irritable bowel syndrome manage this debilitating condition.

HEI Award: Dublin City University
DCU pioneered fundamental research into how nerves control muscle activity, establishing platforms to develop effective treatments for movement disorders with Allergan Inc., who supply such neurotherapeutics worldwide.

MNC Award: Xilinx
Xilinx won this award for designing a new class of microchip to enable next generation high-end electronic equipment.

Brendan Farley (centre) accepting the award for outstanding research innovation in a US multinational in Ireland on behalf of Xilinx, joined by Shaun Murphy (KPMG), Eamonn Sinnott (American Chamber of Commerce), Mary E. Daly (PRIA) and Eddie Cullen (Ulster Bank)
CITY AND COUNTRYSIDE IN THE ANCIENT WORLD

The Academy Committee for Historical Studies held the 2014 Classical Studies Annual Colloquium on the theme ‘City and Countryside in the Ancient World’. The colloquium featured a keynote public lecture by Professor Robin Osborne (King’s College, University of Cambridge) on the topic ‘The economics, politics and sociology of city and countryside in classical Athens’.

PRESERVING OUR HISTORY BY GOING DIGITAL

The Digital Repository of Ireland hosted the first annual International Conference on Digital Preservation for the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (DPASSH 2015) in Croke Park in June.

The conference ‘Shaping our Legacy: Safeguarding the Social and Cultural Record’ had over 150 attendees from 12 countries, and awards for Best Paper, Best Poster, and Best Tweet from the Digital Preservation Coalition.

The keynote address was delivered by the National Archives’ Catriona Crowe, and the 32 papers covered topics such as promoting the sustainability of digital repositories, ethical and legal challenges in digital preservation, web archiving, social media preservation and current practices in managing research data.

L-R: Mary E. Daly, PRIA; Dr Sandra Collins, Director of the Digital Repository of Ireland (2011–2015); Minister Damien English, TD; Dr Natalie Harrower, Deputy Director of the Digital Repository of Ireland.
NEW DIRECTOR OF DIGITAL REPOSITORY OF IRELAND

The Digital Repository of Ireland appointed Dr Natalie Harrower as Acting Director in July 2015. The Digital Repository of Ireland also said goodbye to its founding director, Dr Sandra Collins, and wished her every success in her new role as Director of the National Library of Ireland.

DIGITAL REPOSITORY OF IRELAND LAUNCHED

On 25 June 2015, the Digital Repository of Ireland (DRI) was officially launched.

The Digital Repository of Ireland (DRI) is an online open digital repository for the humanities and social sciences domains, and this launch opened the DRI to researchers and the public. Initial collections include a broad range of demonstrator projects—Letters of 1916, the Clarke Stained Glass Studios Archive, Irish Lifetimes, Kilkenny Design Workshops, Saol agus Saothar Sheáin Mhic Ghiollarnáth, and the Teresa Deevy Archive—as well as the award-winning Inspiring Ireland collections, featuring content from Ireland’s national cultural institutions and rich collections of multimedia content from DRI partners Raidió Teilifíse Eireann (RTÉ) and the Contemporary Music Centre (CMC). In total, the initial collections numbered over 20,000 unique digital objects.

The repository had over 1,000 visitors and 7,000 pageviews in its first 24 hours. Initial users came from Ireland, the UK, the US, Canada and Australia.

RIA ETHICS AND SOCIETY OPINION SERIES

This opinion series explores what ethics currently means to Irish researchers across a variety of disciplines. It is led by the RIA Committee for Ethical, Political, Legal and Philosophical Studies and is a contribution to President Higgins’ Ethics Initiative in 2014/2015. The President of Ireland’s Ethics Initiative is the second in a series of public seminars and reflections that President Higgins is holding during his term of office. This series aims to explore, throughout all aspects of society, the topic of ethics and the challenge and invitation of living ethically.

Topics covered include the ethics of commemorative practices and the ethics of privacy for the online citizen.
IHTA

Senator David Norris launched the IHTA’s *Dublin 1847: City of the Ordnance Survey* by Frank Cullen in the City Assembly Rooms on William Street in March. Rob Goodbody and Dr Frank Cullen spoke about their new publications as part of the public lecture series in the RIA Library ‘Mapping city, town and country since 1824: the Ordnance Survey in Ireland’ (August–November 2014). The authors also guided locals and tourists through historic Dawson Street, Dublin, during a set of popular walking tours run in conjunction with Hodges Figgis bookshop.

Earlier this year, the IHTA released map no. 27 *Youghal* by David Kelly and Tadhg O’Keefe. It was launched in Academy House by William Smyth and in Youghal by Lord William Burlington, who spoke with affection of his memories of Youghal, a place with which his family has had a long historical association.
The Library’s autumn exhibition ‘Mapping city, town and county since 1824: the Ordnance Survey in Ireland’ celebrated the achievements of the Ordnance Survey and culminated with a lecture examining all facets of the Survey’s work in Ireland and bringing the story up to the present day. The accompanying book, Glimpses of Ireland, was launched in Belfast late last year and the nine lectures are available now as podcasts.

Irish History Online

4,456 new records were added to the collection in 2014, which brought the total to date to 90,000.

Irish History Online records the contents of journals, books and other resources to enable historical research. The project is part of a European network of 16 historical bibliographies from 14 countries. Visit Irish History Online.

The Book of Ballymote

The Library and Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge, Maynooth University, together held their second conference on major Irish manuscripts: ‘The Book of Ballymote: Leabhar Bhaile an Mhóta’. The event presented new research on the book and was attended by members of the Ballymote Heritage Society and the Sligo Field club, which greatly added to the occasion. The conference was accompanied by an exhibition on the Book of Ballymote and the proceedings will be published next year.
CENTENARIES AND BICENTENARIES: CELTICISTS, LEXICOGRAPHERS AND ANTIQUARIAN SCHOLARS

The Library’s spring lecture series ‘1815–1915: Centenaries and bicentenaries: Celticists, lexicographers and antiquarian scholars’ reflected upon the contributions of five nineteenth-century scholars to the development of Celtic Studies, lexicography, archaeology and antiquarian research in Ireland. The scholars featured were Sir William Wilde, 1815–1876; Bishop William Reeves, 1815–1892; Rev. James Graves, 1815–1886; Timothy O’Neill Lane, 1852–1915; and Standish Hayes O’Grady, 1832–1915.

CELEBRATING WILLIAM ROWAN HAMILTON

The Royal Irish Academy commemorated Hamilton Day on 16 October 2014, celebrating the life and contribution of Irish physicist William Rowan Hamilton (1805–1865) to mathematics—most notably his fundamental formula for quaternion multiplication.

Nine of the higher education institutions in Ireland were asked to nominate their best undergraduate mathematical studies student eligible for the annual Hamilton Award in Mathematics. The recipients of the award received a scroll and a gift, generously sponsored by Arup.

Hamilton Day activities at the RIA also included ‘When the engineer met the mathematician: a public conversation between notable engineer Dr Salam Al-Sabah and Professor Cédric Villani, the 2010 Fields Medalist’, which addressed science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The discussion was moderated by Dr Aoibhinn Ni Shúilleabháin.

Professor Villani also gave this year’s annual RIA Hamilton Lecture ‘Thinking the inaccessible—large time behaviours, from infinitely small to infinitely large to infinitely long’ at Trinity College Dublin, concluding the celebrations.

Dr Claire O’Connell, Science Journalist, and Professor Cédric Villani, MRIA
Gold Medals ceremony celebrates Ireland's leading scholars

Minister for Education and Skills, Jan O’Sullivan, TD, presented the Royal Irish Academy Gold Medals 2014 to the philosopher Desmond Clarke, MRIA, and theoretical physicist Werner Nahm, MRIA, in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the humanities and physical and mathematical sciences.

The Minister congratulated the medallists on their many achievements and paid tribute to the RIA for providing a platform to celebrate academia and the role it plays in our society and economy, saying:

‘Our higher education system has been instrumental in the development of Ireland into the modern economy and society that it is today. Occasions such as these recognise the exceptional wealth of scholarship across the broad range of disciplines that is being undertaken in Ireland. Higher education and those working within it will continue to play a vital role as we continue to recover and build a better economy and society.’

Each medal is a testament to a lifetime of passionate commitment to the highest standards in scholarship, and they are a well-deserved recognition of scientific and academic excellence.

The Royal Irish Academy Gold Medals are awarded to two outstanding academics each year and are recognised as a national expression of celebration for scholarly achievement. The medals are sponsored by the Higher Education Authority.
ARE COMETS THE GIVER AND TAKER OF LIFE?

The McCrea lecture is a highlight in the astronomy enthusiasts’ calendars, allowing people from various backgrounds, disciplines and professions to come together to discuss progress within space science.

Organised and hosted by the Royal Irish Academy, the McCrea lecture series is held in honour of William McCrea, MRIA (1904–1999), an eminent and influential astronomer who worked for many years in Sussex University.

The McCrea 2015 lecture was delivered by Open University Professor Monica Grady, who gave a talk on comets, recollecting her involvement in the Rosetta project and the exciting results from the mission’s spacecraft and lander.

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HUMANITIES AND ME

The Irish Humanities Alliance launched an online public engagement series in May 2015—‘The Humanities and Me’—a series of short reflective pieces by invited artists, writers, curators, academics, journalists, politicians and well-known personalities on the subject of what the humanities means to each of them personally. Subjects range from their daily lived experience of the humanities, to what it means intellectually. The aim is to engage the public and show the contribution that humanities subjects have made to public and cultural life in Ireland. Contributors include: Philippe Milloux, John Green, Lindsey Earner-Byrne, Brendan Dooley, Orlaith McBride, Susan O’Keeffe (pictured top left), Joseph O’Connor (pictured centre), Desmond Clarke, William Mulligan, Margaret Kelleher, Harry White, Gisela Holfter (pictured left) and Kathleen James-Chakraborty.
NURTURING TALENTED PEOPLE AND SUPPORTING RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP
Elizabeth O’Farrell (1884–1957), republican and nurse, was born at 42 City Quay, Dublin, the youngest of two daughters of Christopher Farrell, a dock labourer, and his wife Margaret, a housekeeper. She was educated locally by the Sisters of Mercy.

On leaving school, Elizabeth became a midwife, working at Holles Street hospital, joined the Gaelic League and became fluent in Irish. She also joined the Irish Women’s Franchise League and the Irish Women Workers’ Union. In 1906 she became a member of Inghinidhe na hÉireann, the women’s nationalist organisation, and joined the Inghinidhe branch of Cumann na mBan soon after its establishment in April 1914 as an auxiliary of the Irish Volunteers.

On Easter Sunday 1916 (23 April) she was assigned to the Irish Citizen Army, entrusted to deliver dispatches to republican units in Athenry, Spiddal and Galway city. On returning to Dublin, she reported for duty to the General Post Office and performed nursing and courier duties delivering ammunition to the garrison in the College of Surgeons by hiding it under her clothes. On 27 April, O’Farrell and Julia Grenan volunteered to care for the wounded James Connolly and stayed in the GPO as it was shelled by British artillery. With the building in flames, they and Connolly’s secretary, Winifred Carney, refused to leave until the final evacuation on the evening of Friday, 28 April, and were the last women to leave. They retreated with the garrison to Moore Street, where O’Farrell and Grenan nursed the wounded at No. 16. Here the leaders finally decided to lay down their arms. O’Farrell was chosen by Patrick Pearse to contact the British military on the morning of 29 April to discuss terms of surrender (he feared that a man given this task would be immediately shot down). Given a Red Cross insignia and white flag, she walked out into heavy fire in the Moore Street area and approached an army barricade. Brigadier W.H.M. Lowe sent her back to Pearse with a demand for unconditional surrender. Accompanied by O’Farrell, Pearse then surrendered in person to Lowe that afternoon (a partly obscured
O’Farrell can be seen in a press photograph taken at the moment of surrender. She volunteered to take the surrender order to Volunteer and Citizen Army units at the Four Courts, the College of Surgeons, Boland’s mill and Jacob’s factory. It was a dangerous task and she came under fire on several occasions. Grateful for her service in this perilous mission, Lowe assured O’Farrell that she would be released, but after the surrender she was stripped and searched and imprisoned overnight in Ship Street barracks. On hearing of this, Lowe had her released immediately and apologised for her treatment.

She died 25 June 1957 and was buried in the republican plot in Glasnevin cemetery. In 1967 a memorial plaque to Elizabeth O’Farrell was unveiled at Holles Street hospital and the Nurse Elizabeth O’Farrell Foundation to support nursing postgraduate studies was established. In 2003 another plaque commemorating her was unveiled in City Quay Park, which was renamed Elizabeth O’Farrell Park in 2012.

Elizabeth O’Farrell is profiled in 1916 Portraits and Lives, a collection of 42 biographies of people whose careers, in one way or another, were deeply involved in the Easter rising of 1916. Each biography is illustrated with an original drawing by the artist David Rooney.

Illustration on p. 37, David Rooney. David Rooney is a graduate of National College of Art and Design. He is a regular contributor to The Irish Times and Hotpress. His artwork also features in publications by The Folio Society, London, and in cultural centres such as the Titanic Experience, Belfast; King John’s Castle, Limerick; and the Stonehenge visitor centre.
PUBLICATIONS

ÉRIU
FOUNDED AS THE JOURNAL OF THE SCHOOL OF IRISH LEARNING DEVOTED TO IRISH PHILOLOGY AND LITERATURE
VOL. LXIV, 2014
EDITED BY LIAM BREATHNACH AND DAMIAN MURDOCH

PORTRAITS AND LIVES
What Women Said and Did in 1916
Lucy McDiarmid

Lebor na hUidire
Codex Hibernensis Eximii • 1 • Edited by Ruairí Ó hUiginn

1916

AT HOME IN THE REVOLUTION
Lebor na hUidire
Codex Hibernensis Eximii • 1 • Edited by Ruairí Ó hUiginn

TRINITY IN WAR AND REVOLUTION 1912–1923
TOMÁS IRISH

ALL OF OUR BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE TO BUY ONLINE AT WWW.RIA.IE
IRISH TOWNS COMPARED TO THEIR EUROPEAN COUNTERPARTS

This year’s Irish Historic Towns Atlas annual seminar, ‘Irish towns as shared European Heritage’, compared Irish towns with counterparts in Austria, Finland, France, Poland and Ukraine—a much broader perspective than in other years. The plenary paper was presented by Professor Michael Conzen, University of Chicago, who looked at the challenges of comparative urban history. Professor Conzen also delivered an Academy masterclass to PhD students of urban form, which was chaired by Anngret Simms, MRIA, in May 2015. A list of published towns atlases and a static map can also be found in the European projects section of the IHTA website.

SEE IHTA ATLASES AT WWW.RIA.IE.
USING THE IRISH HISTORIC TOWNS ATLAS AT THIRD LEVEL

Established in 2015 with funding from the National Forum for Teaching and Learning, the IHTA Users’ Group project aims to promote the creative use of the IHTA in teaching, research and fieldwork at third level. This involves linking in with departments of history and geography nationwide. In January the project established the IHTA Digital Working Group to co-ordinate the creation and management and dissemination of digital content for both past and future IHTA publications. Atlas no. 10, Kilkenny, is now available online for free.
DONATIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Former Taoiseach Mr Liam Cosgrave donated the papers of his father, William T. Cosgrave, MRIA, 1890–1965, to the Library in December. The archive includes a copy of the reprieve of W.T. Cosgrave’s death sentence in 1916, correspondence with the Earl of Granard and photographs of Cosgrave with public figures and his family circle.

Mrs Réiltín Mac Cana, widow of Professor Proinsias Mac Cana, former Academy President, donated Professor David Greene’s papers relating to Irish language and literature to the Library. Professor Greene, also a former Academy President, was instrumental in the establishment of the Academy’s Foclóir na Nua-Ghaeilge.

The Library purchased two letters written to Robert Shipboy MacAdam, Belfast engineer and Irish scholar, from a Berlin antiquarian source. The letters were from Eugene O’Curry, on the topic of Lebor na hUidre and Táin Bó Cúailgne, and from John O’Donovan on the subject of the 1851 Census returns for Irish speakers.
The 1,262 extant certificates recommending candidates for Academy membership for the period 1785–1920 have been fully catalogued. Biographical data on all members to 1920 (2,082 individuals) is being updated. We are aiming to create records for the 434 members elected between 1920 and 1960 in the coming year.
More Lives Added to the Dictionary of Irish Biography

The online Dictionary of Irish Biography has continued to expand to include those who died in the period 2007 to 2009. Most recently it published three additional batches of biographies, amounting to 123 articles in all and bringing to over 10,000 the total number of lives covered in the Dictionary.

The June 2014 batch contained such notable names as Patrick Hillery, the former President of Ireland; Anthony Clare, the psychiatrist and media personality; Seán Mac Réamoinn, the broadcaster and journalist; and Nuala O’Faolain, the journalist, writer and feminist. December 2014 saw the publication of 42 new lives, including two rather different singers in Ronnie Drew and Bernadette Greevy, and two rather different politicians in Tony Gregory and Conor Cruise O’Brien. Other interesting names included RUC chief constable, Jack Hermon, who led the force throughout the 1980s; the mountaineer, Gerard McDonnell, who lost his life in becoming the first Irish person to reach the summit of K2; and the writer and advocate for the disabled Christopher Nolan, whose career reflected the growing visibility and articulacy of the disabled in late-twentieth-century Ireland. The most recent batch (June 2015) featured substantial articles on Vincent O’Brien, Ireland’s most successful racehorse trainer; Seán Ó Tuama, the influential Irish-language poet, playwright and critic; and Justin Keating, one of the most prominent government ministers in the Fine Gael – Labour coalition of 1973–1977.

To encourage wider use of the Dictionary, the project has continued to engage in co-operative ventures with other academic projects such as the Irish-language biographical project aim.ie, and the RTÉ–Boston College commemorative project Century Ireland. It has also arranged with UCD University Relations to allow access to 59 DIB biographies for their Decade of Centenaries website, which was launched in April 2015.

Dictionary of Irish Biography Free in Schools

In April 2014 free online access to the DIB for primary and secondary schools in Ireland was announced. The initiative was formally launched in Academy House in October 2014 by the Minister for Education and Skills, Jan O’Sullivan, TD and the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Heather Humphreys, TD. It was great to see children and teachers from Gardiner Street Primary School at the launch.
IRISH SCRIPT ON SCREEN
This Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies partnership for the
digitisation of Irish manuscripts had over 4 million accesses in
2014. Phase 16 of digitisation at the Academy saw three
further manuscripts added to the online corpus, bringing the
Academy’s manuscript presence to date to 79. View the
manuscripts online at www.isos.dias.ie

DECADE OF CENTENARIES AWARD
Decade of Centenaries awards, sponsored by the Irish
Research Council’s New Foundation scheme were presented
by Dr Eucharia Meehan, Director of the Irish Research
Council, to archival collections that contribute significantly to
the national dialogue on the Decade of Centenaries.

The awards were made at the Digital Preservation for the
Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences annual conference,
hosted by the RIA’s Digital Repository of Ireland project.

The award winning collections, comprising selections of material
from the Dublin City Archives, the Irish Capuchin Provincial
Archives and the National Irish Visual Arts Library at NCAD
are currently accessible in the Digital Repository of Ireland.

LAUNCH OF DOCUMENTS ON
IRISH FOREIGN POLICY IX
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Charles Flanagan, TD,
launched volume IX of Documents on Irish Foreign Policy
(DIFP) in Iveagh House on 20 November 2014. The latest
volume in the DIFP series examines the foreign policy of the
‘Inter-Party’ coalition government of 1948 to 1951. The
volume reveals how Minister for External Affairs Seán MacBride
was under the absolute sway of the Catholic Church and
Archbishop of Dublin John Charles McQuaid. MacBride ran
Irish foreign policy through Archbishop’s House rather than
the Department of External Affairs at Iveagh House or indeed
through the collective responsibility of the Cabinet table.

DIFP IX is the first publication to examine in detail the entire
spectrum of Ireland’s foreign relations during the term of
office of the Inter-Party government. As well as Church–State
relations it covers Ireland departure from the Commonwealth
and also MacBride’s failed gamble that by refusing to join
NATO, Ireland could force the United States to put pressure
on Britain to end partition. The volume for the first time brings
into the public domain primary sources on the overseas
adoption of Irish infants.

THE DIFP TWEETS A DOCUMENT OF THE DAY.
FOLLOW IT @DIFP_RIA

Dr Michael Kennedy, Executive Editor DIFP, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Mr Charles Flanagan TD and Mary E. Daly, PRIA, at the launch of DIFP IX.
FOCLOIR NA NUA-GHAELGE
DISCOVERING HIDDEN WORDS FROM THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

D’éirigh le Focloir na Nua-Ghaeilge maoiniú a fháil ón gComhairle Um Thaighde in Éirinn chun cuid de na bailiúcháin chaniúna atá i seilbh an tionscnamh a dhigitiú agus a chur ar fáil ar line don phobal i bhfoirm inchuardaithe. Bhí sé mar aidhm ag an tionscnamh seo chomh maith, focail nach bhfuil ar fáil i mór-fhocloírí na ficheú haoise a aimsiú sna bailiúcháin. Cuireadh tús leis an obair ar an tionscnamh – Focail Fholaithe ón bhFichiú hAois – Bailiúcháin Neamhfhoilsithe den Ghaeilge Labhartha, i mí na Nollag 2013 agus sheol Marion Gunn, lár-Chartlannaí i gCartlann na gCanúintí, Coláiste na hOllscoile, Baile Átha Cliath é i mí na Nollag 2014.

The Focloir na Nua-Ghaeilge project was awarded funding from the Irish Research Council to digitise some of the dialect collections in its possession and to make them available online in searchable format. The project sought to identify words in these collections that do not appear in the major twentieth-century printed dictionaries. Work on this project—Hidden Words from the Twentieth Century—began in December 2013 and the project was launched in December 2014 by Ms Marion Gunn, former Archivist in the Dialect Archive in UCD.

DICTIONARY OF MEDIEVAL LATIN FROM CELTIC SOURCES

Dictionary of Medieval Latin from Celtic Sources is part of the European-wide undertaking to produce a suite of territorial dictionaries tracing the development of the Latin language. It is also part of another set of projects that research, analyse, describe and present several languages older than English that have at various time been or become naturalised in Ireland and the UK. Examples include Faclair na Gàidhlig, the Scottish universities’ dictionary of the Gaelic of that country, drawing from a digitised full-text corpus analogous to the DMLCS Archive of Celtic-Latin Literature; Geiriadur Prifysgol Cymru, the Welsh national dictionary; eDIL, the electronic development of the RIA Dictionary of the Irish Language based mainly on medieval materials; and the Academy’s own Foclóir Stairiúil na Nua-Ghaeilge.

Though dealing with different languages, all these projects find much in common methodologically—a resemblance much strengthened now that all are engaged in various stages of digitisation.

In March of this year the DMLCS attended a joint workshop in Glasgow. Combined panel presentations were delivered in July to the Irish Conference of Medievalists and to the large quadrennial International Congress of Celtic Studies.
Art and Architecture of Ireland goes digital

Art and Architecture of Ireland—containing over 2 million words, 3,500 images and 3,000 pages—was published digitally by the Royal Irish Academy earlier this year. It was also nominated for two awards at this year’s Business to Arts Awards, including a nomination, with the Naughton Foundation, for best long-term partnership which it won.

Art and Architecture of Ireland in America

Art and Architecture of Ireland was launched in New York in May and was followed the next evening by a talk by Mary E. Daly, PRIA, on ‘Ireland and the Decade of Centenaries’— the inaugural lecture in the new New York Consulate Historical Lecture Series. The launch was hosted by Wilbur Ross in his home and facilitated by Barbara Jones, Ireland’s Consul General in New York.

Learn more about the project at www.ria.ie

Watch Professor Daly’s talk on www.ria.ie
DOES IRELAND NEED A MINISTER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH?

In July the Academy hosted a workshop entitled ‘Does Ireland need a Minister for Higher Education and Research?’ The purpose of this workshop was to investigate what the most effective governmental structure is for supporting the needs of Ireland’s higher education and research sector. It offered a national and international perspective on the merits of the current and alternative governmental structures for higher education and research. Arising from the workshop the steering group will be putting together an Academy Advice Paper based on the day’s findings.

ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY CHARLEMONT GRANTS AWARDS CEREMONY

The inaugural Royal Irish Academy Charlemont Grants awards ceremony was held in Academy House on 16 February 2015.

Named in honour of the Academy’s first President, James Caulfeild, the 1st Earl of Charlemont (1728–1799), this scheme is the successor to the Mobility Grants, which was established by the Academy in 2007. Building on the success of that scheme, the Charlemont Grants are unique in offering funding for short international research trips, to support primary research in any area. The Charlemont Grants facilitate access for early-career researchers to important international scientific and cultural resources. This scheme epitomises one of the Academy’s most fundamental missions by identifying and encouraging excellence in all areas of scholarship in Ireland.

Since its inception the scheme has funded 155 projects across the sciences, humanities and social sciences. It has funded visits to over fifty countries, with a total fund disbursed to date of approximately €245,000.

Funded by the Academy, the Charlemont Grants are designed to act as a career springboard to assist scholars developing international collaborative networks.

In short, they aim to to fund excellent people with excellent ideas.

See p. 61–62 of this review to find out more about grants given in 2015.
THE ROLE, VALUE AND SCALE OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN IRELAND

As part of the Academy’s work in encouraging greater engagement between researchers, policy makers and the public and at the request of the government’s Expert Group on Future Funding Options for Higher Education, we convened a consultation forum for the academic community on 23 March 2015 in Academy House.

The purpose of this forum was to consider the first consultation paper from the Expert Group, ‘The Role, Value and Scale of Higher Education in Ireland’, which examines the role and contribution of higher education to societal and economic development in Ireland and questions how this contribution can be protected and enhanced as the system continues to grow and develop. The forum was organised into a panel format addressing four distinct themes: A quality student experience; Supporting innovation; Meeting labour market needs; and Making access more equitable.

WHAT IS IRELAND’S ROLE IN THE FUTURE EARTH FORUM?

Following on from our 2014 Future Earth Town Hall Meeting a transdisciplinary expert group called Future Earth Ireland (FEI), led by the Royal Irish Academy, was established. Its purpose is to act as Ireland’s focal point for all issues under the remit of Future Earth.

Download a report from last year’s event and watch a video from the meeting at www.ria.ie

VIVA CHE, Jim FitzPatrick, 1968.
© Jim FitzPatrick, 2010
**Geraldine Butler** is a Professor in the School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science at University College Dublin’s Conway Institute. She is an expert on the genomics, evolution and virulence of pathogenic yeasts. She led an international consortium that sequenced the genomes of eight *Candida* species, and that research was published in *Nature* in 2009. She has pioneered high-throughput gene knockout technology for *Candida parapsilosis*, a pathogen affecting newborn infants.

**Lorraine Byrne Bodley** is Senior Lecturer in Musicology at Maynooth University. She is acclaimed for her research on Goethe, Schubert and Zelter. She is the author of two monographs and editor of ten other volumes, and was recently appointed to the board of the New Schubert Edition (Vienna). She is writing a biography of Schubert for Yale, and has edited collections forthcoming from Oxford and Cambridge.

**David Coleman** is Professor and Chair of Oral and Applied Microbiology at the School of Dental Science, Trinity College Dublin. He is one of the leading clinical microbiologists practicing today internationally and has made seminal contributions to our understanding of the pathogenic yeast *Candida dubliniensis* (which he discovered), methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and the biology of bacteriophages, the viruses that infect bacteria.

**Jonathan Nesbit Coleman** is Professor of Chemical Physics at Trinity College Dublin, a lead principal investigator in the Science Foundation Ireland-funded AMBER Centre and a co-ordinator of the EU-funded Graphene Project. He is among the top 100 cited material scientists of the last decade and is internationally recognised for his contributions to the processing of nanoscale materials and devices and the application of these innovations to industry.
Henry Curran is Director of the Combustion Chemistry Centre at the National University of Ireland, Galway. His area of expertise is the development of chemical models in order to explore combustion of fuels at a molecular level and to produce environmentally cleaner and more efficient combustors. His work has been widely cited in the leading international journals, and in 2014 he was named by Thomson Reuters as being among the top 1% of international researchers in this field.

Nicholas Daly a graduate of University College Cork and Brown University, is Professor of Modern English and American Literature at University College Dublin. His major scholarly contribution is to nineteenth- and twentieth-century literary and cultural studies, particularly in three widely praised monographs published by Cambridge University Press. He is currently working on a book on The Demographic Imagination and the Nineteenth-Century City.

Orla Feely is Professor of Electronic Engineering at University College Dublin and since 2014 the UCD Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact. She has served as Chair of the Irish Research Council and has a worldwide reputation as a leading researcher in nonlinear electrical circuit theory and its applications. In recognition of this, she was elected a Fellow of the IEEE, the first Irish woman to achieve this distinction.

Orla Hardiman is Professor of Neurology and Academic Director of the Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute, Trinity College Dublin; she is also Consultant Neurologist at Beaumont Hospital. She leads a multidisciplinary group of over 30 researchers investigating the epidemiology and causes of, and new treatments for, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. Professor Hardiman has a strong international reputation, attested to by a number of honours and awards, and is an effective and committed advocate for patients with neurodegenerative conditions.
Rob Kitchin is Professor and ERC Advanced Investigator in the National Institute of Regional and Spatial Analysis at Maynooth University. He served as the director of the institute between 2002 and 2013. Professor Kitchin, along with co-author Martin Dodge, won the Meridian Book Award (presented by the American Association of Geographers for outstanding scholarly work in Geography) in 2011, and he was the recipient of the Royal Irish Academy Gold Medal for Social Sciences in 2013.

Anthony McElligott is Professor of History at the University of Limerick. He is a leading historian of twentieth-century Germany and has published monographs and articles that focus on urban history and the Weimar Republic. His current research is on the Holocaust in Greece. He has played a key role in building the Department of History at UL, helping it to attain an international profile.

Martin Naughton is one of Ireland’s leading innovators, founding Glen Dimplex in 1973 and growing it into a global company. He is a key figure in Irish philanthropy, contributing to a number of major projects in academic and cultural institutions. He was a member of the Council of State for seven years and is a past Chair of Intertrade Ireland. He has honorary degrees from Trinity College, University College Dublin, Queen’s University Belfast and the Ulster University.

Ian O’Donnell is Professor of Criminology at University College Dublin and the only criminology professor in Ireland. Criminology is a diverse, interdisciplinary field, and Professor O’Donnell has contributed across its entire range, with a particular focus on penology and criminal justice history. He has published ten books and almost 100 articles. His latest book explores how isolated prisoners cope with the passage of time.
Bernadette Whelan is Professor of History at the University of Limerick. She is the leading scholar in the history of Irish–American relations in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Her pioneering publications, based on extensive archival research, integrate the Irish experience into wider transnational studies, especially in relation to Marshall Plan Aid and postwar Europe. Professor Whelan has also made a significant contribution to Irish women’s history.

Matt Zepf is Professor of Physics at Queen’s University Belfast and current Director of its Centre for Plasma Physics. He is also Director of the Helmholtz Institute, Jena, Germany. He leads a group that continues to pioneer fundamental, experimental studies of the relativistic interaction of intense, short pulse lasers with matter and their application in, for example, coherent X-ray sources and particle acceleration.
**HONORARY MEMBERS**

**Colum Hourihane** is a distinguished art historian and iconographer. As director of the Index of Christian Art in Princeton, he had a profound impact by improving access to its archive and by founding an important international programme of conferences and publications. His distinguished contributions to the field of medieval art are widely admired. He has, moreover, been an effective ambassador for Irish scholarship.

**Christopher A. Hunter**, FRS, is the Herchel Smith Professor of Organic Chemistry at the Department of Chemistry, University of Cambridge. Professor Hunter is a world-leading authority on physical organic and supramolecular chemistry. He has made fundamental contributions to the understanding of the role that weak interactions play between molecules and ions in homogeneous and mixed solutions. This has greatly enriched our understanding of the part that such interactions play in chemistry, molecular biology and materials science.

**Alvin Jackson**, Sir Richard Lodge Professor of History at Edinburgh University, has illuminated Ulster unionism in several seminal works and more recently asserted an equally bracing perspective on devolution in Ireland and Scotland. He has also written a magisterial history of Ireland, which has attained classic status. As a historian of social and political formations, he combines originality, flair and substance.

**Desmond King**, Oxford University’s Andrew W. Mellon Professor of American Government, is a world-leading scholar of nationalism, democracy and race in America. His seminal books and articles have thoroughly reshaped our understanding of these interwoven subjects. His work has won him internationally prestigious honours from the British Academy, Cornell University, the Leverhulme Trust and NYU, which awarded him the Straus Fellowship for 2013–2014.

**Stephen Myers**, Head of Medical Applications at CERN, is internationally recognised for his unique contributions to the field of accelerator science and as one of the few persons in the world able to bring a combined knowledge of physics and engineering to this field. With regard to the discovery of the ‘Higgs’ boson, Professor John Womersley said of Stephen, ‘…without his vision and hard work, none of this would have been possible’.
DISTINCTIONS FOR MRIAS

Lorraine Byrne Bodley was elected as President of the Society for Musicology in Ireland.

Mary Canning received the award of Doctor of Literature (honoris causa) from the National University of Ireland on 2 December 2014.

Alan Hibbert was awarded an MBE for services to astronomy.

Mary Robinson was elected Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in March 2015.

Richard English was elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in March 2015.

Rob Kitchin received a media achievement award in recognition of his work engaging on issues of public importance from the Association of American Geographers.

Gerry Kearns was named Distinguished Historical Geographer for 2015 by the Association of American Geographers.

Dermot Diamond was awarded the Boyle-Higgins Medal and Lecture Award by the Institute of Chemistry in Ireland for 2014.
BEREAVEMENTS

Brown, David Arthur BSc, MSc, PhD, DSc. FRSC, FICI. Elected 1962. Died 27 September 2014.


Regan, Ciaran Martin BSc, PhD, DSc(NUI). Elected 2007. Died 24 October 2014.
The Academy is committed to encouraging the very best fundamental research in all disciplines across the broad spectrum of the humanities and sciences. Figures above from RIA Charlemont Grant 2007–2015.
ARCHAEOLOGY EXCAVATIONS
GRANTS 2015

This scheme provides large-scale grants for archaeological excavation and post-excavation research. The fund is provided by the National Monuments Service and is administered through the RIA Standing Committee for Archaeology. A total of €76,120 was awarded in 2015.

Conor Brady
Excavations at Rossnaree lithic scatter and enclosure

Stephen Davis and Catriona Moore
Excavations at the Tlachtga, Hill of Ward, Co. Meath

Paul Duffy
Grassroots Archaeology Project

Richard Jennings
The Dungarvan Valley Caves Project: new excavations at Ballymintra Cave, Co. Waterford

Michael Lynch
Post-exavation and preparation of a full report on the excavation of a shell midden at Fanore More, Co. Clare

Richard O’Brien
Rathnadrinna Fort, post-exavation works

ARCHAEOLOGY RESEARCH GRANTS AND C14 SCHEME 2015

The scheme awards a number of grants for research in Irish archaeology, excluding excavation. The Academy, in association with Queen’s University Belfast, also offers radiocarbon dating services to be used for the purposes of archaeological research in Ireland under the C14 grants scheme. A total of €4,000 was awarded in 2015.

Stefan Bergh
Mapping the Mullaghfarna settlement

Patrick Gleeson
Knockainy: the iconography of a late prehistoric regia

Aimée Little
Mesolithic chert tool provenancing survey of the Irish midland region

Paul O’Keeffe and Damian Shiels
The Kinsale Battlefield Project
C14 Dates Awarded

Jason Bolton
Moygara Castle • 2 dates

Ruth Carden
Various early excavated Irish caves, faunal remains held within collections of National Museum of Ireland • 2 dates

Michael Lynch
Shell midden CL001-021 (Fanore More 2) • 2 dates

Richard O’Brien
Rathnadrinna • 3 dates

Risteard Ua Cróinín
Dangan Castle, Quinn, Co. Clare • 1 date

THE RIA CHARLEMONT GRANTS

The aim of the scheme is to support early-career researchers from any discipline in developing robust international networks, enabling productive collaborations and fostering Irish academic engagement with overseas cultural institutions and academies.

In short, they aim to fund excellent people with excellent ideas.

SCIENCE

Dr Kamela Alegre, QUB
Structural characterisation of a multidrug efflux transporter • Oxford University, UK

Dr Brendan Florio, UL
Mathematical modelling of nanowire melting • Centre de Recerca Matematica, Spain

Dr Guangbo Hao, UCC
Finding the optimum structure of the three-axis force sensor for ultra-precision machining using screw theory • University of Strathclyde, UK

Dr Jessica Hayes, NUIG
Cellular dysfunction and its effect on angiogenesis and bone repair in diabetic fracture healing • University of California, USA. Deferred to 2016.

Dr Erica Hennessy, DCU
Induced pluripotent stem cell derived intestinal organoids for analysis of metal micronutrient uptake on intestinal function • University of Cincinnati, USA

Dr Run Long, UCD
Excited state dynamics of charge transfer in perovskite-based photovoltaic cells • University of Southern California, USA

Dr Alanna Maguire, DCU
Investigating the role of genomic instability and heterogeneity in the response of HER2 positive breast tumours to trastuzumab • Mayo Clinic, USA
Dr Aisling Ni Annaidh, UCD
Skin mechanics, growth and remodelling: unraveling the early development of melanoma • UCD acting as host for visiting scholar Dr Sara Roccabianca from Michigan State University, USA

Dr Martin O’Halloran, NUIG
Frontier research on the biophysical phenomena underlying the dielectric properties of human tissue • University of Malta, Malta

Dr Anuradha Pallipurath, NUIG
Terahertz spectroscopic analysis of crystallisation kinetics of amorphous composite materials – experimental and computational studies • University of Cambridge, UK

Dr Klaas-Jan Stol, UL
Development and formalisation of agile methods for critical and regulated software domains • SINTEF, Norway

Dr Silvia Tedesco, DCU
Bioplastics and biogas production from seaweed biomass • University of Foggia, Italy

Dr Barry Wardell, UCD
Probing the limits of general relativity with black hole binaries • UCD acting as host for Dr Ian Vega, Trieste, Italy

HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Dr Felix Behling, MU
Creating a new class of workers. Marginal self-employment in labour market reforms • Institute of Sociology, University Duisburg–Essen, Germany

Dr Margaret Brehony, NUIG
Cuban–Irish diasporas: Irish migration and ethnic whitening strategies in colonial Cuba • The Archivo Histórico Provincial de Cienfuegos, Cuba

Dr Patrick Bresnihan, MU
Emergent authorities and the making of the commons • Cochabamba, Bolivia

Dr Sarah-Anne Buckley, NUIG
‘Found in a dying condition’? The experience of infant foundlings in the Irish diaspora in London, 1840–1950 • London Metropolitan Archives, UK

Dr Clare Clarke, TCD
Charlotte Riddell: anxieties of authorship in late-Victorian ghost stories • The British Library, UK

Dr Eoin Daly, NUIG
Pluralism in the indivisible Republic? Laïcité and French religious liberty • French National Library, France

Dr Maria Falina, UCD
Religions and nations of Yugoslavia, 1900–1945 • University College London, UK
Dr Áine Mahon UCD/UCC
The promise of perfectionism: Stanley Cavell and contemporary American fiction • Vanderbilt University, USA

Dr Philip McDermott, UU
Linguistic tradition, policy and identity in Scotland and Northern Ireland: a comparison of Scots and Ulster Scots • Heriot Watt University, UK

Dr Karol Mullaney-Dignam, UL
Community music on the Dunraven estates in Victorian Ireland and Wales • The National Library of Wales and the University of Aberystwyth, UK

Dr Amy Prendergast, TCD
Irish bluestockings: literary sociability, intellectual pursuits, and cultural transfers between Britain and Ireland, 1760–1830 • University of Nottingham and National Records of Scotland, UK

Dr Fiona Smyth UCD
Hope Bagenal: architect of science and music • The Hertford County Archives and the Institute of Sound and Vibration, University of Southampton, UK

Dr Mara Tesorieri
The bioarchaeology of a tophet from Zita, Tunisia: microscopic and macroscopic analyses of the cremated infant remains • Zita Project, southern Tunisia. Deferred to 2016.

Dr John (Jack) Thompson, UCD
Arthur Vandenberg’s party: Republicans and foreign policy, 1932–1951 • The Bentley Library, University of Michigan, USA. Deferred to 2016.

Dr Diarmuid Torney, DCU
The European External Action Service after five years: assessing its role in EU–China relations on climate change and energy policy • Brookings–Tsinghua Center for Public Policy, China

Dr Timothy Watt, QUB
Gender, community politics and anti-taxation riots in Ireland, 1715–1761 • National Archive at Kew, UK

The Academy funds this scheme from its own limited resources. As donations to our newly established Endowment Fund increase, we hope to expand the scheme to fund more researchers.
THE R. J. HUNTER GRANTS SCHEME

The R.J. Hunter Grants Scheme, named in honour of R.J. (Bob) Hunter, the highly respected historian of the Ulster plantation, was established in 2015 using funding generously made available by his daughter, Ms Laura Hunter Houghton, through the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland.

The R.J. Hunter Grants’ aim is to build on his unique academic legacy by encouraging and promoting writing on the history of plantation and settlement in Ulster in the early modern period (c. 1550s – 1750s), including patterns of migration from and to Britain and North America. The scheme also promotes cognate areas of research on early modern Ulster, including urban growth, local administration, social structure, religion, print culture, political interaction, trade and commerce and economics.

The following research grants were awarded in 2015:

Andrew Robinson
The Politics of Plantation and a Discoverie of A View of the Present State of Ireland

Annaleigh Margey, DIT
Londonderry: The urban history of a Plantation county, c. 1609–1750

James Sheridan, TCD
The Irish hydra: English policy towards Gaelic Ulster 1567–1576

David Heffernan
Planting Elizabethan Ulster: The Earl of Essex’s ‘Enterprise of Ulster’, 1573–1576
## Summary of Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 2014

### General Purposes Current Account*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>€</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grant-in-aid</td>
<td>2,602,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEA Funding – pension legacy</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members subscriptions</td>
<td>47,709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sale of publications</td>
<td>236,792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sale of proceedings</td>
<td>32,242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>126,186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room rental</td>
<td>51,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of the Gaeltacht</td>
<td>99,987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,296,096</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Direct Expenditure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>€</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Audit, law, bank, professional charges</td>
<td>104,811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel and light</td>
<td>36,871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture, equipment and household</td>
<td>61,991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discourses</td>
<td>10,948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>32,604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General insurances</td>
<td>12,818</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information technology</td>
<td>152,621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplementary pensions</td>
<td>104,658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage and telephone</td>
<td>49,113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing administrative</td>
<td>13,869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and wages</td>
<td>1,171,201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery and office equipment</td>
<td>40,746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training and development</td>
<td>39,946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Direct Expenditure</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,832,197</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Allocations to Special Accounts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allocations</th>
<th>€</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International Unions and General Assemblies account</td>
<td>47,336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library account</td>
<td>339,472</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print Proceedings account</td>
<td>329,014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Publications account</td>
<td>219,018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foclóir na Nua-Gaeilge account</td>
<td>320,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celtic Latin Dictionary account</td>
<td>102,083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Exchanges and Fellowships account</td>
<td>44,653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish Historic Towns Atlas account</td>
<td>131,278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dictionary of Irish Biography account</td>
<td>281,896</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Allocations</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,815,396</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total Expenditure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Expenditure</th>
<th>€</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,296,096</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenditure</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,647,593</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Surplus (Deficit) EOY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surplus (Deficit) EOY</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carried forward from previous years</td>
<td>649,568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance going forward</strong></td>
<td><strong>298,071</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

*The above accounts are shown on a cash receipts basis. Under the provisions of the Comptroller and Auditor-General (Amendment) Act 1993, the Academy’s accounts are subject to audit on an accruals basis by the Comptroller and Auditor-General.

The Academy’s audited accounts for 2014 had not been received by the Academy from the Comptroller and Auditor-General’s Office up to the date of the Annual Review going to press.
SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013

The summary financial statements presented here have been extracted from the financial statements of the Royal Irish Academy as approved by the Council of the RIA and audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General, whose report was signed on 17 December 2014. Review full financial statements on www.ria.ie

Income and expenditure accounts for the year ended 31 December 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oireachtas grants</td>
<td>2,924,000</td>
<td>3,105,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding and other income</td>
<td>2,683,186</td>
<td>1,922,477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income (released)/deferred in the period</td>
<td>(339,200)</td>
<td>468,761</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred pension funding</td>
<td>1,442,000</td>
<td>1,528,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer from capital account</td>
<td>16,163</td>
<td>30,315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total income</td>
<td>6,726,149</td>
<td>7,054,553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff costs</td>
<td>5,426,734</td>
<td>5,531,260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation and establishment</td>
<td>163,311</td>
<td>152,311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General administration</td>
<td>676,780</td>
<td>731,135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publication costs</td>
<td>245,553</td>
<td>273,224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference and meeting expenses</td>
<td>133,058</td>
<td>135,696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book purchases and international subscriptions</td>
<td>74,749</td>
<td>130,839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and awards</td>
<td>95,539</td>
<td>72,268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>36,228</td>
<td>47,991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Operating deficit</td>
<td>(125,803)</td>
<td>(20,171)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tangible assets</td>
<td>49,179</td>
<td>65,343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds and Projects Financial assets</td>
<td>1,212,276</td>
<td>1,125,802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total fixed assets</td>
<td>1,261,455</td>
<td>1,191,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stocks</td>
<td>201,316</td>
<td>212,475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debtors</td>
<td>61,552</td>
<td>52,849</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at bank and in hand</td>
<td>3,601,871</td>
<td>3,406,514</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total current assets</td>
<td>3,864,739</td>
<td>3,671,838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creditors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(amounts falling due within one year)</td>
<td>(154,511)</td>
<td>(177,541)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred income</td>
<td>(2,636,716)</td>
<td>(2,297,516)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net current assets</td>
<td>1,073,512</td>
<td>1,196,781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total assets less current liabilities before pensions</td>
<td>2,334,967</td>
<td>2,387,926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred pension funding</td>
<td>12,800,000</td>
<td>13,700,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funded scheme assets</td>
<td>1,800,000</td>
<td>1,700,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pension liabilities</td>
<td>(14,600,000)</td>
<td>(15,400,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total assets less current liabilities</td>
<td>2,334,967</td>
<td>2,387,926</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Financed by

|                          |       |       |
| Capital account          | 49,179 | 65,342 |
| Endowment funds          | 1,463,834 | 1,394,302 |
| Income and expenditure account | 821,954  | 928,282 |
|                           | 2,334,967 | 2,387,926 |

The Academy’s financial statements have been prepared under the accruals method of accounting, and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles under the historical cost convention, except for income from the Oireachtas Grant, which is accounted for on a receipts basis. Financial Reporting Standards recommended by the recognised accountancy bodies are adopted as they become operative.
The Academy would like to express its deepest thanks to the following donors in 2014/2015

Maura Barrett
Siobhán Barrett
Ray Bates
Brian Bates
Ken Bell
Kate Denison Bell
Bibliotours
Angela Bourke
Elizabeth Boyle
Liam Breathnach
Pádraig A. Breathnach
Maurice Bric
Renée Browne
Ronald H. Buchanan
Anne Buttimer
Frank & Frances Callery
Mary Canning
Nicholas Canny
Eugenie Carr
David Casey
John Coleman
Emer Colleran
Mary G. Cowan
David Cram
Derrick Samuel Crothers
LM Cullen
James Stevens Curl
Annraoi De Paor
Marion Deane
Clann Dhonnchadha
John Dillon
Victor Dixon
Noel Dorr
Luke Drury
Elizabeth Duncan
Máiread Ashe Fitzgerald
Fitzgerald Brennan Asset Management Ltd.
Maurice Flanagan
Hugh Fogarty
Sir Peter Froggatt
Clive Geraghty
Peter Harbison
Anne Harrington
Brian Harvey
Philip Healy
Maire Herbert
Patrick Honohan
George Huxley
Colin Ireland
Stanisława Dorota Iwaniec
Tony Kavanagh
Anthony Keane
Patricia Kelly
Mary Killoran
Stephen Kingon
Barry Lewis
Leo Leydon
Rose Love
James Lunney
Anthony Lynch
Páraic Mac Donnchadha
Liam MacDonagh
Jon and Etta MacDonagh-Dumler
Christine Maggs
Aidan Mannion
ADH Mayes
Brian McBreen
Aine McDonagh
Seán McDonagh
John McGarvey
John McGilp
Gerry McKenna
T.B.H. McMurry
Martin Joseph McNamara
Carmel Naughton
Christine Neer
Sile Ní Mhurchú
Aoibheann Nic Dhonnchadha
Máirín Nic Eoin
Seán Ó Coileáin
Fidelma Maguire Ó Corráin
Donnchadh Ó Corráin
Dúibhí Ó Crónín
Pádraic Ó Dochartaigh
Liam Ó Dónaill

Brendan Ó Donoghue
Pádraig Ó Fiannachta
Ruairí Ó hUíginn
Pádraig Ó Macháin
Brendain Ó Madagain
Nollaig Ó Muraile
Conchubhar Ó Murchadha
Pádraig Ó Riain
Gordon Ó Riain
Antoine Brendan Ó Riordáin
Frank O’Reilly
Patrick J. O’Reilly
Maura O’Gara O’Riordan
Fangzhe Qiu
Roinn na Nua-Ghaeilge, Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh
W.J.L. Ryan
Mary Ryan
Michael F. Ryan
Eda Sagarra
Kay Saunders
Philip Sexton
Sligo Field Club
David Spearman
Roger Stalley
Martin Steer
David Stifter
Peter Sutherland
David Sweetman
Bernard Thompson
Don Thornhill
Martin A. & Mary B. Timoney
Gregory Toner
Frank Turpin
U3A, Lucan Ladies Group
Jürgen Uhlich
Nora Uí Dhónaill
Nicole Volmering
Denis Weaire
Peter Woodman
Barbara Wright
Gerard T. Wrixon
A Big Thank You

The generous contributions of our members and friends enables the Academy to carry out its work everyday and have made the following projects possible:

• Art and Architecture of Ireland
• R. J. Hunter Grants Scheme
• Kevin B. Nowlan Archive

All contributions are gratefully received and will be used ‘for promoting the study of science, polite literature and antiquities’ as the Academy has been doing for the last 230 years.

We are Ireland’s leading body of experts in the sciences and humanities. We influence policy-making in Ireland and abroad; conduct research and give grants; hold events and talks and run exhibitions; publish books and journals; and have a library of international importance.

We would love to work with you...

www.ria.ie