

Inside Partnership Approach to CCT Library Dublin

Maynooth University Library
and University of Refuge
Reflections on leading the
Social Media Team at IFLA WLIC 2022

Conference Reports: IFLA WLIC 2022

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An Leabharlann: The Irish Library publishes articles on
libraries, librarianship and related topics of interest to
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Ireland. The Editorial Board invites original, unpublished
articles for publication. Articles should be between **1,500**
and **3,000** words. Occasionally, longer articles may be
published.

Articles

- Manuscripts will be reviewed by the Editorial Board.
- Authors are asked to submit an informative abstract
of not more than 200 words. Authors are responsible
for the accuracy of statements and references in their
articles.
- Images which visually support the article are
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kept to a minimum.
- Authors should provide their name, organization,
position and the title of the article at the top of the
first page. If the article was presented at a conference,
details of the sponsoring organization, the date and
title of the conference should be given.

- Book reviews should include the full title, author or
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- Conference reports should be approx. 650 words
and should include details such as the sponsoring
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conference.

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- The Oxford Style Manual should be followed for acro-
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- *An Leabharlann: The Irish Library* uses the Harvard
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- Substantive changes to articles will be discussed with
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- For additional information on style and referencing,
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Editorial

Editorial, Vol 31 (2), October 2022

IFLA WLIC 2022 was the key LIS event for Ireland this year. Unlike previous issues where single conference reports outlined the content of the conference, this issue contains five reports and links to three others. All the Conference report contributors give different takes on the WLIC 2022. Several were IFLA first timers and their excitement is palpable. If you were unable to attend, it is hoped that you will get the flavour of the topics discussed, the networking opportunities available and the social events that were enjoyed.

The first keynote speech at the Opening Session was given by former President of Ireland Mary Robinson and is available here: <https://www.ifla.org/news/the-challenge-of-the-climate-crisis-transcript-of-the-keynote-speech-from-irish-former-president-mary-robinson/> Other events recorded are available here: <https://2022.ifla.org/online-sessions-recordings/> Many of the talks are available through the Programme section of the WLIC 2022 website: <https://iflawlic2022.abstractserver.com/program/#/program/4/horizontal>

Articles covered in this issue include one on the University of Sanctuary and the library's role, the partnership approach to developing library services in an academic library are considered and the final article details the importance of management in running the Social Media team at IFLA WLIC 2022.

Libraries and the budget are always important at this time of year. The one certain item from the recent budget is that the removal of VAT on newspapers will take place on 1st January 2023. This is to be welcomed as it has long been argued that this VAT is a tax on knowledge.

The cost of living crisis has hit us all individually. Together with rising costs, the ongoing effects of Brexit and supply chain issues,

any capital projects underway will be affected. These costs will no doubt delay or postpone any new buildings.

Time was when one looked at the price of Brent Crude to see how the library budget would be affected. Now, library budgets must be viewed against global fiscal policy and global shortages of oil and gas exacerbated by the war in Ukraine. Prices of oil and gas have risen sharply. These price rises will have an immediate impact on mobile library fleets around the country and delivery vans between library service points. As winter approaches, our users may well stay longer in the library for some warmth.

A new National Public Library Strategy is currently being developed and will be published in 2023. The latest edition of IFLA/UNESCO Public Library Manifesto was published during IFLA WLIC 2022: <https://repository.ifla.org/bitstream/123456789/2006/1/IFLA-UNESCO%20Public%20Library%20Manifesto%202022.pdf>

The recent Census figures indicate that the population of Ireland on 3 April 2022 is 5.1million. This represents an increase of 7.6% on 2016 figures. These figures will influence any increase service provision that will be needed and also where new libraries may be required.

As usual, the News from the Stacks section lists forth-coming conferences. All will be held next year except the Public Libraries Conference which is being held next month: <https://www.libraryassociation.ie/public-libraries-section-conference-and-exhibition-22/>

Following the success of this WLIC 2020, some colleagues may be inspired to attend WLIC 2023 in Rotterdam. One of our international colleagues told me that she will be attending- she starts saving in January each year. I have often combined IFLA attendance with a holiday to cut costs- and of course, air miles.

As many colleagues will be aware, this journal is a joint publication of the Library Association of Ireland and CLIP Ireland. It comes under the remit of the North-South Liaison Committee.

I have just edited my last issue of *An Leabharlann: the Irish Library*. The first issue I edited was volume 17(2), June 2008. Some changes have taken place since. The frequency of publication was reduced to two issues per annum and changed from hard copy to Open Access. A new Editor will be announced shortly.

Over the years, many colleagues have contributed articles, Conference Reports, book reviews and obituaries. These will indicate what the contemporary issues were, involvement with sectoral professional associations and the contributions of former colleagues.

But *An Leabharlann: the Irish Library* doesn't just happen. I have been assisted by Editorial Boards who have been very generous with their time over the years and their contributions are gratefully acknowledged. Thanks also to colleagues who have been involved with distribution over the years. I have had two designers- initially David Cooke and more recently Noel Smyth.

The Trojan work done by the late Kieran Swords (South Dublin Libraries) in preparing many volumes of the journal for Open Access is acknowledged and will never be forgotten.

The contribution of my proof-reader Jenny Stokes is also acknowledged.

I am aware that some people have articles in preparation for the next issue. I remain until 31st December so will be happy to receive these articles.

Marjory Sliney, Editor, editor@libraryassociation.ie

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An Leabharlann
31-2
October 2022





A Partnership Approach to Library Services at CCT College Dublin

Marie O'Neill and Debora Zorzi

Abstract

CCT College Dublin is a private higher education institution based in Dublin's city centre. Since its foundation in 2005, the College has incorporated a strong commitment to library services in successive strategic plans to support a dynamic teaching and learning experience and the highest standards of scholarship and academic integrity institution wide. Library services are delivered in partnership with a range of departments across the College and are integrated into all stages of the student journey. The College Librarian is an associate of the CCT Centre for Teaching and Learning and a member of CCT's Quality Enhancement and Academic Integrity Committees. Key catalysts of library development have been new programme development, the professionalisation of library staff, digital transformation, student partnership and sectoral engagement with the Library Association of Ireland and the International Federation of Library Associations. More recently the publication of an institutional research strategy has seen the development of research support platforms and services including the launch of an institutional repository using Digital Commons software. CCT College is active in a range of national and international library publishing groups. In 2022, CCT hosted a satellite event for the World Library Congress and spoke in the session organised by IFLA's Library Publishing Special Interest Group.

Introduction

[CCT College Dublin](#) is based in college-owned premises in Dublin's city centre.¹ CCT offers undergraduate, postgraduate and professional programmes in business and ICT that are validated by Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI). It also delivers a range of skills programmes funded by Springboard and the Human Capital Initiative. In 2020, the College was awarded blended learning status by QQI enabling it to design and deliver programmes on a blended learning basis.

QQI validated courses offered by the College include an MA in International Business, BA (Hons) in Business, MSc in Data Analytics, an MSc in Applied Software Development, Higher Diploma in AI Applications, Higher Diploma in Data Analytics for Business, Higher Diploma in Computing and a BSc Hons in Computing in IT. A full listing of programmes is available at: <https://www.cct.ie/course-delivery/full-time/>



CCT College Dublin, Westmoreland Street, Dublin city centre

¹ Westmoreland Street

The CCT Hume Library →

Strategic Commitment to Library Services

Cox (2018, no pagination) suggests that

“Appropriate positioning in the institution is vital for any academic library and is strongly linked to its recognition, resourcing and prospects. Close alignment with institutional strategy is key to successful positioning.”

Throughout CCT's growth and expansion, the Library Service has been a central priority to underpin the highest standards of scholarship institution wide as well as prepare graduates for today's knowledge economy. This priority has been articulated in successive institutional strategic plans, teaching, and learning strategies, the CCT Research Strategy and more recently the College's Student Success Strategy.

In CCT's Strategic Plan 2021-23, the following commitment is articulated:

“Continue to enhance and expand all academic support services for staff and students provided by the Centre for Teaching and Learning and the Library service, to increase academic access and strengthen research and publication capacity within CCT” (CCT College Dublin, 2021:14)

In 2018, CCT Library moved into new purpose-built premises called The John Hume Library named after Nobel Prize winner John Hume. A colourful and learner-centred library facility, the CCT John Hume Library was designed by the Dean of Finance and Administration and the College President in partnership with the College Librarian.



Partnership Approach

Atkinson (2018, no pagination) states that “For academic libraries, effective collaboration is no longer an option but a necessity” due to “changes in pedagogy and increasing client expectations particularly around the student experience.” Weaver (2013) asserts that libraries need to integrate their services with all aspects of the student journey from induction through to employment, highlighting the need for libraries to forge effective partnerships with units across the wider academic institution to support student success.”

CCT’s Library Service works in partnership with the CCT College President and the Executive Leadership Team, academic management, the CCT Centre for Teaching and Learning, the Quality Assurance function, Student Services, academic support staff, IT staff, faculty, and learners to support student success. The College Librarian is a member of CCT’s Academic Council, Quality Enhancement Committee and Academic Integrity Committee. Each year CCT Library contributes to a wide range of initiatives pertaining to academic integrity institution wide including the National Academic Integrity Network’s National Academic Integrity Week.

The College Librarian sits on programme validations and revalidations conducted by QQI and in collaboration with the Dean of Academic Affairs, contributes to programme documentation in relation to library services and the quality and currency of reading lists. The College Librarian also works closely with the Dean of Finance and Administration to develop library collections and to manage library facilities.

Student partnership and inclusion are key catalysts to the development of the College’s library services. CCT College is an institutional member of the [National Student Engagement Programme](#) and CCT’s College President is a board member. CCT is also an institutional member of [AHEAD](#).



CCT President Neil Gallagher, pictured with Dr Terry Maguire, former Director of the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning and recipient of CCT’s inaugural Honorary Fellowship Award in 2019.

Physical and Online Library

The CCT Library Service has an extensive range of databases including EBSCO’s Business Source Ultimate, Computers and Applied Library Sciences, E-Book collection and Discovery software. More recently, the library catalogue (OPALs) has been integrated into CCT’s Discovery searching. In line with the partnership approach to library development, the CCT Centre for Teaching and Learning is physically located in the library. The Library Service also uses a range of open-source software including SubjectsPlus (the open-source equivalent of Libguides) from the University of Miami and Zotero reference management software. The SubjectsPlus platform at CCT contains a range of guides for faculty and learners including academic integrity, referencing, effective group work, designing academic posters, assessment design and academic

integrity and open book exams. The Learning Space also contains a range of toolkits including an online teaching toolkit, an online learning toolkit, and a universal design toolkit.

Information Literacy

The library provides an induction to all learners. Library content is also integrated into CCT’s Virtual Induction, which accompanies face-to-face induction for additional inclusion and reach. The College Librarian coordinates a programme of classes in partnership with the Careers Advisor and the Centre for Teaching and Learning that are offered on a standalone and programme integrated basis at the request of faculty. To enhance inclusion, these are offered virtually via Zoom. Topics include:

- Starting your Research
- Advanced Research Skills
- Academic Integrity through Academic Writing
- Academic Writing and Critical Thinking

- Completing Group Projects Successfully
- CV Workshop
- Enhancing your Job Application Success Rate
- Amazing Cover Letters - Three Golden Rules
- Interview Skills
- LinkedIn Workshop

Research Support Services

In 2019, CCT purchased [Digital Commons](#) to launch an institutional repository showcasing the scholarly output of staff and learners of the College. CCT's institutional repository is named the Academic Research Collection (ARC) and can be accessed at: arc.cct.ie.

Rogers-Urbanek, (2008, p.93) states that

“The unspoken truth is that institutional repositories can support and enhance the mission of all libraries and their parent institutions. They can support the teaching and learning that are so vital at a small college. They can expand the relevance of the library beyond traditional library roles, and they can offer valuable services to campus colleagues. They can enhance the academic and scholarly offerings of libraries at non-research institutions, and they can document the intellectual life of any and every campus.”

Whilst CCT's Library Service uses a range of open-source software, purchasing a proprietary solution for an institutional repository was favoured due to the provision of hosting, extensive storage capacity and the quality of support. Digital Commons functionality also incorporates PlumX analytics and facilitates the creation of events, conferences and live streaming. Wang (2011 :81) states

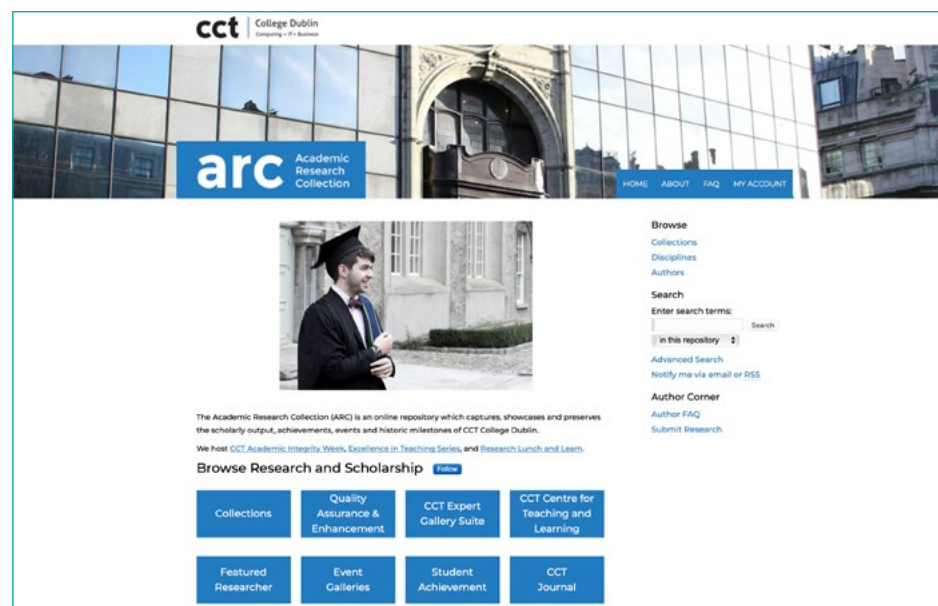
“It is not an easy task to develop an institutional repository from scratch, especially for a smaller organisation. Installation and development are certainly a big challenge for a smaller library with a limited number of IT staff. Outsourcing these needs to a service provider seems to be a feasible solution.”

In addition to faculty and student research and in line with a partnership approach, Zoom sessions from the CCT Excellence in Teaching Series and

Research Lunch and Learn Series are also archived and shared on ARC. ARC also serves as a form of institutional memory. Strategy and public facing quality assurance documentation, the awarding of honorary fellowships and other CCT content are also archived on the platform.

To grow content on ARC, CCT Library Service established a mandate in which all final year projects and theses with a First from undergraduate as well as postgraduate programmes are deposited on ARC. CCT funded research by faculty is also archived on the platform subject to the copyright stipulations of the publisher. Learners not wishing to have their work included on ARC can opt out. Passehl-Soddart & Mange (2014, no pagination) state:

“Student collections have the ability to increase student academic confidence, provide access to student research and scholarship, introduce scholarly communication concepts and practice, offer internal and external promotion of programs, provide inclusive opportunities and documentation of student scholarship, and contribute to student retention.”



CCT's Institutional Repository, the Academic Research Collection (arc.cct.ie).

In 2020, CCT College was invited by Bepress to speak at an international event on Digital Commons. The presentation entitled 'Making Your IR Work for Your Context - CCT College Dublin: A Case Study' (Smyth and O' Neill, 2020), highlights how ARC is now embedded into all aspects of scholarly life at CCT College. Exemplars of high performing student work on ARC are also used for teaching and learning purposes. The College Librarian offers drop-in sessions for thesis students and provides support to faculty wishing to publish in the academic or professional literature. Engagement with ARC continues to grow with 28,666 downloads since the repository's establishment.



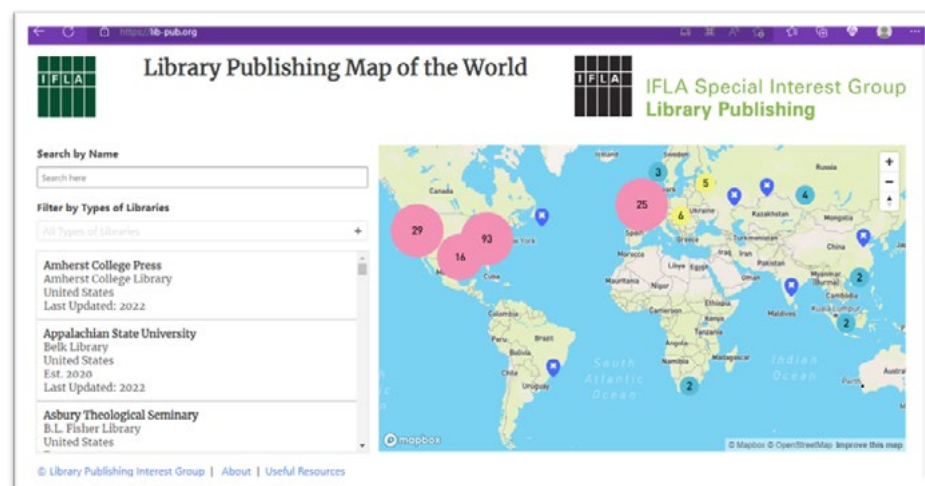
Examples of events archived on ARC
as part of CCT's Excellence in Teaching Series (https://arc.cct.ie/guest_lecture/)
and the CCT Research Lunch and Learn Series (https://arc.cct.ie/lunch_learn/)

Library Publishing

The Library Publishing Coalition describes library publishing as: "The set of activities led by college and university libraries to support the creation, dissemination, and curation of scholarly, creative, and/or educational works" (Library Publishing Coalition, 2012 (Hoops and Hare 2019: 74). Okerson and Holzman (2015:8) describe Library Publishing as being "Based on core library values and building on the traditional skills of librarians, it is distinguished from other publishing fields by a preference for open access"

CCT also purchased Digital Commons' library publishing module and is in the process of setting up an institutional journal to increase the output of open

access, peer reviewed research published by faculty and learners of the College. The creation of an institutional journal is a key goal in the CCT Research Strategy ensuring that learners continue to be taught in a research informed and research active teaching and learning environment (HEA, 2011). Journal workflows are being established in line with indexing requirements for the Directory of Open Access Journals. A full list of inclusion criteria for the Directory of Open Access is available at: <https://doaj.org/apply/guide/>. CCT is indexed in the Library Publishing Coalition's [Annual Library Publishing Directory](#) and on [IFLA's Library Publishing Map of the World](#).



IFLA's Library Publishing Map of the World <https://lib-pub.org/>

CCT is active in the library publishing movement, engaging in the activities of the [International Federation of Library Association's Library Publishing Special Interest Group](#) and the [Library Association of Ireland's Library Publishing Group](#). In February 2020, CCT spoke at the [Mid-Term Meeting of IFLA's Special Interest Group on Library Publishing at Oslo](#) on the Library Publishing Landscape in Ireland (O' Neill & Buggle 2020).

In June 2021, CCT spoke at the inaugural event of the LAI's Library Publishing Group entitled Getting Started in Library Publishing on 'Setting up an Open Access, peer-reviewed, library-published journal in business: ethos, content,

and quality' (O' Neill, 2021). Event presentations are available at: <https://research.thea.ie/handle/20.500.12065/3453>.

In 2021, members of the Library Association of Ireland's Library Publishing Group including CCT's representative completed Edutopia's [Library Publishing Curriculum](#). The Library Publishing Curriculum is available on a Creative Commons basis here: <https://educopia.org/library-publishing-curriculum/>

Sectoral Engagement

Sectoral engagement is a key catalyst to library growth and expansion at CCT College Dublin. In addition to the aforementioned membership of national and international library publishing committees, CCT is currently participating in the following sectoral initiatives or committees:

- Council membership of the [Library Association of Ireland](#)
- Higher Education Colleges Association (HECA) Library Committee
- Regular talks on career development for the [Career Development Group of the Library Association of Ireland](#).
- Institutional representation on the [National Academic Integrity Network](#)
- Co-Management of the [IOAP](#), a community of open access publishers
- Mentorship as part of the [CILIP/Ireland Virtual Mentoring Scheme](#)
- Membership of the National Organising Committee of the [World Library Congress 2022](#) focusing on social media marketing

CCT Library recently featured in a promotional video produced by the Library Association of Ireland, highlighting the benefits of membership, which is available at: https://youtu.be/IGzqz2_Juzg. Information gleaned by CCT Library staff in relation to best practice in the library sector is used to enhance library services for staff and learners.

L2L Digital Badge

CCT is a member of the project team that delivers the Joint PACT digital badge delivered by the Library Association of Ireland and the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning. CCT is also a guest speaker on the badge. By participating in this project CCT contributes to knowledge

sharing and evidenced based reflection with peers. This dialogue also enriches the professional practice of library staff at CCT.

The L2L Joint Digital Badge promotes engagement with the National Forum's [National Professional Development Framework for All Those Who Teach in Higher Education](#) (National Forum, 2016). The badge recognises the teaching aspect of a wide variety of library roles. It also promotes a structured, evidenced-based and reflective approach to professional development (Courtney and Buckley, 2021)

In 2017, CCT Library also participated in a pilot organised by the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in which HECA librarians engaged with the National Forum's National Professional Development Framework. Using an e-portfolio, HECA librarians tracked and mapped their professional development to the domains and typologies of the National Professional Development Framework. CCT Library subsequently contributed a chapter on the pilot to an open access book emanating from the National Forum's [L2L project](#) (Cleary, Cohen and Delaney, 2019). In 2019, CCT also delivered a national iteration of the PACT digital badge in partnership with the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning and then Waterford Institute of Technology now the South-East Technological University (SETU).



Domains of the National Professional Development Framework

Non-Accredited			4. Accredited (formal) ⁴
1. Collaborative Non-accredited (informal) ⁴	2. Unstructured Non-accredited (non-formal) ⁴	3. Structured Non-accredited (non-formal)	
Learning from these activities comes from their collaborative nature	These activities are independently led by the individual. Engagement is driven by the individual's needs/interests. Individuals source the material themselves	Organised activities (by an institution, network or disciplinary membership body). They are typically facilitated and have identified learning objectives	Accredited programmes of study (ECTS or similar credits)
Examples – Conversations with colleagues, peer networking, peer observations, online blogs/discussion forums	Examples - Reading articles, following social media, self-study, watching video tutorials, keeping a reflective teaching journal/portfolio, preparing an article for publication	Examples - Workshops, seminars, MOOCs, conferences, summer schools, structured collaborative projects	Examples - Professional Certificate, Graduate Diploma, Masters, PhD, EdD in: Teaching and Learning, eLearning, Leadership in Education; Education Policy

Typologies of the National Professional Development Framework

World Library Congress 2022

In addition to membership of the National Organising Committee for the World Library Congress 2022, CCT College hosted a satellite event for the [School Library's Section of the International Federation of Library Associations](#) on the theme 'Global Action for School Libraries on Models of Inquiry in the Digital Age.' The event website, including speaker biographies, is available at: <https://bit.ly/3BTOPT1>.



IFLA School Libraries Section photographed in the atrium of CCT College Dublin with some of the attendees of their satellite event for the World Library Congress 2022.

CCT also spoke in a session of the World Library Congress entitled: 'Library Publishing: Inclusive and Open Scholarly Communication that Supports the UN Sustainable Development Goals.' The session was chaired by Jane Buggle, Convenor of the IFLA Library Publishing Special Interest Group and Chair of the Library Publishing Group of the Library Association of Ireland. CCT spoke on 'The Impact of Library Publishing through the Lens of the UN's Sustainable Goals.' CCT's presentation discussed how the content of many library published journals is aligned to the Sustainable Development Goals; tools for mapping the content of scholarly journals to the Sustainable Goals (Armitage, Lorenz & Mikki, 2020) and the United Nations Publishers SDG Compact – Signatories Commitment <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sdg-publishers-compact/>

Other talks in this session are listed at: <https://iflawlic2022.abstractserver.com/program/#/details/sessions/108>

Future Plans

Upcoming priorities for the CCT Library Service include: an increased emphasis on the formal integration of library, information literacy and academic integrity instruction into the design and delivery of academic programmes; and the inclusion of metadata pertaining to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals on CCT's institutional repository ARC to reflect growing learner and faculty research on topics pertaining to the Sustainable Development Goals. Many of these priorities were directly influenced by a particularly vibrant year in the library sector with the presence of the World Library Congress and the hosting of an accompanying satellite event at CCT College in which the benefits of partnership and collaboration as well as capturing library impact institutionally and beyond were evidenced.

Marie O'Neill, BA, GradDipLIS, MA(ILS) is Head of Engagement
Debora Zorzi, MA, MSc is College Librarian

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Maynooth University Library and the University of Sanctuary

Kate Hawkins

Abstract

Maynooth University (MU) was designated a University of Sanctuary (UoS) in 2020. The UoS concept originated in the UK. Eight Irish university libraries currently have the UoS designation. Both SETU, Waterford and the Technological University of the Shannon (TUS) have College of Sanctuary status.

This article briefly explores the UoS concept in the Republic of Ireland (RoI). It describes MU's role as a UoS and the role of MU Library in this. A UoS student is profiled. Training initiatives established for library staff working in an increasingly multicultural society are outlined.



Background/context

The UoS concept is derived from the City of Sanctuary concept. This originated in the UK in 2005, with Sheffield becoming the first City of Sanctuary. The core intention of the concept is to create a safe and welcoming space for refugees and asylum seekers. The movement extended to Ireland, and in 2016 Dublin City University (DCU) became the first University of Sanctuary in the Republic of Ireland (RoI). The UoS scheme offers scholarships to people in Direct Provision, either as International Protection applicants or as refugees.

Maynooth University of Sanctuary

MU became a UoS on the 20th of February 2020. There was a ceremony to mark the occasion, with input from people in Direct Provision and the poet Jessica Traynor, who (with Stephen Rea) compiled "Correspondences: An anthology to call for an end to direct provision," a compilation of poems and reflections from people in Direct Provision. The MU UoS programme is guided

by a Steering Committee with representation from staff across MU, including the Library, and external bodies such as MASI and the Irish Refugee Council.

The MU UoS students

In its first year as a UoS MU welcomed three students, and the same number in 2021. Four registered for undergraduate degrees and two for postgraduate degrees. This number will increase to six UoS students (four undergraduates and two postgraduates) in the academic year 2022-2023. The MU UoS scholarships are funded by the University. In addition to tuition fees, other supports such as a laptop, course books and meals are provided.

Profile of a UoS student

Vanisane Wesonga is a second-year student under the UoS scheme at MU. She is studying a media and business course at MU. She lives in Direct Provision, and I spoke with her about coming to MU as a UoS student and her experience so far of MU.

“Studying Business and Media here at MU gives me hope that I will be able to finish my education and get a career in the film industry. Everyone really cares about me here at MU: they want me to succeed and be happy. The education system in Ireland is very different to the one in my country. There is high rate of school drop out in my country due to life hardship and little or no resources to support one towards achieving their educational goals. With no prior experience in Third Level education from my country, I had no idea what a university library experience would be like. It was challenging at first but now I am used to it. The remote access is great, but I don’t have broadband in the Direct Provision Centre, which is a challenge. The long library opening hours are a great benefit. I take two buses every day and spend almost three hours travelling. I come to college on days I have lectures. That means borrowing one-day loans can be tricky for me, as I might not be in to return books for a few days.

Before coming here, I attended a UoS information session. The people who organized this were so friendly and really wanted to help me with my application. I would recommend applying for the UoS program here. I have signed up to be a MU Sanctuary ambassador and I will get to tell people about the Sanctuary scholarships. I am looking forward to mentoring the new UoS students.”

MU Library Staff EDI training

Our Library has as a key strategic goal:

to create an environment that promotes equality, diversity, inclusion and inter-culturalism. An objective under this goal is to:

“Lead, in collaboration with Human Resources and the Vice-President for Equality and Diversity, on the provision of training for Library staff in matters relating to equality, diversity, inclusion and inter-culturalism”.

(MU Library Strategic Plan 2020-2022, Goal 5)

As part of this commitment ongoing diversity training is provided to all library staff and one such initiative is described in a previous article in *An Leabharlann* (Fallon, Connaughton & Cosgrave, 2020). In 2022, half-day workshops focusing on frontline service staff were organized by the Library. This was via Zoom

and facilitated by a trainer who was herself an asylum seeker and a postgraduate student at MU. The workshops were interactive, with the opportunity to share ideas, thoughts and opinions. We discussed our assumptions of people, our unconscious bias and language barriers. We were given sample situations where we did role play. It was really useful. I became conscious of how common language barriers are in daily situations at work with the MU community and members of the public.



Library Supports

While students on the UoS scheme are provided with laptops, MU Library facilitates laptops for loan to these and other students registered with the Maynooth Access Office (MAP), while equipment was on order.

While MU Library staff are available at the library information desk to help UoS students with any queries they may have, students reported experiencing difficulties finding material and using online resources. The situation was exacerbated by the pandemic. Each UoS student was contacted by e-mail with the offer of assistance/referral via e-mail or phone. One student opted to be contacted by telephone. After ascertaining her needs, an online

appointment with a member of the Library Training and Research Development (TRD) team, was set up. Students who e-mailed names of books they were having difficulty finding, were contacted by the Senior Library Assistant in the Engagement and Information Services (EIS) team, who is the Library MAP Office liaison person, and one-to-one training was provided. Numbers are small, so one-to-one contact is very feasible. MU Students in Direct Provision can also avail of the click and collect service and the Digital on Demand Service. At Christmas each of the students was sent a Christmas card from the library staff.

During Social Justice Week in April 2022, MU Library hosted a coffee morning for UoS students and other members of the MU community, including library staff. Approximately 25 people attended, and this is something we will continue in the future.

Library Collections

The Library is working to ensure diversity in our collections. A significant number of novels by authors from the Global South were purchased and these have been exhibited via the MU website during the COVID Pandemic. These, and titles on EDI, identified by the University Equality Officer and purchased by the Library, can be viewed at on our virtual exhibitions page at <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/library/events-exhibitions/virtual-exhibitions>

MU Library has received funding from the Office of the Vice-President, Equality, to create three virtual exhibitions from three key collections, with an equality theme – Ken Saro-Wiwa, Teresa Deevy and Pearse Hutchinson.

In 2022, with seed funding from the Office of the Vice-President Equality, the Library took out a subscription to the ProQuest database *Diversity, Equity and Inclusion* (DEI). This database will add an additional 14,921 unique titles to our collections.

Reflection

While there are challenges for sanctuary students, feedback has been generally positive. Ndodana Khumalo who was featured in the University magazine *The Bridge* was inspired to apply to a science course in MU because

his friend described it as a “beautiful” campus, and he found it “very welcoming for refugees and minorities”.

Conclusion

It is crucial that the Library is engaged at the strategic level, via the University of Sanctuary Committee, in planning for UoS students. It is also vital that this involvement is articulated in the Library Strategic Plan and is seen as everyone’s responsibility on the ground.

We need both locally in the Library, and nationally to be more aware of the challenges, risks and barriers to education that migrants and refugees face daily, and to look for creative ways to make the library experience positive for all students.

The UoS scheme allows MU to formally welcome migrant and refugee students to the university to undertake studies. Currently the numbers in the scheme locally and nationally are very small. Strategies and processes need to be developed to bring more students who are refugees, asylum seekers or seeking international protection into higher education. This will be a challenging task, but with ongoing dialogue and increasing EDI awareness, libraries and other stakeholders will play a key role in creating a society with more equitable access to higher education.

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https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/sites/default/files/filefield_paths/StrategicPlan24Feb2021FINAL.pdf





Reflections on Leading the Social Media Team at IFLA WLIC 2022

Martin O'Connor and Saoirse de Paor

Introduction

July 2022 finally saw IFLA WLIC (*The International Federation of Library Associations World Library & Information Congress*) come to Dublin. Originally slated for 2020 a pandemic meant it took place two years later than planned. So, in July, some 2,000 library professionals from over 100 countries descended on the Convention Centre, Dublin. Amongst these 2,000 were just over 200 volunteers from all across the globe, who, under the guidance of Lead Volunteers Eva Hornung and Clare Conneally, worked alongside IFLA and the IFLA Irish National Committee, to ensure the congress ran smoothly.

This paper describes how we led one of those teams - a social media team of seven - whose job was to create content for the IFLA WLIC Communications team for IFLA WLIC website and social media.

Our shared goal was to capture the buzz and energy of what for many was one of the most exciting weeks of their professional lives.

What follows are our personal reflections on how we managed to achieve this.



Some reflections on our Leadership style

We both realised that when sharing the role of lead, it is essential to identify your shared values, goals, and approaches to teamwork to help establish a strong and collaborative partnership. From the very beginning, it was clear that our mutual ethos towards teamwork centred around open communication, trust, respect, gratitude and the creation of a safe fun space. We also worked on the basis that, in the words of Dr. Michael Ryan, Executive Director WHO Health Emergencies Programme, 'perfection is the enemy of good'.

We brought this into all interactions with the team. As we worked on coordinating the team's logistics and the allocation of roles, our joint experience enabled us to identify opportunities and gaps for effective planning.

In addition to our individual experience, our individual personalities also played a key role in how we collaborated and supported one another, as well

as the team. Listening was key to understanding the needs and requirements of the wider team. As leads, it was also essential for us, and the team, that we were seen and known to be on equal terms by having our own set of assigned tasks, responsibilities, and actions. To understand how your team works and the challenges they encounter, you must be active on the ground alongside them. This reinforced our belief that each member had a place, a purpose, and a responsibility on the team that contributed to the team's overall success.

We decided early on to lead the team as opposed to managing the team. We refrained from supervising each member's methods or actions and instead provided direction and encouragement when it was needed.

American author and public speaker John Maxwell says "Leadership is influence - nothing more, nothing less". This for us encapsulates the importance of creating an environment that allows for individuals to thrive on their

own terms by means of encouragement and support.

Within this style of leadership, individual members flourished while taking different and creative approaches to how they engaged with their roles and the project. We regularly shared positive feedback with the team to instill confidence and establish collegiality which became a daily routine between all members of the team over the course of the conference.

We strongly felt that it was our duty to build confidence and trust within the team, to create a safe space where concerns or challenges could be raised respectfully, to allow for error and mistakes and most importantly, to ensure it was an enjoyable experience for all.

In the end, these were the key ingredients that created an effective, engaged, creative and most importantly a highly successful team!

Reflections on the Challenges

Like all new projects there were challenges. Some we faced were:

A Diverse Team

Volunteers for the communications team were selected and assigned, based on their self-identified skills and experience by the Sub-Committee Chairs. These details were shared with us. When reviewing each volunteer's profile, it was apparent that we would be leading a diverse team with a wide combination of experience and skill-sets. This presented a challenge when coordinating our strategy as it was difficult to match specific skill-sets to specific roles as outlined by the IFLA communications team.

So, we came up with a simple yet *human approach*. We very simply asked members what roles they were interested in or felt comfortable doing. Offering each member the choice in how they wanted to participate as part of the team allowed them to take ownership of that role. It's also important to note that most individuals, when afforded the chance, will gravitate towards their strengths and what they are used to or good at doing and we were in the lucky position to facilitate their wishes.

Scope

The scope of what we had been tasked with was a personal challenge for both of us. We knew that it was going to be a massive task to condense and capture the energy, excitement and scope of an international conference into website content and social media posts that would do justice to what was happening over the week.

Like all social media and web content, which by its very nature is very public, if we got it wrong, it would have been very obvious that we had gotten it wrong. Being the public face, we had no place to hide. It is fair to say this gave us quite a few moments of concern prior to the congress.

How did we overcome this? We trusted our judgement and our team and thankfully our trust paid off.

These shared challenges and how we worked through and overcame helped the team leaders, and then the team, bond.



Reflections on Creating a Safe Space for your team

As the team had very little time to get to know one another, we utilised a simple tool - WhatsApp. We created a WhatsApp group weeks before we met in person. Our WhatsApp group functioned as a platform for coordinating a strategy and strengthening communication.

Further, this virtual group-chat also offered members of the team a place where they could get to know one another in their own time and in an authentic and organic way. It was clear that the group-chat immediately created and over time enhanced and strengthened the team's bond. It became a space where we could share concerns, thoughts and ideas as well as funny memes, positive encouragement and peer-to-peer support.



WhatsApp was both an expressive and a functional tool for the team.

For those currently leading a team or who plan on working in a similar role, we would recommend WhatsApp. It helped us develop a safe space or platform that allowed the team to get to know one another, collaborate, share, and offer support outside the more formal boundaries often associated with a professional team or working group.

Reflections on Focusing on ability and not skill alone

A specific set of skills and experience is important when working as part of a team to ensure roles, tasks and actions are carried out correctly and effectively. However, one of the key takeaways that we learnt was to simply trust in your team's ability and to not focus so much on their experience and expertise. As our team had a diverse range of skills, and skill-gaps, it was their eagerness to learn on the job, to try new things, their enthusiasm and flexibility that led to their impressive ability to perform effectively and successfully in their roles throughout the congress. We trusted our team to do the work. And they did. Brilliantly.

Final Reflection

In this paper we have shown how creating a safe working space via an open, trusting, good humoured, light touch approach has benefits for everybody.

Creating a space where perfection is not the goal creates a space where the best, or the very good, result will happen. Creating a safe space for all the team creates conditions under which the team, the project and the leaders can flourish. It creates a space where trust can flourish. Creating this space allows the team to be successful in their endeavours.

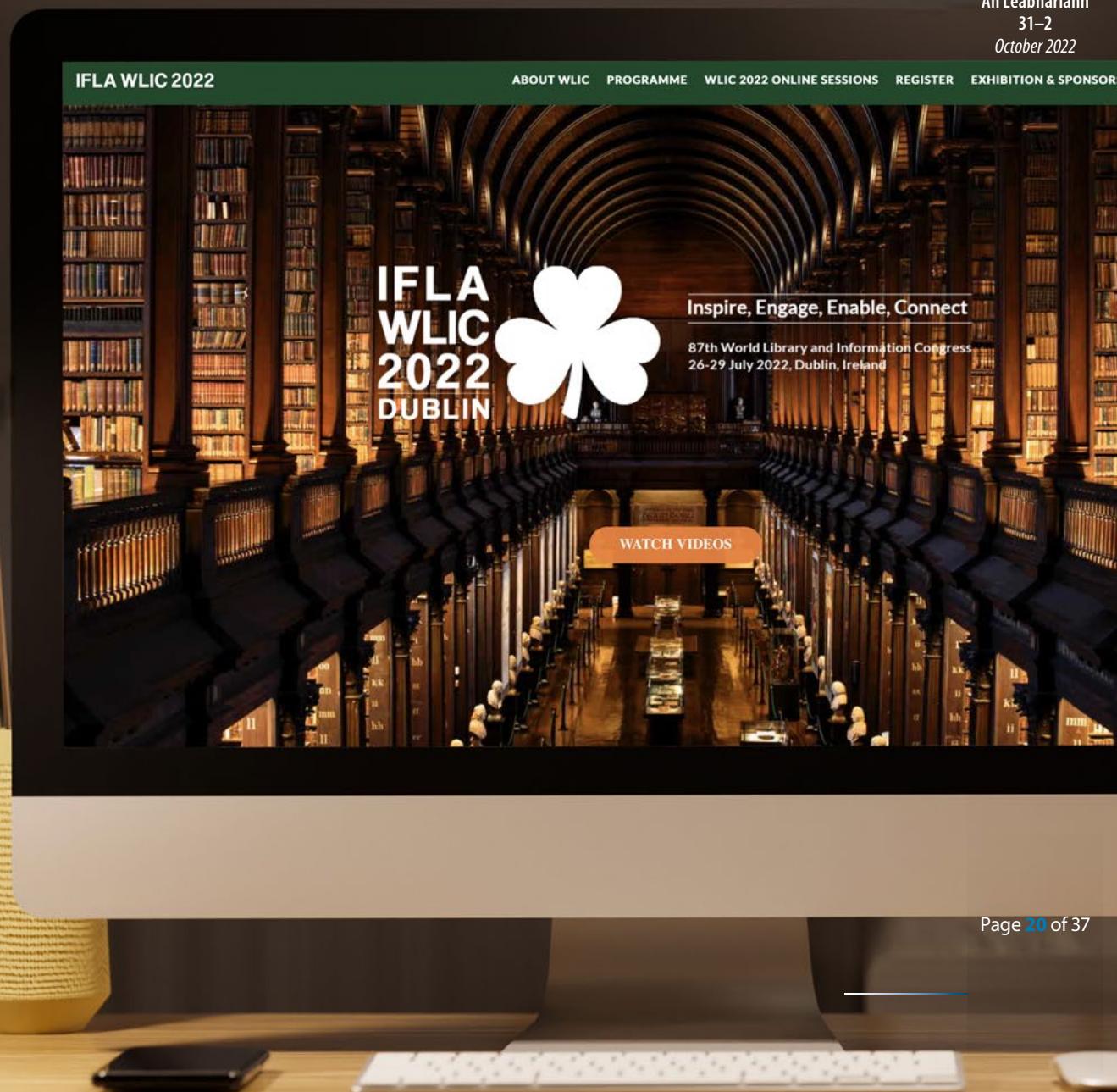
The team that trusts its leaders is more likely to perform to a higher standard and produce the best result. It is a win-win for all involved.

And to finish, we know that while this paper relates to a specific event - WLIC 2022 - we strongly believe this approach to team leadership is transferable across the sector and if utilised will produce comparable results. Trust your team and see the results!!!

Martin O'Connor, MA, DipLib (Wales), Communications Coordinator, Boole Library, University College Cork and Saoirse de Paor, BA, MLIS, Assistant Librarian, Maynooth University Library

Links to relevant social media

- **Instagram**
https://www.instagram.com/reel/CgkbBOggRoo/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link
- **YouTube**
https://youtu.be/o0QtXe58_uc
- **Twitter:**
https://twitter.com/leanne_467/status/1551520246586015744?s=20&t=aSgcPznkpmAhHz2ZC2NDjA
<https://twitter.com/iflawlic/status/1551923156339892225?s=20&t=aSgcPznkpmAhHz2ZC2NDjA>
https://twitter.com/birchall_eric/status/1552781232517390337?s=20&t=aSgcPznkpmAhHz2ZC2NDjA
<https://twitter.com/violetbfox/status/1551962907147124738?s=20&t=aSgcPznkpmAhHz2ZC2NDjA>
<https://twitter.com/LibraryBod/status/1552565527649951744?s=20&t=aSgcPznkpmAhHz2ZC2NDjA>
- **Example of Website report created by team members**
Helen Shenton
<https://2022.ifla.org/day-two-summary/>



Thanks to a bursary received from CILIP Ireland I was able to attend the IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Dublin at the end of July. With over 2,000 delegates from 100 countries, it was a great opportunity to exchange knowledge not only on a local or regional basis but internationally.

On the first day of the Conference, I attended the 'Exhibitions: Designed to Inspire and Engage' session, organized by the Rare Books and Special Collections Section. During this Sónia Casquico set out how the exhibition loan process works at the Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon, Portugal, while Garrelt Verhoeven spoke about how during the pandemic Leiden University (The Netherlands) had used visualizers, virtual exhibitions and 'From Vault to Pillow' videos to engage previous and new audiences. The session on IFLA's Preservation and Conservation (PAC) Centres, which included speakers from Qatar, South Africa and America, was also directly relevant to my current work at Armagh Robinson Library.

As capital development works are currently being contemplated at Armagh Robinson Library, the keynote address by Helen Shenton, Librarian at Trinity College Dublin, and the 'Something Old, Something New: Transforming an Existing Building' session were both of particular interest to me. The talk on the Redevelopment of the Old Library and the Book of Kells exhibition at Trinity outlined the fundraising that had been undertaken to enable the works to get underway and how the works would conserve and protect the Library's valuable research collections, introduce sustainable environmental controls, create a world-class research collections Study Centre and enhance the visitor experience. It also outlined the Library's commitment to providing continuity of access to collections during the construction works, not least through the Virtual Trinity Library which the university is currently creating to enable global access to the most valued, vulnerable and unique collections held by the Library. The 'Something Old, Something New' session, which explored building projects in Dublin, China, Italy and elsewhere, considered how historic (and in some cases listed) buildings could be adapted to meet the current (and future) needs of the public they serve.



A key topic in several of the sessions that I attended was climate sustainability. In the Opening Session, Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland and one of the Patrons of Armagh Robinson Library's current Endowment Appeal, discussed the climate crisis and challenged us to consider ways libraries can be part of the collective action required for positive change.

Practical examples of how this has been achieved were outlined in later sessions, for instance, when CILIP President Kate Robinson spoke about the work of the Green Libraries Partnership (funded by Arts Council England), which seeks to discover and harness existing environmental work being carried out by libraries. Librarians from Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Kenya and Spain also outlined how they had engaged and inspired young people to create a more sustainable future. The phrase 'digital sobriety' cropped up in a few of the sessions, as delegates were challenged to consider the environmental implications of digitisation and data storage *en masse*.

A particularly enjoyable, practical session was the one on creating digital content, such as posters and videos using Canva, which was delivered by Mirjana Nešić, the Serbian Librarian of the Year. I also enjoyed the Ireland and UK Caucuses and the Cultural Evening at the dlr Lexlcon, Dún Laoghaire, which provided opportunities to meet with other library and informational professionals within a relaxed setting.

The exhibition stands enabled me to find out about new services and technologies, while the posters (over 150) provided succinct insights into current and recently completed initiatives across the sector. With additional funding from the Association of Independent Museums, I remained in Dublin for tours on the Friday, when I visited the historic Royal College of Physicians Library and the modern Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland Library.

In summary, in the words of the Conference theme, the Conference was a fantastic way to be inspired, engaged, enabled and connected!

I was delighted to receive a bursary from CILIP Ireland to attend the IFLA WLIC Conference taking place in Dublin from 26th-29th July. It was a wonderful opportunity to step outside my role as a Branch Library Manager for Libraries NI and to experience library work on a global scale. Thanks to the support of my colleagues in Libraries NI my shifts were covered, and I was free to go to Dublin.

An array of speakers, presenters and papers filled the agenda for three days in the Convention Centre Dublin. Running alongside this was a programme of cultural experiences ranging from local history walks, visits to libraries in the Dublin area and a cultural evening hosted by the spectacular DLR Lexicon Library in Dun Laoghaire.

The conference started with the official opening ceremony, with much excitement about the keynote speaker, former President of Ireland and current Chair of the Elders, Mary Robinson. A passionate and eloquent speaker, Mary Robinson challenged us as library professionals to ask ourselves what our role in the climate crisis is and how will we rise to the challenge of the climate crisis? Mary Robinson tells us that we have a moral case for collective action. A theme that was echoed by several presentations during the conference.¹

With the conference then officially opened by IFLA president Barbara Lison, a range of presentations, talks, and papers awaited exploration. It was a packed programme with something for everyone from prison libraries to public libraries and academic and research papers. As I currently work in public libraries, many of the sessions I attended supported my work. One of the most interesting was a presentation on fighting misinformation and disinformation at your library. This was delivered by a panel of speakers from around the world. The key takeaway from this was that misinformation and disinformation are here to stay and that media literacy and information literacy are the antidote to fake news.²

¹ Session 152: Climate Action in libraries: Creating a More Sustainable Future by Engaging and Inspiring Youth

² Fulton, Crystal; McGuinness, Claire: Training the trainers: A public library-higher education collaboration for Media Literacy education in Ireland

Another session I enjoyed was a workshop aiming to update IFLA guidelines for Library Services to Children aged 0-18. This was a welcome change from the presentation style of many of the sessions. We worked together in groups looking at aspects of the IFLA guidelines. My group focused on the importance of evaluation. The group was represented by professionals from various aspects of library work from schools, public libraries, academic libraries and postgraduate students with an interest in this area. We were skilfully guided by our group chair. It was a lively and interesting workshop.³

One of the more emotive and thought-provoking presentations was from a librarian from a public library in Ukraine. She showcased their resilience in a time of war. Libraries have become volunteer and social centres, bomb shelters in buildings with basements, as well as fulfilling their traditional roles as places of learning and culture and continuing to support their library users.⁴

There were also many opportunities to speak with colleagues from around the world and across the library spectrum. The exhibition area was a buzzing centre of chat, networking and idea exchange. The poster exhibition was an opportunity for libraries to showcase their own works. This atmosphere was eclipsed only by the cultural evening hosted by the DLR Lexicon library. We were provided with a fabulous programme of Irish culture, from literature to mythology to music and dancing, not to mention a wonderful showcase of the DLR Lexicon Library itself.

Attending the IFLA WLIC Conference was a fantastic experience. This report can only cover a fraction of the presentations available. The range of topics really did offer something for everyone. It is difficult to convey the scale of the event and the planning that must have been involved. With over two thousand delegates from around the world, the conference offered me an opportunity to reach beyond my own organisation and my own sector into a worldwide network of knowledge, experience and research.

³ Heng, Huey Bin; Rankin, Carolyn: Engaging Youth Services Librarians: Enabling Collaborations to Update the IFLA Guidelines for Library Services to Children aged 0-18

⁴ Boiarynova, Oksana: European Libraries in a Time of War: Responses to the Crisis in Ukraine



Attending the IFLA World Library & Information Congress in Dublin was a dream come true for me, and the highlight was reconnecting with colleagues after a long absence from the Irish library world. The National Committee did a fantastic job in overcoming enormous challenges to bring 2000 librarians from over 100 countries together after a three year Covid-induced hiatus, proving that anything is possible with dedication, perseverance and teamwork. Travelling as

an international delegate from my current base in Australia provided an opportunity to view Ireland through fresh eyes, and I was struck by the country's rich cultural and literary heritage, as well as the congeniality of the people. The *céad míle fáilte* was alive and well at the Convention Centre and Dublin shone brightly on the world stage. The only unwelcome guest was Covid, which plagued numerous speakers and delegates throughout the week in a stark reminder that the pandemic isn't yet over.

The conference programme included a range of topical issues reflecting the many challenges we face in the world today, in particular the climate crisis which hasn't gone away. I was delighted to hear that former President Mary Robinson would be delivering the opening keynote, and I'm happy to accept her challenge to help encourage people to talk about the climate crisis. Many of us already do our best to support environmental sustainability in a personal and professional capacity, however this clearly isn't enough and we need to step up our efforts tenfold to help people "choose collective action over collective suicide". In delivering her message Mrs Robinson quoted from people she admires including former New York Public Library President Vartan Gregorian ("generosity has no expiry date"), Bishop Desmond Tutu ("I am a prisoner of hope") and Nelson Mandela ("it always seems impossible until it's done"). The call for climate action was echoed in several other conference sessions, including Michael Peter Edison's session *Climate, conflict &*

community, in which he argued that libraries need to take the lead in creating a unique new form of global activism, and he shared an enlightening quote from Marie Curie - "nothing in life is to be feared. It is only to be understood".



Many of Ireland's wealth of literary greats offer messages of hope and inspiration in their work, and provide an opportunity to learn from history. According to much-loved poet and Nobel literature laureate Seamus Heaney "if you have the words, there's always a chance that you'll find the way"¹. One of his most stirring and often quoted passages comes from his 1991 poem *The cure at Troy*, a verse adaptation of Sophocles' play *Philoctetes*:

**"History says, Don't hope
On this side of the grave.
But then, once in a lifetime
The longed-for tidal wave
Of justice can rise up,
And hope and history rhyme"**

1 O'Driscoll, D. (1998) *Stepping stones: interviews with Seamus Heaney*. London: Faber & Faber.

Several treasures from Heaney's literary archive were on display at the "Listen now again" exhibition in the Bank of Ireland Cultural & Heritage Centre, one of the 30+ tours and events included in the congress library visits programme. I was also fascinated to hear about projects such as the Irish Poetry Reading Archive, Poetry as Commemoration, Poetry Jukebox and Rain Poetry, all great ideas for engaging and inspiring people through the medium of poetry.

Conscious of the 20,000+ air miles I clocked up in travelling to Dublin, I opted to take an extended post-congress break to explore some of Ireland's many attractions and ensure maximum value for my carbon footprint. I'm pleased to report that I was able to get to most places by public transport. While basking in unseasonally warm sunshine I reflected on how best to apply my congress learnings to my work at the State Library of New South Wales, where I am responsible for collecting published material. My role is evolving to include some curatorial and interpretative work, which I hope will provide an opportunity to promote the collections to a wider audience. One of the most enjoyable aspects of my work is acquiring copies of award winning and critically acclaimed works of literature, in particular those penned by Nobel literature laureates, which allows me to indulge my love of Irish literature. Another highlight of my work is collecting artists' books, and several recent acquisitions vividly illustrate the effects of the climate crisis in Australia, where extreme weather events such as floods, droughts and storms have caused death and devastation on a massive scale in the past few years. There is still much work to be done in getting the message across and encouraging collective action for change.

Attending the congress has given me renewed hope and energy to help contribute to a better future as part of a global community of librarians. As we rise to Mary Robinson's momentous challenge, it may help to consider Seamus Heaney's last words, which he sent in a text message to his wife shortly before he died: "Noli timere - don't be afraid".

Zoe Melling
Senior Librarian, Published Collections
State Library of New South Wales



IFLA: International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, the largest global library organisation representing tens of thousands of libraries and librarians worldwide.

WLIC: World Library and Information Congress (WLIC), organised by IFLA. Usually held annually, in different countries around the world

When Ireland was appointed the host country for WLIC 2020, the LAI was advised to send a small delegation to the 2019 WLIC in Athens, in order to experience first-hand the logistics involved. Thus began the work of the National Committee (NC). Its role was to support KIT, the professional conference organisers, and IFLA to deliver the local elements of the Congress. These included Irish exhibitors and sponsors, volunteers, keynote speakers, cultural and social activities, library visits, advice on visa applications, promotion and publicity. The Congress Programme was specifically outside the NC's remit.

WLIC 2020 was cancelled due to COVID, of course. But Ireland was awarded WLIC 2022 instead and the NC resumed its work in earnest. Highlights included a Civic Reception for the IFLA Governing Board, the Lord Mayor of Dublin and

former President Mary Robinson speaking at the Opening Ceremony, an entertaining Cultural Evening at the DLR Lexicon (featuring a lively disco in the Children's Library!), a huge choice of visits to libraries around Ireland and promotional signage throughout Dublin – all underpinned by a group of 200 volunteers, without whom the Congress could not have taken place. See Appendix 1 for a report to Fáilte Ireland on the impact of WLIC 2022.

The LAI is unusual amongst WLIC hosts in not having any paid staff. Enormous thanks are due, therefore, to members of the NC, other members of the LAI and the Irish library community generally for delivering WLIC 2022 on top of their normal responsibilities. See Appendix 2 for a list of members of the NC in July 2022.

Appendix 1:

Report to Fáilte Ireland on the Legacy of WLIC 2022 in Ireland

The WLIC was an enormous success with over 2,000 delegates from over 100 countries attending the Congress itself and many related events before and after it. Former President Mary Robinson delivered the keynote address at the opening ceremony and the WLIC featured more than 80 sessions over three days of talks, workshops, discussions and exhibitions about topics ranging from Artificial Intelligence to Library History. Moreover, many delegates spent time on vacation in Ireland as part of their visit resulting in a welcome boost to our hospitality industry after such a challenging period. For a flavour of the WLIC please watch this video: <https://youtu.be/tyF1cAvFfOs>

Culturally

The Congress and the accompanying library tours raised the profile of libraries throughout Ireland, giving both policy makers and the general public a much greater awareness of the value of libraries and librarians to their user communities. Congress delegates themselves learnt more about cutting-edge developments in libraries in Ireland and elsewhere around the world that can be applied in their home institutions. The record number of Irish delegates attending the Congress gained a much greater understanding not only of IFLA but of the Library Association of Ireland as well, leading to an increased interest in engaging more with their work in the future. These immediate impacts will transform into longer-term appreciation and support that will benefit society at large for years to come.

Economically

The Congress attracted 2,000 delegates overall, including 1,600 delegates from outside Ireland - making it one of the biggest Irish conferences this year. Accommodation nights and general tourist spend generated millions of Euro during the Congress itself. In addition, many delegates stayed in Dublin and/or travelled around Ireland on holiday either before or after the Congress. This economic impact is particularly significant given the general downturn in both leisure and business travel to Ireland post-COVID.

Physically

There is substantial anecdotal evidence that libraries visited during the Congress, in Dublin and elsewhere in Ireland, were spruced up before the event. These improvements (some long

overdue) will benefit the libraries and their users into the future.

Appendix 2:

Membership of the National Committee

Membership of the NC changed over time. Its final iteration was as follows:

Chair and Co-Chairs:

Philip Cohen, Marian Higgins, Cathal McCauley

Chair, Cultural and Social Activities Sub-Committee:

Eileen Morrissey

Chair, Exhibitors and Sponsors Sub-Committee:

Lorna Dodd

Chair, Delegate Marketing Sub-Committee:

Brendan Teeling

Chair, Library Visits and Satellite Events Sub-Committee:

Alan Carbery

Chair, Promotion and Publicity Sub-Committee:

Stuart Hamilton

Chair, Visas Sub-Committee:

Ann O'Sullivan

Chair, Volunteers Sub-Committee:

Clare Conneally & Eva Horning

Gerardine Blee, Fintan Bracken, Jane Buggle, Catherine Gallagher, Aoife Lawton, Eimear McGinn, Katherine McSharry, Paula Murphy, Patricia Nolan, Niall O'Brien, Marie O'Neill, Mairead Owens, John Shortall, Marjory Sliney, Geraldine Whelan.

The IFLA Health and Biosciences Libraries Section (HBLS), in collaboration with the IFLA Evidence for Global and Disaster Health Special Interest Group and the Health Sciences Libraries Group of the Library Association of Ireland, co-sponsored a satellite meeting in conjunction with the IFLA World Library & Information Congress on 29 July 2022.

The theme was:

Exploring how open science and open access influence the spread of health misinformation and disinformation and how librarians can help.

The welcome address was delivered by **Aoife Lawton**, General Manager, Health Library Ireland, HSE. Aoife, very ably supported by Anne Kearns, kindly agreed to host our meeting in the lovely surroundings of Dr Steevens'. **Bethany S McGowan**, Associate Professor, Libraries and School of Information Studies, Purdue University, and Chair of IFLA HBLS chaired the session. We had three speakers:

Juan Miguel Palma Pena, Academic Librarian at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM)-Humanities: Functions of scholarly libraries to encourage open science: analysis to face disinformation.

Niamh Walker-Headon Library Resources Manager, Digital Knowledge Services at Health Library Ireland: The role of the institutional repository in delivering COVID-19 evidence summaries.

Michelle Dalton, Head of Research Services at University College Dublin Library in Dublin: Moving the conversation from access to evaluation: the next step for libraries in open access.



Bethany closed the session by moderating a lively panel discussion with speakers and delegates. Themes included: the potential global reach of our work; issues of trust and transparency; learning from 'failures'; and measuring impacts.

The HSLG committee would like to thank everyone who took part in the event, particularly our wonderful speakers. The meeting enabled us to network with health librarians from various jurisdictions and proved a fitting finale to the IFLA Congress in Dublin. Presentations can be accessed on the [HSLG website](https://hslg.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/HINT-Summer-2022-1.pdf).

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Two further reports may be accessed here: <https://hslg.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/HINT-Summer-2022-1.pdf>

Dr Teresa Whittington, 1959 - 2021



Dr Teresa Whittington, the recently retired librarian at the Central Catholic Library in Merrion Square was born on 22 January 1959 and died unexpectedly on 24 October 2021.

She had been at the library since 1997, and was greatly respected by the members of the library and her friends and colleagues in the Irish library world.

Teresa's first job after school was in the library of the Royal Dublin Society, which was then undergoing major developments, where she worked under Mary Kelleher. Returning to study, she read for a degree in French and Italian, specialising in French language and literature at University College Dublin. Following this, she worked for a time in Caen-Normandie University in France. She worked for three years in Middle Temple in the City of London, which had a great atmosphere of tradition and learning. Returning to Ireland she worked in Offaly County Library for a few years in the early 1990s before taking up in 1997 the post of executive librarian in the Central Catholic

Library (which is as old as the state, having been opened for public use in 1922), for which her academic background and languages made her especially qualified. There she worked with Council member Peter Costello, the Honorary Librarian under the Library's constitution .

She was greatly interested in the library's Dante Collection, and the extensive holding relating to St John Henry Newman. She played a special role in mounting the library's occasional exhibitions drawn from its resources, and in organising regular public lectures during spring and autumn.

She saw to the creation of a catalogue of the library holdings of older printed books from the 1600 to the end of the 19th century. She also directed the creation of a separate index of the library's journal and periodicals collection, which opened up that unique collection in a remarkable way for the use of researchers, many from abroad. The library's users were greatly appreciative of her scholarly and attentive service.

Though she had also studied Italian, she was most particularly interested in French literature. She received her PhD from UCD for her thesis on Marcel Proust's multi-volume novel *In Search of Times Past*. This was published internationally by Routledge, in a specific academic series, as *The Syllables of Time: Proust and the History of Reading* (2017). This work was widely reviewed in European and American journals, and warmly welcomed in Proustian circles.

Aside from her academic achievements she was involved in societies and groups in several fields, such as the Newman Society of Ireland based in Newman House, in which she was especially active.

She had discussed with friends her plans to continue her Proustian researches in new directions, now that her retirement would open up the time for her meticulous and careful approach to both the novel and the attention which its reception and reading over the decades was now receiving from scholars.

Her passing is mourned by a wide circle of family, friends, colleagues, and also by the users of the Central Catholic Library who greatly appreciated her past services to their reading and research.

Peter Costelloe, Board Member, Central Catholic Library



An Leabharlann
31-2
October 2022

Thomas Armitage, 1929 - 2022



Tom Armitage, who passed away at the age of 93, was at the forefront of the development of public library services in Ireland for 20 years. As Director of An Chomhairle Leabharlanna, the Library Council, from 1973 until his retirement in 1992 he spearheaded an ambitious and radical change in the system of Exchequer funding of local authorities, resulting in significant and lasting improvements of library services to local communities.

He built high level relationships with the world class British Library interlending and document supply system (BLLD) which led to an invitation for Irish libraries to join. With help from colleagues in all sectors, north and south, and greatly supported by Harry Carson (Southern Education and Library Board) and Ivor Crawley(Belfast Education and Library Board), the BL agreed to add the island's library services to the system in 1975.

Extensive consultation and detailed research were the hallmarks of a critical contribution to policy development throughout his career. He travelled widely, consulted local authority managers, chief librarian colleagues, and BL colleagues. He researched international developments, was particularly impressed by the standard of Scandinavian services, and by British community library philosophies of access for all.

Tom's detailed grasp of policy and regulatory issues, his focus on the future and his organisational skills were central to the work of the Public Library Review Group which was to report in 1987. An initiative of Minister John Boland TD to support further ambitions at a time of challenging economic circumstances , it comprised Máirín O'Byrne as chairperson along with Joseph Boland (former Clare County Manager) and Tom. The report, based on local authority library statistics, publications and original research resources provided an accurate picture of what had already been achieved and what was required. It was testament to their combined honesty and courage, that the Group starkly concluded that if the Minister and the local authorities were not prepared to support the public library service to the required standards, that it should be closed down. It was clear that the Council's own future in the role of library development was never going to be secure or to be taken for granted. For Tom Armitage to have been party to that recommendation spoke not just for his professionalism but for his acute sense of public duty.

A native of Templemore, Co. Tipperary, Tom spent ten years with Dublin Corporation's service which he joined in 1947 as a Library Assistant. Studying in UCD he was awarded the Diploma in Library Training in 1954, and a BA in

1956. He was awarded the first fellowship of the LAI in 1957 for his bibliography on the Gaelic Athletic Association.

He was appointed Assistant Librarian for Kerry County Council in 1957, based at Tralee, working closely with Kathleen Campion, Kerry's first County Librarian whom he succeeded in 1961. The Library Committee, which he persuaded the council to form, influenced funding and support for a library development plan. The plan was required under the terms of the 1961 grants scheme which for the first time had provided Exchequer loans raised by local authorities for new libraries. He had a strong interest in staff training and welfare and encouraged staff participation in the Local Government and Public Services Union (now Fórsa) to improve pay levels and conditions. Kathleen Browne, Margaret Pender and Hanna O' Sullivan all undertook the FLAI with Tom acting as their tutor on behalf of the LAI. He was an elected member of the Executive Board of the during this period.

He brought together the county's local government archives, the poor law records and other material and streamlined the local studies service. He was the first Secretary of the Kerry Archaeological & Historical Society which he was influential in founding. In 2017 on its golden jubilee, founder members Kathleen Browne, Margaret Pender and Tom received the Kerry Heritage Award in recognition of their services.

His energy and drive caught the attention of Dermot Foley, then Director of An Chomhairle Leabharlanna and he was to join the Council as Librarian / Assistant Director in 1971. On succeeding Foley as Director in 1973, he prepared a strategy which provided for a loans scheme for local authorities, allowing them exercise their powers to incur loan charges and attract 50% subsidy from central government for the purchase of sites for new libraries. The Chair of An Chomhairle, Dr. Michael Lawless, was an enthusiastic mentor and also a crucial link to government, being a former Secretary of the Department of Local Government.

The Department of the Environment accepted the need for progress, endorsed his recommendations, prepared the necessary legislation, and

succeeded in influencing the Department of Finance to provide the funds that led to the introduction of the revised scheme of central government support in 1977. Tom was also ably supported in its implementation by a formidable Council member and friend in Máirín O'Byrne, the Dublin City and County Librarian.

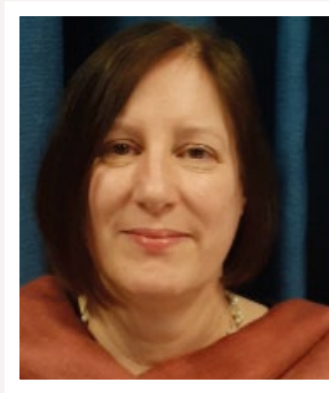
Further, his insistence that the new buildings, transport and stock made possible by this landmark development would be installed to international standards was crucial to his vision and extraordinary ambition for Irish public library services. Proposals and plans would be benchmarked against the IFLA standards for buildings, which were fully endorsed by An Chomhairle in 1977 and accepted by the library community and Government.

Other significant initiatives included the establishment, with the help of Harry Carson, of the Committee on Library Co-operation in Ireland (COLICO) to include senior representatives of the BL, An Chomhairle providing the working secretariat. The coordination and advice on the development of the interlending and document supply system was assigned to COLICO which provided for linkages to all the regions in the UK to assist with direct inter-lending between libraries for books.

Tom's energy and enthusiasm for higher standards was almost boundless. He could appear formidable, demanding even. However, he never demanded more of others than he did of himself as a dedicated public servant. In a career of some 45 years, it is difficult to overstate the value and relevance of Tom Armitage's contribution to the policies, legislation, funding, systems and structures that underpin our library resources today. The 2012 Act consolidating the management, IT and library functions of the local government system at national level within the LGMA should support the further integration of the public library service and safeguard library cooperation mechanisms into the future. Long may these systems and the library staff who work within them prosper and the memory of Tom Armitage be cherished.

Norma McDermott

Sue Miller, 1966 - 2022



Sue Miller died peacefully on June 24, 2022 after a short illness. Until her premature death, Sue was the Education Librarian in Dublin City University (DCU) Library. She joined DCU Library in 2016 following the coming together of St Patrick's College Drumcondra, Mater Dei Institute of Education and the Church of Ireland College of Education (CICE) with DCU. This coming together led to the development of Ireland's first ever Faculty of Education, DCU's Institute of Education. It also saw the integration of four library collections and services into one.

Prior to joining DCU, Sue was Head of Library Services at CICE where she contributed hugely to the development of library services and the management of CICE's archival and special collections. Her experience and expertise in developing and delivering library services for students undertaking teacher education programmes, combined with her work on a number of research projects for example, the *National Collection of Children's Books Project* saw Sue bring exceptional and valued expertise and experience to the newly enhanced role of Education Librarian at DCU.

Sue continued to be active in the area of children's literature bibliography and collection development whilst at DCU through her contribution to a number

of DCU research projects and initiatives including *Maths Through Stories*, an international initiative focusing on the integration of stories and literacy into mathematics instruction. Sue also worked with colleagues in DCU's Centre for Children's and Young Adult Literature on a European project called *G-Book* which created, alongside a number of deliverables, the first gender-positive online bibliography for children.

Sue's professional and personal interest in children's literature extended beyond DCU. Sue was a committee member of the Irish section of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) and a regular judge of the annual KPMG Children's Books Ireland Awards. As a professional Librarian, Sue was an active member of the Library Association of Ireland through her membership of the Academic and Special Libraries Section. She was also for many years, a member of the Republic of Ireland branch of the School Library Association having worked as a School Librarian in St. Andrew's College, Dublin. Sue believed strongly in the value and importance of school libraries and remained in touch with colleagues in the sector and the work of the School Libraries Group of the Library Association of Ireland.

Throughout her time at CICE and later in DCU, Sue was an active member of

the Irish Federation of University Teachers, acting as Branch Secretary at DCU. She was admired for being a dedicated advocate and representative of her fellow colleagues. In the many tributes to Sue, her IFUT colleagues commented on her wisdom, strength, eloquence, sense of fairness and kindness.

Sue was passionate about the library profession and the importance of ongoing professional development. She believed strongly in the formalisation of recognition of the impact that librarians have in the teaching and learning space in higher education and before her death was working on her application for the Advance HE fellowship. She had previously earned the L2L Pact digital badge, a joint initiative between the LAI and the National Forum for Teaching and Learning. She valued greatly the opportunity to engage in in-depth discussions with library colleagues at all career stages whilst undertaking the programme.

Sue was an exceptional Librarian and valued member of the Library at DCU. She talked often about the concept of the embedded Librarian and through her professionalism and practice her work supporting teaching, learning and research within the Institute of Education was a true partnership, her knowledge and expertise shared widely and fully.

Sue was a wonderful colleague and friend to many in DCU and across the wider library community. She was insightful, articulate, passionate, brave and empathetic with the warmest of smiles and a great sense of fun. She is deeply missed by all who knew her.

Remembering also Sue's family: her husband George; children Sarah, Hannah, and Andrew; her Father and sister Lesley.

Ellen Breen, DCU Library

John Steele, 1943 - 2022



It was with great sadness that colleagues and friends from the library world, and beyond, heard of the death of John Steele, who had served as Librarian of UCD Library, Blackrock for 17 years prior to his retirement in August 2008.

Born in 1943, John started his career working with books and libraries in 1962, taking up a post as clerical/sales assistant in Browne and Nolan (Booksellers and Library suppliers). Awarded a B.A in History, Archaeology and Political Economy from the NUI in 1968, he went on to work as a research editor with the Irish University Press Ltd for 3 years, before returning to Browne & Nolan as manager in the book and Library supply department. On completion of a Diploma in Librarianship in 1976, John was appointed as an Assistant Librarian in Louth County Library, Dundalk before moving to Dundalk Regional Technical College in 1979 as College Librarian. Throughout his time in Dundalk John participated in ongoing research, professional development and advocacy for the profession and was awarded Fellowship of the Library Association of Ireland in 1979, serving as LAI Honorary Secretary in 1982.

Joining UCD Library as an Assistant Librarian in November 1983, while also studying towards the Degree of Master of Library & Information Studies, he

was initially involved in the amalgamation of the Agriculture, Main and Science libraries, before finally moving full time to Reader Services in 1987. Throughout his career John continued to carry out research, and in 1986 he was seconded to work with Dr Michael Casey of UCD Department of Library & Information on a European Commission initiative studying the introduction of new information technology in Irish Libraries. The resulting publication in 1987, *Applications of new information technologies in libraries: an overview of the Republic of Ireland*, was revised and reissued in 1991 after an additional 3 month secondment. In 1991 John was appointed as project manager to establish a Library and Information service for the new Graduate Business School, as a result of which he was appointed as Branch Librarian, UCD Blackrock Library in 1993 and it was during his tenure here that many people will remember him with warmth and appreciation.

John was a kind, gentle, unassuming man who, in the words of his cousin Elizabeth Coote, viewed the world with wonder and it was this sense of wonder combined with his enthusiasm for knowledge and learning that shone through. He had time for everyone, doing all he could to assist students, staff and visitors, even when they didn't know they needed help.

He remembered the projects students were doing and they would often return from a coffee break to find information relevant to their project waiting for them. Indeed, during his time as Branch Librarian he completed a Certified Diploma in Accounting & Finance and a Bachelor of Laws, not just for himself, but also because these skills would be beneficial to students. It was not just business students who benefited from his wealth of knowledge as John also taught several modules on the MLIS and DLIS in UCD, including Library Management and Information Resources, preparing meticulously for classes, encouraging student participation, and always willing to assist. He was involved in setting up a Graduate trainee scheme where potential library school students worked in the Library before pursuing a professional degree at UCD, gaining experience all aspects of library practice. In Blackrock

Library, he developed services to meet the varied and demanding challenges of students at this internationally ranked school and he worked hard to ensure the move of the Library to a new, purpose built facility in the converted Chapel of Carysfort College, a project which came to fruition in 2007, just before his retirement in 2008.

As Mary Burke, UCD Professor Emeritus of Information Science has said, if she had to summarise John, it would be: 'Ask John, he'll know, he's very helpful.'

Christine Cullen, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

NEWS from the STACKS

People

New Appointments:

Christine Cullen, Customer Service and Communications Coordinator, RCSI
Lorraine McLoughlin, Dublin City Archivist

Retirements:

Helen Fallon

Awards:

Helen Osborn, formerly Libraries NI was awarded MBE
in the Queen's Birthday Honours, 2022

Forthcoming Conferences 2023

ALA: <https://2023.alaannual.org/>

BIALL: <https://biall.org.uk/annual-conference/>

EAHIL: <https://eahil2023.org/>

IAML: <https://www.iaml.info/congresses/2023-iaml-congress-cambridge-united-kingdom>

IATUL: <https://conul.ie/event/43rd-iatul-conference-uae-2023/>

IFLA: <https://2023.ifla.org/>

LIBER: <https://libereurope.eu/event/liber-2023-annual-conference/>

LILAC: <https://www.lilacconference.com/lilac-2023>

UKSG: <https://www.uksg.org/event/annualconference2023>

CPD

CILIP Ireland: <https://www.cilip.org.uk/page/TrainingandCPD>

DBS: <https://www.dbs.ie/course/postgraduate/msc-information-library-management>

LAI: <https://www.libraryassociation.ie/public-libraries-section-conference-and-exhibition-22/>

UCD: <https://www.ucd.ie/ics/>

Ulster University: <https://www.ulster.ac.uk/courses/202223/library-and-information-management-28268>

Recent announcements for Academic Libraries

NUIG has rebranded as University of Galway. Details of the change are here:
<https://www.universityofgalway.ie/about-us/news-and-events/universitystatements/>

UCC: <https://www.ucc.ie/en/news/substantial-donation-of-tomi-ungerer-works-made-to-university-college-cork.html>

UL: <https://www.ul.ie/library/about/news-events/founding-president-university-limerick-dr-ed-walsh-has-presented-%E2%80%98vital-archive%E2%80%99>

NEWS from the STACKS

Recent announcements for Public Libraries

As IFLA WLIC 2022 was beginning, Minister Humphreys made the following announcement: <https://merrionstreet.ie/en/news-room/news/minister-humphreys-announces-over-3-million-in-funding-for-46-library-facilities.174606.shortcut.html>

<https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/1340d-ministers-humphreys-and-obrien-announce-700000-in-funding-for-library-supports/>

Literary Awards

Nobel Prize 2022:

<https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/literature/#:~:text=The%20Nobel%20Prize%20in%20Literature%20for%202022%20is%20awarded%20to,collective%20restraints%20of%20personal%20memory%E2%80%9D.>

Booker Prize 2022:

<https://thebookerprizes.com/the-booker-library/prize-years/2022>

Education Awards 2022:



TUS Library (Midwest) won Best Research Project Award at the Education Awards held in Dublin on 06/04/2022. TUS Library were also finalists in the categories of Best Library Team, Best International Collaboration Project, Best International Engagement. TUS Library won this award against strong competition with all HEI's in Ireland represented.

