

New Programme for Community Development Practitioners in the North-West

School of Sociology and Applied Social Studies



A UNESCO Centre Seminar by Dr Chris Shiel, Bournemouth University, on the theme **Embedding International Development in the University of Ulster** was held on 9 October 2008 on the Coleraine campus. This seminar sought to embed this theme further within the institutional life of the University with research, teaching, administrative and support staff, as well as with the student body and civic partners. In April 2009, a conference interactive workshop entitled **Globalising Higher Education: Universities, International Development and Social Justice** will be held at Ulster on the Coleraine campus.

After five years of successful intake at the Jordanstown Campus, the Community Development course team are now offering the part-time BSc Hons Community Development degree at Magee. Following delivery of the innovative Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) and Portfolio Route in Spring 2008, 22 students have been successfully recruited onto Level 2 of the degree. The APEL route enables those with experience in the community and voluntary sector to gain advanced standing. The Jordanstown based programme is unique in the North of Ireland and draws students from across the province and indeed the Republic of Ireland. The expansion to Magee makes a significant contribution to career progression of community development practitioners

in the North and West of the province and in bordering areas of the Republic of Ireland. Since the commencement of the Community Development degree in 2002, approximately 110 students having successfully submitted Portfolios

for advanced standing and since its introduction in 2005, approximately 70 students have successfully completed the APEL short course. The Magee students are pictured with the Magee co-ordinator, Ms. Isobel Hawthorne-Steele.

STUDENTS GOING TO MALAWI



Peter Namphande, who is a Lecturer in Education in Chancellor College, Malawi visited the University of Ulster School of Education from 12th to 30th October 2008. The visit was facilitated via an international scholarship with additional funding provided by the UNESCO Centre (to cover accommodation costs). Whilst at the university, Peter attended School

of Education events, (both social and academic), visited local schools, spent a weekend at the Corrymeela Centre in Ballycastle, and assisted with SoE teaching. His busy itinerary was chiefly facilitated by Dr Aideen Hunter and also by Dr Derick Wilson, Mrs Dolores Loughrey, Mr Nigel Glenny and Dr Linda Clarke.

In relation to the **Lessons Today for Change Tomorrow (LTCT)** project, Peter joined an interview panel to select the three PGCE students (from within the current Local and Global Citizenship cohort) who will be visiting Malawi in May 2009: Mr John Wishart, (PGCE History) Ms Sarah Macklin (PGCE Art and Design) and Ms Caoimhe McLaughlin (PGCE Geography).

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Dr Deirdre Heenan's professorial lecture entitled "**Devolution and Social Policy: More or Less Say for the Citizens of Northern Ireland?**" on 26 November 2008 at 6.30pm, Lecture Theatre MD108, Magee Campus.

EDUCATION AND RECONCILIATION CONFERENCE



Attending the Education and Reconciliation conference at La Mon Hotel in September were from left - Clare Magill (Research Associate, UNESCO Centre), Prof Alan Smith (Director, UNESCO Centre), Naghmeh Sobhani (Director, Education for Peace Balkans), Jeffrey Donaldson (Junior Minister), Claude Kieffer (Head of Education, Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina)

The conference focused on the initial findings of a comparative research project looking at the role of education in reconciliation processes in Northern Ireland and Bosnia & Herzegovina. 91 children and young people were interviewed across both NI and Bosnia as part of the project, funded under Measure 2.1 'Outward and Forward Looking Region' of the Peace II Extension. The project team were interested to learn about children and young people's:

1. Experiences of conflict;
2. Awareness and understanding of the conflict;
3. How they learn about the conflict (from whom, when, how?);
4. Understanding of the concept of 'reconciliation'; and
5. Views on the role of education in reconciliation.

Dr Brandon Hamber, Director of INCORE, spoke about children and young people's views on reconciliation. Considering the differences in the views of children and young people in NI and Bosnia, he pointed out that while young people in Bosnia were clearly concerned about the socio-economic dimensions of reconciliation there, their counterparts here were more preoccupied with the issue of dealing with the past. Project Coordinator Clare Magill presented the project's initial findings on the role of education in reconciliation, emphasising the importance of seeking out children and young people's views on this issue. The project's final report is due to be released in December 2008.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Students taking the 'education as a minor' option on the Coleraine campus are using ICT to learn about ICT; the 57 students taking a compulsory second year module on 'ICT in education' have a face to face lecture each week but all their seminars are on-line. Module coordinator **Roger Austin** explains: There are two distinctive features of the on-line seminars. Firstly, they form 50% of the assessment for the module and students have to submit a portfolio which is based on an analysis of their learning through the seminars. Secondly, they have to find a partner who had attended a different type of school and post a joint comment on whether every school in Northern Ireland should have a cross-community e-partner. The e-tutors who provide weekly input to the on-line discussions are practising teachers. One, Ciaran Lyons, a former PGCE and Masters student, is Head of ICT at Dominican College in Belfast and the other, Jacinta Hardy is Head of e-Learning at St Cecilia's College in Derry.

So what do the students think about this?

And the next challenge? Moving from blended learning to fully on-line. After the first six weeks of this model of 'blended learning' the module goes entirely on-line for weeks 7-11 when they are taught at a distance by Ciaran Lyons. This approach is designed to give these 'would-be' teachers the confidence to become capable of delivering on-line classes to 14-18 year olds, a key aspect for the future of e-schooling in Northern Ireland.

SCHOOL OF LAW



Dermot Feenan, Law, presenting a paper on gender and judicial appointments at a seminar on Judicial Diversity, hosted by the Irish Council of Civil Liberties in September 2008, with Baroness Prashar looking on.

Alice Diver, Jacinta Miller and Brian Collins, Law School staff at Magee, attended the 13th International Society of Family Law Conference - themed Family Finance - in Vienna in September 2008. Alice chaired one of the main sessions of the conference on European Family Law and presented a paper entitled *Clean Hands and Broken Promises: Proprietary Estoppel Interests in the Family Home upon Intestacy*. Brian presented a paper entitled *Consumer Credit Crunch - Impact on Family Finances: an examination of recent legislative amendments to the UK's Consumer Credit framework and proposed legislative action against loan sharks*.

Professor Christine Bell delivered the fourth **Annual Sean Lester Lecture**, 'On the Law of Peace' in the Law Society of Ireland in Dublin. She argued that there is a new 'lex pacificatoria' or 'law of the peacemakers' emerging from the practice of peacemaking through peace agreements. This trend is reshaping both international law and domestic

constitutional law, and the relationship between the two. The Sean Lester Lecture is dedicated to the Irish diplomat who served as last Secretary General of the League of Nations.

The **CAIN Seminar Series 2008-09**, in association with INCORE, got underway on Thursday 16 October 2008 with a presentation from Ms Maureen Heatherington (The Junction, Derry/Londonderry) entitled 'Stories in Conflict'. The Seminar Series is being organised by CAIN in conjunction with its current project, funded by the AHRC, 'Remembering': Victims, Survivors and Commemoration in Post-Conflict Northern Ireland. The second seminar will be held on Thursday 11 December 2008, 12 noon - 1.00 pm in room MI022, Aberfoyle House, Magee campus. The guest speaker will be Dr Marie Breen-Smyth (Aberystwyth University).



l-r Dr Brendan Lynn, Research Associate, CAIN; Maureen Heatherington, The Junction Professor; Tom Fraser, Honorary Associate, INCORE

Congratulations to:

Dorothy Black, School of Education, who has been appointed to the NI Food Advisory Committee, which is the independent advisory body to the Food Standards Agency.

Tracy Irwin, Jackie Lambe and Victor McNair, all of whom have been accepted into the Social and Policy Research Institute's new 'development' category, which is intended to help plan succession for the Research Excellence Framework.

Ms Kerstin Mechlen who has had her article entitled 'Treaty Bodies and the Interpretation of Human Rights' accepted for publication by the Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law.

Dr Susan Hodgett who has recently been elected to chair the United Kingdom Council for Area Studies Associations (UKCASA). UKCASA, which embraces academic associations as diverse as The Royal Society of Asian Affairs, the British Association for American Studies, The British Society for Middle Eastern Studies and the

British Association for Chinese Studies, promotes interdisciplinary research and teaching about specific regions of the world. As UKCASA Chair, Dr Hodgett also becomes an ex-officio member of the Advisory Board of the Higher Education Academy Subject Centre for Languages, Linguistics and Area Studies.

Professor Christine Bell on her latest book *On the Law of Peace: Peace Agreements and the Lex Pacificatoria*, which compared about 640 accords in 80 jurisdictions. It is the first major comprehensive legal analysis of peace agreements. Her book, which is published by Oxford University Press, brings together disparate areas of law that impact on peace agreements, including self-determination law, law relating to amnesties, and law relating to peacekeeping.

Jacinta Miller whose contribution to Youthbank NI's submission on Mental Health was highlighted as the Northern Ireland example of Best Practice by Impetus (Global Ethics) at last month's award ceremony in London. A number of

Magee Law alumni were involved in this voluntary initiative (**Mary Shaw, Lauren Whitehouse, Sarah McStay and Orla Shevlin**).

Professor Fionnuala Ni Aolain who has been asked by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to serve as an Expert to the High Commissioner's Office with a group working on issues of terrorism and human rights protections. The work would entail giving ad hoc expert advice to the High Commissioner and other key decision makers within the UN system.

Rosemary McCollum received from the University a distinguished employee award.

Thomas Murphy on the birth of his son Alexander and on his appointment as Head of School of Law.

Catherine Nixon on the birth of her baby daughter Eva.

Mary O'Rawe on the birth of her baby daughter Aoife.

Research Grants

Professor Fionnuala Ni Aolain, co-Director of the Transitional Justice Institute, has been awarded a Leverhulme Trust Artist in Residence fellowship with Belfast artist Rita Duffy, for £12,000. The interdisciplinary programme will examine contemporary forms of slavery.

Dr Brandon Hamber and staff at INCORE for their success in attaining a grant from the PEACE III programme for an extension of its Journey's Out Programme. The grant will be up to £477,000 for the next 2.5 years. INCORE will be the lead agency and will partner with Intercomm, the Peace and Reconciliation Group and Glenree Centre.

Professor Gillian Robinson, Dr Ann Marie Gray, Paula Devine (QUB) Lizanne Dowds (ARK consultant) on their award of £214,500 from Atlantic Philanthropies, for work on ageism in the Northern Ireland Life and Times survey 2008. The work will involve a North-South dimension.

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

Graduate School for Professional Legal Education

Paul Mageean, Director
Paul obtained his LLB and LLM from Queen's University, Belfast. He qualified as a solicitor in 1991 and spent almost five years in private practice with P.J. McGrory & Co, before joining the Committee on the Administration of Justice (CAJ), as their Legal Officer. Paul joined the Court Service as Head of the Criminal Justice Secretariat in 2004. Before taking up his current appointment, he spent three years with Criminal Justice Inspection Northern Ireland. He has also been involved in extensive human rights training, particularly in the Middle East.

Diane Nixon, Lecturer
Diane Nixon read Law at Wadham College, Oxford. She was called to the Bar in October 1997, having been awarded a Harmsworth Scholarship by the Middle Temple. She undertook pupillage at Hardwicke Building,

Lincoln's Inn, London and gained experience in all areas. She obtained tenancy at 9 King's Bench Walk, Temple, London and practised there until 2002, when she moved to Sovereign Chambers, Leeds, from where she still practises. The focus of her professional practice is criminal defence.

Chris Coyle, Lecturer
Christopher obtained a First Class Honours in Law & Politics at University of Ulster, Magee before embarking upon the newly established Masters in Human Rights Law at the Transitional Justice Institute in which he was awarded a distinction. After obtaining a Certificate of Legal Studies from the IPLS and completing pupillage he has been practicing as a Barrister in NI and lecturing at undergraduate level at Magee.

Anne Brown, Senior Lecturer
Anne has been a solicitor for 26 years of which almost 20 years were spent in general practice in Ballymoney where she

was a partner in Greer, Hamilton and Gailey, Solicitors. She qualified with an LL.B. from the Queen's University of Belfast and a B.C.L. (Oxon) from Oxford following which she attended the Institute of Professional Legal Studies in Belfast. Her main expertise is in the area of non-contentious business. Anne has also worked in recent times as a consultant for the Law Society.

Catherine Nixon, Senior Lecturer
Catherine was educated at Queen's University and the Institute of Professional Legal Studies, Belfast. On qualifying as a solicitor in 1995, she worked in the Belfast firm of Cleaver Fulton Rankin. In 2001, Catherine began working for the prominent provincial practice of Macaulay Wray. During her time there, she handled all aspects of property work, and in 2004, she was appointed as a Partner. In 2006 Catherine moved to work with Thomas Taggart & Sons, where she worked until 2008. Catherine also tutored on several courses at QUB.

Welcome to new staff

Emile Daly, Lecturer

Emile Daly obtained a BCL from University College Dublin in 1994. She was called to the Bar in 1994. She practised as a barrister in Dublin and on the northern circuit, concentrating on employment law and judicial review. She was appointed as vice chairperson to the Employment Appeals Tribunal in 1997 and to the Mental Health Commission in 2007. She was appointed to the State panel representing Ireland and the Attorney General in 1998 and appeared on behalf of the State in a number of Supreme Court and High Court cases.

Richard Russell, School Administrator
Richard graduated in law from Queen's University, Belfast in 1980 and embarked on a career in policing serving almost 28 years. During the final years of his service he was District Commander for the North West District which included Derry, Strabane, Limavady and Magherafelt. He retired from the police in April 2008. He received a Masters degree in Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Ulster. In 1996 he graduated from the FBI National Academy at Quantico, Virginia. He has lectured internationally in policing systems and methods.

Helena Devine, School Secretary
Helena has worked for the University of Ulster for the past 6 years, starting in the School of Law and School of Policy Studies as a Clerk Typist. Previous to that she worked as a Legal Secretary for a local Solicitors office in Derry.

Transitional Justice Institute

Professor Tom Hadden joined the TJI as Visiting Professor Emeritus for the academic year 2008-09. Professor Hadden has had a long and distinguished career and is an internationally recognised legal authority in the field of human rights. His education was at the University Libre de Bruxelles and the University of Cambridge. He also practised as a Barrister-At-Law for a period at Lincoln's Inn (London). He has held faculty positions at the University of Cambridge, the University of Kent, and the Queen's University, Belfast.

Dr Kris Brown joined the TJI Institute as a post-doctoral research fellow in October 2008, on an RCUK Fellowship. A native of Belfast, Kris graduated from Queen's University, Belfast with a BA in 1992, and took his PhD in Irish Politics from the same university in 2000. From 2001-05 he worked in the Northern Ireland Political Collection of the Linenhall Library. His research interests focus on commemoration, memory and memorialisation in post-conflict Northern Ireland, especially themes relating to victimhood, the nature of the conflict, relations with the state, the use of political symbols and material culture, and national identities. Other research interests include political developments within Ulster loyalism and modern Irish republicanism, and arms decommissioning.

School of Communication

Fiona McMahon has been appointed in the School of Communication as a Lecturer in Advertising. She has a wide range of media-buying and advertising experience and expertise in her work with local and international companies. Her PhD research is in SME marketing communications.

Dr Patricia Connolly was appointed as Lecturer in Health Communication, in September 2008. She has a Masters in Political Lobbying and Public Affairs and experience of working with health and voluntary sector organisations. Her PhD research was in crisis management.

Sharon Campbell has just been appointed to a HE/FE Connected post, as Development officer in Counselling. She has worked in commercial and trauma counselling organisations and is completing her Masters in Counselling and Therapeutic Communication.

School of Education

Nicola Ward has recently joined the PGCE post-primary team at the School of Education at Coleraine. She is course director for the PGCE English with Drama and Media Studies programme. Nicola also contributes towards teaching within the PGD/MA TESOL programme as well as towards seminars within a number of Education as a minor modules. She has returned from England where she was employed as an English KS4 co-ordinator at a large comprehensive school.

School of Policy Studies

Geoff Kennedy received his Ph.D in Political Science from York University in Canada where he taught from 2005 to 2007. In 2007-8 he taught in the Politics and International Relations programme at the Middle East Technical University in Northern Cyprus. His research interests include the history of republican political thought, social democracy, critical theory and Marxism. He is the author of 'Diggers, Levellers and Agrarian Capitalism: radical political thought in 17th century England,' from Lexington Books (2008).

Ruth McAlister

Ruth undertook her undergraduate and postgraduate studies in the School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work at Queen's University. She recently joined the School of Policy Studies from the School of the Built Environment where she was employed as a Research Associate. Prior to joining the University of Ulster, she worked for Belfast City Council as a Policy and Research Officer in the Development Department.

School of Sociology and Applied Social Studies

Vincent McCauley, BA (Hons) Economic and Social Studies, Certificate of Qualification in Social Work, MA Social Work, NI Practice Teacher Award, Advanced Award in Social Work, has recently joined the school of Sociology and Applied Social Studies as a Senior Lecturer in Social Work. Mr McCauley has previously served for 30 years in statutory Social Services as a Practitioner, Manager, and Social Work Trainer. For the last 4 years, he has been Acting Training Manager for Social Services in the Western Health and Social Services Trust area. His interests are in Learning Disability, Vulnerable Adults, Practice Teaching, and Anti-Oppressive Practice.

Howard Rainey

Howard Rainey joined the School of Applied Social Studies at Magee on 1 October, 2008 as a Lecturer in Social Work. Prior to that he worked in a variety of social work training and practice settings in England and N. Ireland. Howard brings over 25 years experience with him. His areas of particular interest are anti-oppressive practice, service-user and carer involvement, reflective practice, and practice learning. Howard's main research interest is the public perception of social work. He is the current Chair of the Social Work Practice Assessment Panel at University of Ulster. Howard lives in Omagh with his wife, Mary Gormley and their 12 year old daughter Molly. Mary and Howard are also foster parents and actively support Integrated Education.

Grainne Kelly (INCORE)

Grainne Kelly is Policy and Practice Coordinator of INCORE. She has conducted primary research and published widely on a range of conflict-related themes, including mediation, reconciliation and community cohesion in both Northern Ireland and internationally. In 2004/2005, with Brandon Hamber, she devised the working definition of reconciliation used as the reconciliation framework for the EU Peace and Reconciliation Programme. In 2006, she conducted a study of the transferability of western concepts of reconciliation to post-conflict Cambodia. Most recently, she co-ordinated an eight-country study of the role of philanthropy in divided and conflictual societies, including Sri Lanka, Colombia, Northern Ireland and Serbia for the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland. She holds an MA in Peace and Conflict Studies from the University of Ulster.