



Leuven Centre for Irish Studies

Annual Report
2013



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Foreword by the General Director

2013 has been an important year for the Leuven Centre for Irish Studies. It started with a festive occasion on 4 February, when Ireland's Prime Minister and two ministers from Northern Ireland visited the Leuven Institute for Ireland in Europe along with many firm supporters of the Irish College. Indeed, both the Republic, Northern Ireland and many individual donors have contributed to the revival of the college, which has already many times proven its function as a neutral ground where fruitful talks took place, in preparation of the Good Friday Agreement and many other stepping stones in the Peace Process of Northern Ireland.

And because the Irish College in Leuven is (Northern)Ireland but also so much more – the wider context of Europe, with its different cultures and systems and disciplines, it is supposed to be a window and a door to Europe and to the rest of the world. This is where the LCIS comes in as the beating heart of the building, one which pumps new oxygen through Irish thinking, where ideas are exchanged, where cultures meet; and that is where academia thrives.

In 2010 the KU Leuven and the Leuven Institute agreed to set up this joint research centre which spans more disciplines than any other institute of Irish studies in Europe. With its sixty members it covers Irish Literature, History, Theology, Philosophy and Fine Arts; it researches Peace and Transformative Growth; and it focuses on Economics, Business, Law, Innovation and Valorization. Many workshops are monodisciplinary, but more are multidisciplinary and several are interdisciplinary. In our publications the reader will always first find the focus on **Irish** matters: Irish literature and film, a political or economic analysis of Ireland, Irish

history and philosophy; second there is the **comparative approach**, like when treatment of historical child abuse is compared in the cases of Ireland, Scotland, Sweden and the Netherlands, or when Irish international trade patterns are compared in an analysis of European countries.

This research is directly relevant to business leaders and policy makers. Third, there is the **methodological** development, which most frequently originates in an interdisciplinary approach, where concepts of different systems can cross-fertilize each other. In the LCIS this often happens in economic history, in the narrative analysis of trauma which helps fine-tune psychological terminology or in research into the impact of World War I on poetry, philosophy and on colonialism, as in Nicolas de Warren's ERC project.

It is of foremost importance to have a network of excellent academics, and this is why the LCIS is linked with all major Belgian institutions. We develop synergies with the KU Leuven campuses in Brussels and Antwerp, with the Universities of Ghent, Antwerp, Brussels (VUB), Louvain-la-Neuve, Liège; with all major (Northern) Irish universities; with USP/University of São Paulo, the Humboldt Stiftung and with Tsinghua university. Talking of excellence, we are very proud that Mary Daly, who is active on our international Advisory Board, has been elected the first female president of the Royal Irish Academy, and proud that one of our LCIS members, Violet Soen, has been elected to the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium of the Sciences and the Arts in the section of the Young Academics. So, through her network, LCIS hopes to increase further cooperation between Belgian and (Northern) Irish academic institutions.

We grow and develop, but we also lose people. On 12 July 2013, **Jan Roegiers**, Professor Emeritus, KU Leuven's archivist, university librarian and heritage director, member of the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium and founding member of the LCIS, died. He was an all-round man: his publications on book science and on the political, religious and intellectual history of the Low Countries are still reference works; as director of the *Revue d'histoire ecclésiastique* he was familiar with the controversies caused by theologians at Leuven university and abroad; and from the exhibition Jan put together of *Lobhain 400* (2007) we can see that the Irish diaspora has been a theme since the sixteenth century: ever since, thousands of Irish studied and worked at Leuven University.

The LCIS board will change too in the sense that Mr. David O'Sullivan, Chief Operating Officer at the European External Action, is leaving us now to become EU Ambassador to the USA.

However, as the LCIS is increasing its activities the Academic Steering Committee has been extended so that all faculties, active in LCIS, are present: Arts, Economics, Philosophy, Psychology, Theology and Social sciences. Another extension we needed was that of the director's committee: while the biggest group, that of Literature, History, Theology, Philosophy and Fine Arts was led by the general director, this had to be combined with all administrative and PR work. Elke D'hoker was willing to take over that research group.

Research has been thriving: PhDs, conferences and workshops on the impact of mentalisation comparing vulnerability and resilience in the face of adversity at both the personal and societal level in Northern Ireland, Israel, ex-Yugoslavia, the United States, Spain, Belgium and Lebanon will lead to a funding application in the context of the EU Horizon 2020; research into the role of trauma will be directly applied as it will be used in offering therapy for refugee families; in international trade and international business the integration issues in the EU are studied in Belgium and Ireland, as both are frontrunners in European integration; the effect of the rise of China on small open economies is studied, the declining manufacturing sector, the opening of services sectors, the impact of innovation on economic performance (export and investment performance, profitability, market shares); there is a joint project with the National Bank of Belgium using Belgian firm level data to study the fixed costs of exporting and the duration of trade at the firm level, which will be very interesting to compare with Ireland. While the comparison of data from (Northern) Ireland enables peace studies to further nuance the assessment of trauma therapies and while economists are studying how to create new business opportunities in this globalized world, the literature-philosophy-history-theology cluster is developing two kinds of synergies, one with the abovementioned kinds of research and one among themselves. To take one example: on the one hand the narrative analysis of forms of unreliability in trauma literature feeds into the study of mentalisation, on the other hand this same study also allows for further analysis of representations of trauma in art, both of which in turn feed into forms of forgiveness or the lack of it, which are further analyzed in theological and philosophical research.



Planning the Irish Itinerary for 2013. Malachy Vallely, Bas van Aarle, Simon Rapple, Seán O'Dubhghaill, Sien Deltour

While research is our core business, we want to disseminate its results as widely as possible to elicit further insights and interaction with colleagues in the field. Therefore we are expanding and consolidating the European networks for Irish studies, like EFACIS, but these need to be fed in turn by organisations such as INFER, the International Network for Economic Research, IASIL, the International Association for the Study of Irish Literatures, the Iconology Research Group, an international and interdisciplinary platform for the study of the interpretation of images, ENID, European Network on the Instruments of Devotion, the European network for the Study of Short Fiction, etc.

Another great factor in research is **Culture**, which is a key factor in the LCIS work. First of all, literature, film, music, drama and other forms of culture are “raw material”

for analysis. Second, it plays a big role in the formation of communities, in the rebuilding of resilience in fragmented societies and in the branding of (export) products. But it can also be a way to disseminate research results, as we see in the exhibitions put together by academics who turn their results not only into articles and books but also into tangible presentations which appeal to a wider public. 2013 was a key year in the LCIS’ culture policy, which developed the Irish Itinerary on behalf of EFACIS. This Europe-wide network of centres of Irish studies was launched during the Irish Presidency of Europe in January-June 2013. The Itinerary is meant to structurally enhance the profile of Irish Culture on the European continent and to make culture an integrative part of research. We are very grateful to Culture Ireland, the National Library and the Irish Film Institute, for their fantastic collaboration in the Irish Itinerary.

Like in research, we like to create synergies in culture: in 2013 we co-organised a debate about the complexities of identity with Europalia India, and in 2014 cooperated with the Arts Council of Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Executive; in 2015 we hope to make a concerted effort with several universities and cultural players to have an Irish writer in residence.

Research and culture are at the basis of **teaching**, and the LCIS wants to offer students innovative courses on Irish culture, peace studies and economics. The Irish classes seem to have a special appeal as they attract students from all faculties, not just the Humanities. On the international level we are preparing the Sixth EFACIS PhD Seminar in Irish Studies (August 2014). The LCIS is also planning to have an international interdisciplinary course on “Ireland in Europe”.

As to the future perspectives of the LCIS, it will be more active than ever in the coming years. All of the students who finished their PhD in 2013 received a postdoctoral scholarship, so they move on in academia. The annual LCIS interdisciplinary conference of 2014 will take place on 26-28 May and will focus on the Rhetorics of Food, bringing together researchers from anthropology, social sciences, theology, literature, history and cultural studies. In 2015 the theme will be migration and diaspora, 2016 will focus on Utopia, Easter 1916 and Roger Casement.

The EFACIS PhD seminar will offer 28 students from Europe, Latin America and Africa a boost in methodology for a week. 2014 will also see the second instalment of the Irish Itinerary, and the EFACIS coordinator is already planning the circuits for 2015.

In order to be able to realize these plans for the future we will have to use all our resources and think creatively. We thank Filip Abraham, honorary vice-rector of the KU Leuven and Chair of the LCIS Board for the firm support he has always given the LCIS. Special thanks also to H.E. Mr. Eamonn MacAodha, Irish Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium, who provided support for the EFACIS work which developed exponentially since 2013. We are also very grateful to Mr. Malachy Vallely, Director-General of the Leuven Institute for Ireland in Europe, who has not only been a staunch supporter of the LCIS but, being familiar with Irish academia, also successful in inviting researchers who matched the LCIS interests. A word of thanks also to Danny Pieters, vice-rector of KU Leuven for the Humanities and Social Sciences, who has accepted to take over from Filip Abraham as new Chair of the LCIS Board.

Last but not least I want to cordially thank the research directors for their fantastic input. Though they have very long working nights, they have managed to combine a huge teaching and research workload on several campuses with a prodigious amount of work in things Irish. I can only admire their commitment and hope that it will be supported by the authorities.

Prof. Dr. Hedwig Schwall
General Director LCIS

1 Mission Statement and Strategic Goals

The LCIS' primary ambition is to find and develop synergies while studying aspects of Irish life: synergies between researchers in different disciplines at KU Leuven, with the research work of colleagues in the KU Leuven's associated schools, with Irish universities and with specialists in the field from universities in Europe and beyond.

1.1 Stimulating Research Cooperation in Belgium and Developing Interdisciplinary Methods

As an incubation research centre of the KU Leuven, the LCIS aims to bring together colleagues from KU Leuven, in particular in order to stimulate multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary research cooperation in the LCIS research areas. Three research areas can be distinguished within the LCIS:

1. Literature, History, Theology, Philosophy and Fine Arts
2. Peace and Transformative Growth
3. Economics, Business, Law, Innovation and Valorization

Within the Association KU Leuven various new cooperation were launched or intensified. The LCIS closely collaborates with the Centre for European Reception Studies (CERES) at the KU Leuven Campus in Brussels. This centre's know-how will feed into the publication of the Yeats Reborn Project which is started up by the Irish Itinerary and EFACIS

in May 2014. On the same Brussels campus, the LCIS also intensively cooperation with the research group on Globalization, Innovation and Competition (GIC).

The LCIS also intensified its cooperation with other Belgian universities. For the 2014 interdisciplinary LCIS conference we cooperated with FOST, Social and Cultural Food Studies at the VUB.

Colleagues from the Centre for Literature and Trauma in Ghent will establish a Centre of Irish Studies to be able to participate in the Irish Itinerary which we developed. For the concept of the Irish Itinerary see the Focus story of this report (heading 10).

The University of Liège will become a partner in the Yeats project (2014-15) and other poetry translation projects.

Within these cooperations, the development of multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary methods is an important focus of the LCIS. This is accomplished by consolidating existing lines of research of our interfaculty research institute, by increasing the number of PhD projects co-supervised by members of several faculties (usually a combination of Arts and Psychology, Art and Neurosciences or Arts and Economics), by organizing a major interdisciplinary conference per year in order to stimulate collaboration between KU Leuven scholars from different faculties and disciplines (like economics, political sciences, history, psychology, philosophy) and their international colleagues. In this context we are glad that Theology delegates Johan Leemans, vice-dean of research, to be on our Academic Steering Committee.

We were also glad to host some of the sessions of MDRN, the research group of the Arts -Faculty, at the Irish College.

1.2 International Research Cooperation

The LCIS has a clear international focus in its research and research cooperation. First of all, the LCIS aims to intensively cooperate with (Northern) Irish researchers.

More systematic cooperation is envisaged with Trinity College Dublin on an initiative that came from King's Inns Dublin which will focus on the spiritual, economic, narrative, physical aspects of the Camino de Santiago de Compostela (Promoters Johan Verberckmoes – Turlough O'Donnell).

The Economics research group cooperated with various partners in Ireland, most intensively with University College Cork, University College Dublin and NUI Maynooth.

The LCIS international cooperation is, however, not restricted to cooperation with (Northern) Ireland only. We are particularly delighted that the translation scholars of USP, University of São Paulo, will cooperate on the Yeats Project. Also the launch of joint research with Tsinghua University on real estate markets is very promising.

2 Governance and Members

2.1 Board members of LCIS

IN MEMORIAM – PROF. DR. JAN ROEGIERS

First and foremost we want to mention here Prof. Dr. Jan Roegiers, Professor Emeritus, KU Leuven and member of the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium, who passed away on 12 July 2013. He was an LCIS board member, a colleague and a very good friend, who died way too early. Apart from being a world leading specialist in archives (appointed in 1975 as the youngest archivist ever, first head of the archives of the new KU Leuven and active till 2013) and inspired teacher of archival sciences not only at KU Leuven but also at the VUB, Free University Brussels). Jan taught Intellectual History, Mentality and Church history of the Modern time, was Chief librarian of KU Leuven from 1981 till 1996 and Director of university heritage from 1983 onward. These four jobs led him to organize more than forty exhibitions in Belgium and abroad, the catalogues of which (like *Erasmus en Leuven* (1969) and *550 jaar Universiteit Leuven* (1976)), are reference works in the field. Jan was closely associated with the foundation of KADOC, the Documentation and Research Centre for Religion, Culture and Society (www.kuleuven.be/wieiswie/en/unit/50000759).

He published numerous articles and together with his colleagues realized two monumental books on Leuven University history, *De Universiteit te Leuven 1425-1985* (1988) and *De Universiteitsbibliotheek Leuven 1425-2000* (2005). His publications on book science and on the political, religious and intellectual history of the Low

Countries under Austrian rule and in the Revolution were milestones in the field. He was on the board of many authoritative history journals, and since 1990 he was director of the *Revue d'histoire ecclésiastique*. In 1996 he was elected a member of the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium of the Sciences and the Arts.

Jan Roegiers was both a thorough and wide-ranging researcher, not only outstandingly erudite but also generous with his knowledge, from which everyone benefited: his many PhD students to whom he gave quick and detailed feedback, colleagues in Belgium and abroad who found their way in archives and publications which often opened new perspectives. His knowledge is also reflected in the sustained buying policy of the University's book and art collections, which also profited from his wide network of benefactors. Indeed, for hundreds of visitors Jan was the perfect host; everyone enjoyed his tours of Leuven with its colourful town and gown stories.

Jan has been a co-founding member of the LCIS. As the historian of the Old University of Leuven he had come across Irish professors in his Ph.D. (1979) like John and Florent O'Sullivan and Francis O'Hearn. Being steeped in Jansenism (Jansenius was the president of the Holland College, across the street from the Irish Franciscan college), he was aware of the importance of the role of Florence Conry and his franciscan brethren and could give Thomas O'Connor good advice for his book *Irish Jansenists, 1600-70* (2008).

Under Jan's direction Jeroen Nilis undertook a study of the *Irish students at Leuven University, a prosopography*, for his M.A. thesis (1994), which resulted in a book (2010). Even earlier, Els Vandeput had pointed out to him some Irish professors, Francis O'Hearn and Thomas Flinn, in her M.A. Thesis (1990). Later on, his PhDs Bruno Boute (2003 on Peter Lombard) and Toon Quaeghebeur (2004 on the Sullivans, Matthew Theige, John Sinnich) found how important the Irish theologians were at the old Leuven University. Aedhemar Hoffman-Maguire's research on Francis O'Hearn led to her write the entry on him in the *Dictionary of Irish Biography* (2008). All these references of the Irish at the Leuven university accumulated into the small but detailed exhibition, *Lobhain 400* (2007), which Jan organized for the celebrations of the 400th anniversary of the Irish College Leuven (1607). A few years later, he gave a talk on the Irish presence on Heritage Day (2009).

Thanks to his interest in things Irish and his being a world authority on European archives, intellectual history and heritage Jan was the obvious candidate to be invited on the board of the LCIS when it started up in 2010, picking up where Florence Conry and the other brethren had left off.

In his final lecture 'Universitaire heemkunde? On academic heritage and university history' (19 February 2010) Jan Roegiers concluded:

I have tried to make students aware of the fact that the first function of history is to show that things were different in the past, and radically so. Historians who maintain that humanity does not really change much,

that history consists of patterns which repeat themselves, undercut their own discipline and block off any perspectives. The proper study of history brings hope. Even though it reports the most gruesome deeds/events, history allows one to see that times change, that things do not necessarily stay the same way. History crosses out the idea that things are self-evident, the illusion that things have always been the same and will always be. On the contrary: everything will always keep changing – though we don't know how – and in that change we can play a role too. Good history opens our view on the future.

"Ik heb gepoogd studenten in te prenten dat de eerste functie van geschiedenis is: aan te tonen dat het vroeger anders was, fundamenteel anders. Historici die beweren dat er in het menselijke doen en laten eigenlijk niets grondig verandert, dat geschiedenis enkel bestaat uit patronen die zich herhalen, ondergraven hun eigen vak en ontnemen ons elk perspectief. Het hoopgevende in goede geschiedenis, ook al brengt ze het verslag van de grootste wandaden, is dat men ziet dat de tijden veranderen, dat niets noodzakelijk moet blijven zoals het is. Geschiedenis ontnemt het hedendaags bestaande zijn vanzelfsprekendheid, de illusie dat het altijd zo was en altijd zo zal blijven. Integendeel, alles zal blijven veranderen – al weten we niet hoe – en in die verandering kunnen ook wij een rol spelen. Goede geschiedenis opent onze blik voor de toekomst."

As a professor, mentor, policy maker, intellectual, networker, historian, archivist and book lover Jan Roegiers has left an indelible impression on the KU Leuven and the LCIS. We are grateful for what he has done for us; we will miss him.

The LCIS Board consists of:

- **Prof. Dr. Danny Pieters**, Vice-rector of KU Leuven for the Humanities and Social Sciences (President of the Board)
- **H.E. Mr Eamonn MacAodha**, Irish Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium
- **Mr. Malachy Vallely**, Acting Director-General of the Leuven Institute for Ireland in Europe
- **Prof. Dr. Patrick Onghena**, Dean of the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, KU Leuven
- **Mr. Jan Smets**, Director of the National Bank of Belgium and President of the Board of the H.U.Brussel
- **Mr. Edwin De Boeck**, Chief Economist KBC Bank
- **Ms. Katrien Verhelst**, Group Manager of the Humanities and Social Sciences Group, KU Leuven
- **Prof. Dr. Jan Roegiers**, Professor Emeritus, KU Leuven and member of the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium
- **Prof. Dr. Hedwig Schwall**, General Director of the Leuven Centre for Irish Studies, KU Leuven
- **Mr. David O'Sullivan**, Chief Operating Officer at the European External Action

The LCIS is very honoured that **Prof. Dr. Danny Pieters**, Vice-rector of KU Leuven for the Humanities and Social Sciences, has agreed to succeed **Prof. Dr. Filip Abraham** as new President of the Board. We are also especially grateful to **H.E. Mr Eamonn MacAodha**, Irish Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium, for his advice and support to the LCIS. Thanks to a donation by the Irish Embassy to EFACIS, the LCIS was able to host a part-time coordinator

for the Irish Itinerary (see infra). **Mr. Malachy Vallely**, who is Acting Director-General of the Leuven Institute for Ireland in Europe has been a staunch supporter of the LCIS, not only as he steered the Irish College into a more academic course, but also because he has become a member of the executive committee of EFACIS. As the director of the LCIS, Hedwig Schwall has been appointed board member of the LIIE, which indicates the growing convergences between the LIIE and the LCIS. We are most honoured and delighted that **Mr. Jan Smets**, Director of the National Bank of Belgium and President of the Board of the H.U.Brussel agreed to be on the board, as well as **Mr. Edwin De Boeck**, Chief Economist KBC Bank and well acquainted with Ireland. **Prof. Dr. Patrick Onghena**, Dean of the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences and **Ms. Katrien Verhelst**, Group Manager of the Humanities and Social Sciences Group, represent the KU Leuven.

Sadly we also had to bid farewell to **Mr. David O'Sullivan**, Chief Operating Officer at the European External Action, who is now EU Ambassador to the USA and who will need a successor.

2.2 International Advisory Board

The International Advisory Board consists of distinguished researchers active in the LCIS research areas, who advise the centre and its research directors on its research activities. The International Advisory Board consists of:

- **Prof. Dr. Claire Connolly** (University College Cork, Literature)
- **Prof. Dr. Mary Daly** (University College Dublin, History)
- **Prof. Dr. Ron Davies** (University College Dublin, Economics)
- **Prof. Dr. Marianne Elliot** (Director of the Institute of Irish Studies, University of Liverpool; politics et al.)
- **Mr. Barney Devine** (NICTT)
- **Prof. Dr. Anne Fogarty** (University College Dublin, Professor of James Joyce Studies, Head of the School of English, Drama and Film)
- **Prof. Dr. Robbie Gilligan** (Trinity College Dublin, Social Sciences)
- **Prof. Dr. Hans Grietens** (University of Groningen, Psychology)
- **Prof. Dr. Margaret Kelleher** (University College Dublin, Anglo-Irish Literature and Drama)
- **Prof. Dr. Jane Ohlmeyer** (Trinity College Dublin, History)
- **Prof. Dr. Edward Shinnick** (University College Cork, Economics)
- **Prof. Dr. Marc Vervenne** (KU Leuven, Honorary Rector, Theology)

The LCIS congratulates **Prof. Dr. Mary Daly** (University College Dublin) on her appointment as the new Chair of the Royal Irish Academy. She is the first woman president of this eminent institution. We are also very glad and honoured that she will give a plenary at the 2014 international Leuven PhD seminar in Irish Studies. Thanks to her invitation of the LCIS /EFACIS to present a panel at the ACIS conference in June 2014 we hope to strengthen the links between the American and European networks for Irish Studies.

Prof. Dr. Jane Ohlmeyer, currently Vice-Provost for Global Relations at Trinity College Dublin, has kindly consented to participate in the International PhD seminar. Her reputation, like Mary Daly's, clearly attracted many students.

We are grateful to **Prof. Dr. Marianne Elliot** (Institute of Irish Studies, University of Liverpool) for having put the Erasmus exchange in place, which will be helpful as we organize the first interdisciplinary international seminar at KU Leuven in 2015 on "Irish Studies in a European context".

Prof. Dr. Robbie Gilligan (Trinity College Dublin) and **Prof. Dr. Hans Grietens** (University of Groningen) organized a very successful workshop on Historical Child Abuse in Ireland, Scotland, Sweden and the Netherlands under the auspices of the LCIS which was attended by experts from all over Europe.

Prof. Dr. Marc Vervenne, honorary rector of the **KU Leuven**, Ministerial Expert Committee for Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Flemish Agency for Arts & Heritage, President of the Flemish Commission for UNESCO and Patron of the Committee of the

Commemoration Project “100 Year Great War” has closely cooperated with **Mr. Barney Devine** (The Initiative for Conflict Related Trauma, NI) which inspired many projects of the Flemish government in the context of the remembrance of the Great War. Marc will be emeritus from the academic year 2014-5 onward; he will be celebrated during a two-day long academic conference on 6-7 June 2014.

In 2013 the LCIS International Advisory Board has been extended by two distinguished economists: **Prof. Dr. Ron Davies**, professor of international economics at University College Dublin, and Prof. **Dr. Edward Shinnick**, Dean of the Commerce Faculty and a Senior Lecturer in Economics at University College Cork. The LCIS is grateful to both of them for providing us with their advice on our economic research.

2.3 The Academic Steering Committee

The academic steering committee consists, by the Agreement of March 2010, of seven members. The committee has an advisory capacity and its main purpose is to provide advice on the academic work programme of the Centre.

At the moment the Academic Steering Committee consists of the following members:

- **Karolien De Bruyne** (Economics, KU Leuven/HUB)
- **Ortwin de Graef** (Literary studies, KU Leuven, vice-dean of research of the Arts Faculty)

- **Nicolas de Warren** (Philosophy, KU Leuven)
- **Fred Truyen** (IT, KU Leuven)
- **Johan Verberckmoes** (History, KU Leuven, vice-dean of education of the Arts Faculty)
- **Peter Vermeersch** (Political sciences, KU Leuven)

The research directors, Elke D’hoker (Literary studies, KU Leuven), Patrick Luyten (Psychology, KU Leuven), Jan Van Hove (Economics, KU Leuven/HUB), and the general director Hedwig Schwall (Literary studies/culture, KU Leuven/ Kulak/HUB).

The Academic Steering Committee has been extended in order to have a better representation from all the faculties involved in the LCIS’ research. The following colleagues kindly agreed to join the Academic Steering Committee: Lucia Dehaene (Psychology), Bas van Aarle (Economics) and Johan Leemans, vice-dean of research of the Theology Faculty.

During 2013, the intensification of activities pressed the need for a special research director for Literature, Culture, History, Art, Philosophy and Theology. As Elke D’hoker is both very active in this field, and the new EFACIS representative for Leuven, she has accepted to step in from September 2013 onward, though this still needs to be formally approved by the Board. This would also mean that from the next EFACIS board meeting onward she will be responsible for the contacts between LCIS and EFACIS.

2.4 News from LCIS members

- **Stephanie Eggermont** defended her PhD on 13 December 2013.
- **Violet Soen** has been appointed in the Jonge Academie and has been elected as the spokesperson for her group.
- **Raphaël Ingelbien** received a scholarship from Trinity College Dublin.
- After having obtained her PhD with Prof. Dr. Jane Ohlmeyer **Ciska Neyts** received a scholarship for postdoctoral research in Modern History at Oxford University.
- **Glenn Magerman** (Economics) obtained a Fulbright Scholarship and will visit Stanford University (USA) till June 2014.
- **Zuzanna Studnicka** (Economics) spent three months as a visiting PhD student at the University of Nottingham.
- **Jan Van Hove** (Economics) was invited as a visiting professor at the Université Libre de Bruxelles and taught courses on European integration and international trade during the academic year 2013-2014.
- **Jan Van Hove** (Economics) was re-elected as chairman of the International Network for Economic Research (INFER).
- **Patrick Luyten** has been appointed as part-time (.20 FTE) Reader (hoogleraar) at University College London, where his main focus is on the understanding the role of attachment and early adversity in developing prevention and intervention programmes.

2.5 Secretarial support for the LCIS

The LCIS has been strongly supported by two interns, Lucie Hladikova and Anna Gromilova, who obtained their MA in *International Politics and Diplomacy* from the University of Economics in Prague (UEP), Faculty of International Relations. Anna Gromilova started a PhD at the University of Economics in Prague on identities in the Baltic States (topic on which she came to give a lecture at KU Leuven in 2013). They were succeeded by Simon Rapple (from TCD) who set the Irish Itinerary going. Simon is now doing a PhD in history at the University of Münster.

In terms of secretarial support, 2013 has been a splendid year in that we could appoint Sien Deltour to take on a good part of the EFACIS jobs, thanks to the generous grant from 'The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Ireland): Cultural Relations with Other Countries Programme'. Now Sien Deltour coordinates the Irish Itinerary, organizes the EFACIS PhD seminar, looks after the website and is the central point of reference for all information regarding EFACIS.

Yet as Sien only works part time, we hope that in the near future interns will further support us, while aiming at close co-operation between EFACIS and the LCIS.

2.6 Visiting Researchers

The following international scholars visited the LCIS in 2013:

- **Prof. Dr. Huw Edwards** (Loughborough University)
- **Prof. Dr. Tina O'Toole** (National University of Limerick)
- **Prof. Dr. Lucy Collins** (University College Dublin)
- **Dr. Borbála Faragó** (Central European University Budapest), Marie Curie Fellow
- **Prof. Dr. Margaret Mills Harper** (University of Limerick)
- **Prof. Dr. Louis de Paor** (National University of Galway)
- **Dr. Ciaran McDonough** (National University of Ireland, Galway)
- **Rita Duffy**, artist, co-responsible for Derry Cultural Capital 2013
- **Fiona Ross**, director of the National Library, Dublin.
- **Kate Hynes** (National University of Ireland, Maynooth)
- **Prof. Drs. Siobhan O'Neill, Finola Ferry, Brendan Bunting, Sam Murphy** (University of Ulster – Bamford Centre)
- **Barney Devine, David Bolton** (Northern Ireland Institute for Trauma and Transformation)
- **Prof. Dr. John Fayyad** (University of Lebanon)
- **Prof. Dr. Christine Heim** (Free University of Berlin)

3 Research

3.1 Research within the main Research Areas

Three research areas can be distinguished within the Leuven Centre for Irish Studies:

- 1 Literature, History, Theology, Philosophy and Fine Arts
- 2 Peace and Transformative Growth
- 3 Economics, Business, Law, Innovation and Valorization

All three areas have three central foci in common:

- 1 They share a focus on **Irish** matters: Irish literature and film, Irish history and philosophy, political or economic analysis of Ireland, trauma and transformation in (Northern) Ireland;
- 2 A second strand in our research is **comparative**; e.g. Jan Van Hove's study of small open economies in Europe; Patrick Luyten's comparative study on trauma and transformation with partners in Northern Ireland, ex-Yugoslavia, Lebanon and Spain; Peter Vermeersch (Political Sciences) participates in debates about the Irish Constitution with other political scientists from other European universities; Hans Grietens and Robert Gilligan formed a consortium with specialists from Ireland, Scotland, Sweden and the Netherlands to compare the treatment of historical child abuse; Raphaël Ingelbien (Literary Studies) investigates continental travel narratives on Ireland while Eve Patten (TCD) looks at Irish travel books on the continent, etc.
- 3 Last but not least there is the LCIS' focus on **methodology**: this is where **interdisciplinary** research is innovative as concepts of different systems cross-fertilize. Nicolas de Warren's ERC project is an excellent example, as it researches the impact of World War I on poetry

and philosophy and on colonialism (Casement and the Belgian Congo); different new digitizing tools are being tried out, the application of which lifts research to another level (cf. Husserl and Joyce Archives); narrative theories offer a refined set of categories to study trauma and its transformation.

3.1.1 Research group of Literature, History, Theology, Philosophy and Fine Arts

Research within this group engages with the three focal points of LCIS. A first aspect of the research of this group is immediately concerned with Ireland, whether in the form of Irish literature and culture investigated by the members of the department of literary studies, Hedwig Schwall, Elke D'hoker and Raphaël Ingelbien; in the form of Irish history in its interaction with Europe, investigated by Hans Cools, Violet Soen, and Johan Verberckmoes, or in terms of its philosophy, as investigated by William Desmond and Nicolas de Warren. Partly interacting, partly overlapping with this research is, secondly, comparative research which seeks to link Irish history, art history, literature, philosophy and spirituality with similar concerns in other European countries. Worthy of mention in this respect is, for instance, Raphaël Ingelbien's comparative investigation of travel narratives about Ireland and the continent, Demmy Verbeke's study of Irish contributions to and embeddedness in a larger European intellectual history, Elke D'hoker's analysis of the cultural imaginaries of home in Ireland and Britain and Barbara Baert's research on the iconography of women and the bloodflow in

mediaeval culture. A third aspect of the research is of a methodological nature: it seeks to develop new – often interdisciplinary - methodologies that are relevant for research in the domains of arts and humanities in Ireland as in other countries. Particularly important in this research group is the development of new possibilities and methodologies in the field of psychoanalysis and digital humanities. LCIS members Schwall and Baert are active in the former while Ortwin de Graef, Frederik Truyen, Pierre Delsaerd, Eddy Put and Jan de Maeyer are all involved in projects concerning digitalizing historical archives and literary texts. The research foci of each member will be summarily presented below, as they indicate the core business as well as the parallels with other researchers, which are reflected in the publications.

Elke D'hoker's research areas are modern and contemporary British and Irish fiction, with a special emphasis on the work of women writers and the genre of the short story. Her research is informed by gender studies and narrative theory; and she is interested in studying the links between literature and political sciences, philosophy and sociology. Current research projects deal with the short story cycle in Ireland, the cultural imaginaries of home in Ireland and Europe, and the conceptualization of community in contemporary literature and society. For the latter project, she is collaborating with Nicolas de Warren.

Raphaël Ingelbien's current research projects focus on nineteenth-century cultural transfers between the British Isles and the continent. This entails studies on women writers, tourism and travel industry, and Edwardian Irish print culture. Another line of research is 'Shakespeare and Irish Romanticism' which in turn feeds into the research

done in the Arts Faculty on British Romanticism and Irish nationalism. As the linking to print culture is very important here, cooperation with historians and heritage studies is vital. In the tourist-related research, Ingelbien can rely on Jan van Hove's input from economics and international trade and on cooperation with political sciences.

Hedwig Schwall's core business is contemporary Irish poetry and fiction. As all contemporary Irish writers are haunted by the strict religious structures of the Irish state up to our day, theological concepts form a vital aspect of this study. This leads to cooperation with Bieringer whose exegesis of New Testament and Pauline concepts help to tackle novels about trauma and forgiveness. This again ties in with psychological categories, so the input of Patrick Luyten and Lucia de Haene is very much appreciated. Likewise, the PhD on Trauma by Jeroen Vermeulen in which narrative categories help refine the terminology used in assessing early attachments, trauma and degrees of mentalization and resilience is beneficial for both literary studies and psychology (literary categories feeding into Fonagy's systems of thought). Sometimes, political thought helps to analyze contemporary literature, like when the Derrida-Patocka views on history elucidated Brian Friel's "The Home Place". Finally, interaction between literary and artistic forms are foregrounded in contemporary poetry, which ties in with psychoanalytic categories. These prove very relevant to analyze newer forms of ritual and art (like Rita Duffy's). The fact that these writers and artists actually visit the Leuven Centre for Irish Studies is a bonus, as this yields extra material for study (poetic material, interviews, masterclasses which appeal to several disciplines (Art, literature, psychology, political sciences)).

Barbara Baert's research into Narrative, Iconic and Anthropological Spaces provides a interesting interface with Hedwig Schwall's study of Irish poetry as do her iconographical and anthropological study of certain motifs such as 'touch' 'textile', the "Noli me tangere" and 'the woman with the bloodflow'. Baert's *Caput Johannis in disco* brought in an original approach at the Inter-disciplinary LCIS conferences on Interiority (2013) and the Rhetorics of Food (2014). The *caput Johannis*, striking motif of Oscar Wilde's drama, further links in with instances of Gothic literature and nineteenth-century Irish fiction.

Ortwin de Graef's research focuses on ideologies of sympathy as they interact with imaginations of the State and truth-regimes of science in the very long nineteenth century (1789 to the present). Also, his questioning of extrapolations from neuroscientific accounts of empathy in social justice proves inspiring for the questions raised in contemporary Irish prose. De Graef's study of Trollope which will come to full fruition in the big Trollope conference which will be held at the Irish college, as his work on Ireland will be the subject of a series of panels. As an expert in Digital Humanities, Ortwin de Graef also contributes to the methodological axis of LCIS research and has contacts with Irish scholars working in this field

Hans Cools focuses on nobilities, warfare, state formation and political and cultural brokerage in the Low Countries, France and Italy in the fifteenth to seventeenth century. His research into the Irish diaspora in Catholic Europe and his work on the development of new missionary rules (1519-1587) could feed into a project the LCIS is promoting about the Camino de Santiago de Compostela.

Pierre Delsaerdt cooperates with John McCafferty of the Mícheál Ó Cléirigh Institute at UCD. Delsaerd is co-organizer of the SHARP-conferences (Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing) which will take place in September 2014 in Antwerp.

Thanks to the efforts of **Eddy Put and Jan Roegiers** the Archives of the old University of Leuven, which are vital in the understanding of Modern Europe's intellectual history, have been recognized as **UNESCO world heritage**. As a tribute to Jan Roegiers who has been organizing the place for thirty years the reading room of the archive has been named after Jan Roegiers which was solemnly celebrated on 13 May 2014.

Demmy Verbeke is a classics scholar and head librarian of the KU Leuven Faculty of Arts who researches Intellectual History of the Late Middle Ages and the Renaissance; Book History; intellectual exchanges & humanist conviviality; political implications of translations by Catholic professors of Leuven who were translated for English usage. This ties in with the project on the college dictates of which the Irish students' notes will form a part. Verbeke's interest in food in Renaissance times will feed into the LCIS' interdisciplinary Conference on the Rhetorics of Food.

William Desmond, a philosopher at the HIW, focuses on Irish thinking in "The Exile of Thought: On Wayward-Home-bound Philosophizing"

Nicolas de Warren's research investigates the links between philosophy and politics (Patocka, Jankélévitch) and explores new ways of looking at Evil and Forgiveness.

Also, de Warren's many contacts with Irish colleagues help increase cooperation, especially with Trinity and UCD. The interdisciplinary nature of his ERC project on the effects of the First World War offers new approaches to look at contemporary representations of the Troubles.

3.1.2 Research group of Peace and Transformative Growth

Current research focus

The Peace and Transformative Growth research group (director: Prof. Dr. Patrick Luyten) focused on the study of peace and transformative growth processes in the context of trauma and adversity at both the personal and societal level. Three lines of research can currently be distinguished. In each of these areas, the focus is on fostering interdisciplinary research, with close collaborations with research groups from literature, philosophy, political sciences, economy, and neuroscience:

1. Trauma, transformative growth, and peace processes in Ireland

Given the prevalence of adversity and hardship throughout the ages in Irish history, (Northern) Ireland provides a productive context to study these phenomena. In this context, a close collaboration has developed with The Initiative for Conflict Related Trauma (formerly Northern Ireland Centre for Trauma and Transformation) and partners from the University of Ulster.

2. Comparative research on trauma and transformation

Comparative studies focus on the prevalence of trauma and transformation/resilience, and processes involved in explaining vulnerability and resilience in the face of adversity at both the personal and societal level, in Northern Ireland as compared to other countries, currently including Israel, ex-Yugoslavia, the United States, Spain, Belgium and Lebanon. This study has been the topic of a number of formal and informal research meetings (see list of conferences) which were hosted by the LCIS, and will be the topic of a funding application in the context of the EU Horizon 2020 scheme. A special section devoted to this topic in a ISI rated journal is currently in progress.

3. Basic research

Studies led by members of the Peace and Transformative Growth group also addresses basic psychosocial and biological processes involved in responses to adversity, which subsequently informs research in the abovementioned areas.

1. The role of mentalizing, i.e., the capacity to interpret behavior in terms of internal mental states such as feelings, wishes, goals, and values, in both individuals and societies (e.g., in Ireland versus ex-Yugoslavia) faced with trauma, and the role of mentalizing in peace negotiations. This line of research has been the topic of numerous publications.

2. Biological and psychosocial processes involved in the intergenerational transmission of trauma and resilience. Current studies focus on patients with borderline personality disorder and functional somatic syndromes (i.e., chronic fatigue and pain related syndromes), whereas researchers from The Initiative for Conflict Related Trauma and the University of Ulster primarily focus on patients with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Ongoing work focuses on exploring similarities and differences in trauma-related pathology using the European Study of Mental Disorders (ESeMeD) data set.
3. Finally, research within the Centre also focuses on the understanding of the role of trauma in refugees and is actively involved in offering therapy for refugee families. This project is currently led by LCIS member Lucia De Haene.
4. Research led by Peter Vermeersch focuses on ethnic minorities and political mobilization in Central and South-Eastern Europe, frames of reconciliation in the former Yugoslavia, and opportunities of deliberative democracy in Western and Eastern Europe.

Future Developments

The Peace and Transformative Growth research group aims to realize the following three goals in the near future:

First, attracting additional competitive funding to further realize and extend ongoing studies, also in terms of their potential to influence policy making, the public, and clinical practice. In this context, the Group also seeks to establish

a Chair in Peace and Transformative Growth to foster interdisciplinary research between psychology, economics, and political sciences.

Second, foster exchange at the PhD level between the LCIS/KU Leuven and universities in Ireland.

Third, establish a joint MSc on Irish studies with universities in the UK and Northern Ireland.

3.1.3 Research Group of Economics, Business, Law, Innovation and Valorization

Current research focus

The Economics research group (director: Prof. Dr. Jan Van Hove) works within the entire spectrum of economics, business and law. The research team focuses, on the one hand, on various recent issues in the Irish economy. The Irish economy is a very interesting case for economic research because of various reasons: the presence of multinationals attracted by the low corporate tax rate, the dynamics of Irish trade, new innovation initiatives, Ireland's remarkable recovery after the global financial crisis etc.

In 2013 the Economics team studied intensively two topics: First, Irish international trade patterns have been analyzed through a number of studies, mainly with a comparative international focus. Secondly, two studies on the Irish macroeconomic situation have been completed.

On the other hand, three more general research topics are studied that are all of utmost importance to small open economies such as Ireland and Belgium that share many economic characteristics and face common challenges. Hence research regarding these common economic interests may benefit both countries. In particular it will provide useful insights to business leaders and policy makers.

1. International Trade and International Business

Firms and countries have to cope with many challenges due to recent international economic trends (e.g., globalization, the rise of China, the declining manufacturing sector, the opening up of services sectors, the global financial-economic crisis). Within this research area we look into how economic policy and firms' strategies create new business opportunities in this globalized world. In 2013 two international workshops have been organized by the LCIS on international trade: the first one on Networks and Trade, the second one on Firm and Product Heterogeneity in International Trade (see Academic Events).

2. Innovation and Valorization

This research area includes the study of the characteristics and determinants of innovation, more precisely the impact of innovation on economic performance (e.g., export and investment performance, profitability, market shares). Hence, the valorization of firms' research efforts are a central theme. In ongoing research particular attention is paid to international technological spillovers and cooperation as well as to regional innovation policies.

3. European Economic Integration

Since both Belgium and Ireland are frontrunners in European integration, research is done on current and new integration issues in the EU.

Ongoing Research

Ongoing research is related to the main research topics mentioned above. In many cases special attention is paid to Irish evidence, most often in a comparative context. Findings for Ireland are either integrated in the general paper, or used for a specific paper concentrating on the Irish case.

1. International Trade and International Business

Filip Abraham, Zuzanna Studnicka and Jan Van Hove continued their work on a joint-project with the National Bank of Belgium. In this project they use Belgian firm level data to study the fixed costs of exporting and the duration of trade at the firm level. Their main findings suggest that, on average, observed trade spells have a very short duration (less than two years), that firms are more likely to abandon products rather than destination markets in their export portfolio. Around 50 per cent of firms return to exporting after stopping export activity which is not predicted by theoretical trade models. Returning to export increases the probability of survival in the short and in the long run. This finding confirms the idea of Albornoz et al. (2013) that sunk costs are not necessarily sunk.

In parallel, Zuzanna Studnicka and Jan Van Hove continued their paper on the impact of the economic crisis on the survival of product-level exports across EU member states. Their results point to substantial heterogeneity across Europe in terms of the survival of export relationships as well as in terms of their determinants. They also continued to work on a paper dealing with the impact of distance on the margins of trade.

Karolien De Bruyne, Glenn Magerman and Jan Van Hove finished their research on Revealed Multilateral Trade Resistance in Gravity Models, which assesses the impact of the network position of countries on trade in a gravity setting by revealing rather than only accounting for the multilateral resistance terms of Anderson and van Wincoop (2003). The main findings are that being connected in the network leads to higher bilateral trade, both on the intensive and extensive margins. Conversely, clustering (the concept that a country's trading partners are trading themselves) has opposite effects on both margins: the extensive margin decreases in clustering, showing that less varieties are traded bilateral between the original traders, but the intensive margin increases in clustering, showing that the remaining varieties are traded more intensely.

Karolien De Bruyne, Glenn Magerman and Jan Van Hove started working on the impact of intermediate goods in international trade and the welfare effects of global value chains.

Glenn Magerman and Patrick Van Cayseele started a new paper on the vertical structure of the online market of copyrights, together with the Belgian collecting society Sabam. They will analyse the pricing behaviour of Sabam in the online market and evaluate if optimal prices are being set.

Sophie Soete and Jan Van Hove finished a research paper on the impact of various trade agreements on European export and import patterns. Moreover they calculated the impact of European trade agreements on Flemish trade and advised the Flemish government on this within the Interuniversity Policy Research Centre for Foreign Affairs, International Entrepreneurship and Development Cooperation of the Government of Flanders. Within the framework of this Interuniversity Policy Research Centre, Jan Van Hove studied, jointly with René Belderbos, Tomas Roggerman and Leo Sleuwaegen (all University of Leuven), the main features of Belgian and Flemish trade in services.

Janez Kren and Jan Van Hove started to work on a project dealing with dynamics in European trade patterns. In this project they analyse various aspects of the trade performances of European economies following the recent financial crisis. Even though there was no substantial rise in protectionism, the downfall in world trade was greater than in previous recessions and greater than models predicted. They look for the reasons behind this so-called 'great trade collapse' and how it affected different parts of Europe.

Joris Tielens and Jan Van Hove calculated the export potential of Belgian services trade. Using an augmented gravity framework, they distinguish in this research between the geographic and sectoral dimension of this export potential.

During the year 2012, Annabel Sels (Ph.D. Applied Economic Sciences, Tilburg University), who is working as an assistant professor in International Business and Management at HUB, continued working on value creation in cross border acquisitions (CBAs) by dragon MNEs in an attempt to explain successful strategies by acquiring resources and learning, linkage and leverage processes. The critical starting point for the latecomers and newcomers is that they are focused not on their own advantages, but on the advantages which can be acquired externally. The firm seeking to acquire resources and assets in foreign markets has to overcome problems of uncertainty regarding the quality of knowledge potentially available. In this respect, the focus of analysis is on the ways in which links can be established with incumbents or partners so that resources can be leveraged. The focus is directed towards the resources themselves, and their leverage potential. It will be concerned with how accessible such resources are, with their imitability or transferability. The application of linkage and leverage processes may result in the firm learning to perform such operations more effectively.

Since November 2012, Annabel Sels got involved in policy related research for the Flemish Ministry of Culture, Agency for Social Cultural Work, jointly with Jan Colpaert, Alain Praet and Andy Vekeman (HU Brussel, Center for Modulation and Simulation) tackling the question of optimizing the

purchasing policy of public libraries and doing suggestions for a good type of collaboration between public libraries and booksellers in Flanders and Brussels. This resulted in a research report 'Purchasing policy by Public Libraries' forthcoming in May 2013.

2. Innovation

Jan Van Hove continued his research on the interaction between trade and innovation. First, he participated in a wider consortium to study the interaction between innovation and export performance of young innovative companies. Second, he cooperated in a short-term interdisciplinary (law & economics) project about intellectual property protection in the IT sector.

Jan Van Hove and Terence Huw Edwards (Loughborough University) studied the interaction between technological co-operation and export orientation from a theoretical and empirical perspective. They simulated the impact of various R&D co-operation situations.

3. European Economic Integration

Given Ireland's central role in the global economic crisis and the European debt crisis, research at the LCIS has focused on macroeconomic policy in Ireland and the impact of European macroeconomic policy on Ireland. Joris Tielens, Jan Van Hove and Bas van Aarle assessed the impact of the issuance of Eurobonds on sovereign debt of Greece Ireland and Portugal. Conditional on the absence of moral hazard, the research results suggest that the issuance of Eurobonds would have a material benign effect on sovereign debt dynamics.

The same authors also finished a research paper on the aftermath of the global crisis in Ireland. This research is based on a stylized budgeting and growth framework to analyze the effects of various shocks on Irish public finances and growth. A scenario analysis of budgetary adjustment in the short and medium run under alternative hypotheses is carried out to assess Irish fiscal sustainability and growth. We focus on the impact of primary fiscal balance shocks, housing prices, FDI and interest rate shocks on budgetary sustainability and growth.

During 2013 Bas van Aarle's research focused on a few topics: (i) the aftermath of financial, budgetary and economic crisis in Europe, (ii) fiscal federalism in Europe, (iii) structural reforms and their macroeconomic effects, (iv) disequilibrium macroeconomics. This led to several new publications.

Engwerda et al. (2013) extends Tabellini's (1987) theoretical model of debt stabilization games by including an endogenous risk premium, reflecting the presence of financial markets that evaluate solvency risks of sovereign bonds. This renders the original model non-linear and give rise to several interesting observations relating to debt, deficits and money growth dynamics. While the study is of a theoretical nature, the presence of significant risk premia witnessed during the European Debt Crisis in countries like Greece and Ireland, demonstrates that the results do also have practical relevance.

Bas van Aarle and Kappler (2013) assess whether there is a potential role for economic sentiment to amplify business cycle fluctuations. To do so, the European Commission Economic Sentiment Indicator data is included into an

econometric analysis of the euro area business cycle. The investigation of the euro area economy suggests that sentiment shocks do have an impact on important macroeconomic variables such as output, retail sales, and unemployment. There is furthermore significant evidence that economic conditions and shocks on their turn also affect economic sentiment.

Weyerstrass et al. (2013) contains a detailed descriptive analysis of business cycle synchronisation in the EU during the period 1990-2010, a period that covers therefore the preparation for the euro, the accession of new Member States in Central- and Eastern Europe and the recent financial crisis.

3.2 Interdisciplinary Research

3.2.1 Research on Trauma and Transformation

In line with the mission of the Leuven Center for Irish Studies, there is an obvious focus on the study of trauma, transformation, and peace processes in Ireland, given the prominence of adversity and hardship throughout the ages in Irish history. In this context, a close collaboration has developed with the The Initiative for Conflict Related Trauma (formerly Northern Ireland Centre for Trauma and Transformation).

3.2.2 Economic Geography

Various economic phenomena are affected by geographical factors like location, distance, borders, regional differences etc. The study of economic geography combines insights from economics and geography, but also from history, culture, political sciences and possibly many other research areas.

The LCIS brings together several researchers from the Association KU Leuven who wish to expand this promising research area.

Two research strands are currently developed by the LCIS.

First, network theory and methodology is used to study various economic phenomena. Currently the main focus is on network effects in international trade. Karolien De Bruyne, Glenn Magerman and Jan Van Hove launched new research on networks in international trade. Recent advances in the multidisciplinary network theory are used to analyse the effects of the network structure of the world trade network on various aspects of international trade. In particular, they focus on the impact of the role of networks as a factor of multilateral resistance in bilateral trade flows. This research looks at the clustering structure of trading partners and its effect on bilateral trade, while linking the observed network structure to models such as those of Anderson and van Wincoop (2003) and Helpman, Melitz and Rubinstein (2008).

Secondly, the LCIS engages in studying regional economic issues and policy following the trend that regional policy is increasingly important in Ireland as well as Belgium.

Karolien De Bruyne and Jan Van Hove continued their joint work on economic geography. In particular, they finalized their research project on an economic geography approach to the determinants of housing prices.

The theoretical projections that distance and travel time to economic centres affect the spatial variation in housing prices are empirically verified. Results were published in *Applied Economics*. Moreover, both authors published their research on the Impact of European Enlargement on the Direction and Prospects of Brussels Exports in the *International Journal of Public Policy*. In this paper they analysed the export dynamics and potentials of a city rather than a country. Their findings indicate that the new European Union member states became important destination markets for Brussels exports in recent years. Moreover, there appear to be large export potentials for Brussels products, in particular in Latin American and certain Asian markets. The export potentials within the European Union are more limited, although several new European Union member states are likely to become more important trading partners.

Karen Crabbé and Karolien De Bruyne published their work on the impact of taxes and agglomeration rents on location decisions of firms within Belgium in *De Economist*. The goal of this paper is to analyze the individual impact of tax rates and agglomeration rents as well as their interaction on location decisions of manufacturing firms within Belgium. Theoretically, both location determinants may weaken each other's impact. Using a unique 10-year dataset concerning the number of newly setup manufacturing firms at the sector level for 43 Belgian districts, they show that local effective tax rates have a negative impact on location decisions.

Moreover, location-specific supply-side agglomeration rents attract new firms and their impact appears to be even stronger for more spatially concentrated sectors. Finally, the paper shows that a higher effective tax rate in a district does not necessarily deter new firms in more agglomerated districts, pointing to the existence of taxable location-specific agglomeration rents.

Karen Crabbé, Karolien De Bruyne and Bruno Merlevede (Ghent University) continued working on their joint paper on location determinants for different entry modes in Europe. Location determinants of investments have been studied extensively in the past, where both first-nature (exogenous) and second-nature (endogenous) determinants appear to be important. However, the impact of location factors has, thus far, been studied predominantly for aggregated FDI flows, but rarely for more disaggregated investment types. Recently, literature recognizes that results for firm location might vary between different investment types. The main objective of this paper is therefore to determine the impact of taxes, agglomeration rents, and factor endowments on two different investment types in Europe: greenfields and acquisitions. The novelty of this paper is the focus on both the investment type and the detailed regional and sectoral level of the data.

3.2.3 Economic History

Since many economists and historians are active members of the LCIS, the combined field of Economic History is a priority for current and future research within the LCIS. Various periods and issues can be studied, relying in particular on interdisciplinary methodology. Eline Poelmans studied various topics in the fields of economic, business and financial history, coal and steel, pharmacy and chemicals, the beer and chocolate industry, international economics and international trade, and competition policy.

Jan Van Hove, Pieter-Jan Laleman and Zuzanna Studnicka looked into the long-run impact of migration on international trade patterns.

Eline Poelmans and Sandra Rousseau finalized their paper on factors determining authors' willingness-to-wait (WTW) for editorial decisions in economic, business and financial history journals. In this paper, they assessed the impact of time constraints on the submitting author's willingness to wait for a publication in a journal with specific characteristics (such as the quality of the editorial board or the impact factor) in the field of economic, business and financial history. In addition, they analyzed how this WTW measure varied with the personal and work-related characteristics of the submitting authors themselves. To identify the factors determining economic history authors' WTW for editorial decisions, they used the technique of stated choice experiments.

Eline Poelmans is conducting further research into the historical changes in the Belgian (and European) beer industry. In this respect, she started collecting all possible historical data on the Belgian (and if possible European) beer industry with regard to production, consumption, trade, number of brewers and beer firms, regulation, industrial organization, etc. She is also working on niche markets, such as the microbrewery movement in Belgium and the economic importance and/or power of the Trappist breweries.

Eline Poelmans provided the Museum of Cocoa and Chocolate (Rue de la tête d'Or, Brussels) with data (consumption, production, trade, etc...) to update and renew their exhibition on the economics and history of the cocoa and chocolate industries.

Eline Poelmans became a member of the “Route Belge du chocolat / Belgian Chocolate Way”, an organization of Belgian chocolate producers; museums, universities conducting research with regard to the cocoa and chocolate industries, etc ... with the aim of: promoting Belgian high quality chocolate, defending the interests of its members in the cocoa and chocolate sector and conducting scientific research into the cocoa and chocolate industries.

Eline Poelmans presented papers on the economics of beer and chocolate at different conferences: the 38th annual conference of the Economic & Business History Society (EBHS) in Baltimore, Maryland and the 3rd Beeronomics conference in York, UK.

3.3 Publications in the Various Disciplines

3.3.1 Literature - Culture - Philosophy - Arts - Theology - Anthropology

Articles in internationally reviewed academic journals

- D’hoker, E. (2013). The Short Story Cycle: Broadening the Perspective. *Short Fiction in Theory & Practice*, 3 (2), 151-160.
- D’hoker, E. (2013). Painterly Stories: An Interview with Rachel Cusk. *Short Fiction in Theory & Practice*, 3 (2), 253-259.
- D’hoker, E. (2013). Linked Stories, Connected Lives: The Lucky Ones as Short Story Cycle. *E-Rea. Revue électronique d’études sur le monde anglophone*, 10 (2), art.nr. 3230.
- D’hoker, E. (2013). ‘And the Transformation Begins’: Present-Tense Narration in Claire Keegan’s *Daughter Stories*. *Contemporary Women’s Writing*, 7 (2), 190-204.
- Ingelbien, R. (2013). Re-cycling Irish short fiction as English narratives of community: J.S. Le Fanu’s *Chronicles of Golden Friars* (1871). *Short Fiction in Theory & Practice*, 3 (2), 161-173.
- Schwall, H. (2013). ‘How do you make a teapot be intellectually interesting?’ An Interview with Vona Groarke. *Irish University Review*, 28 (2), 281-293.

- Baert, B. (2013). Wind und Sublimierung in der christlichen Kunst des Mittelalters: die Verkündigung. *Das Münster: Zeitschrift für Christliche Kunst und Kunstwissenschaft*, 66 (2), 109-117.
- Baert, B. (2013). Wild is the wind: pathosfomel and iconology of a quintessence. *Antwerp Royal Museum Annual, 2000*, 9-47.
- Baert, B. (2013). Who touched me and my clothes? The Healing of the Woman with the Hemorrhage (Mark 5.24b-34parr). *Mitteilungen für Anthropologie und Religionsgeschichte*, 21, 259-312.
- Baert, B. (2013). The Annunciation revisited: essay on the concept of wind and the senses in late medieval and early modern visual culture. *Critica d'Arte*, 47-48, 57-68.
- Baert, B. (2013). Nymphe (Wind): der Raum zwischen Motiv und Affekt in der frühen Neuzeit. *Ars: Časopis Ústavu Dejín Umenia Slovenskej Akadémie Vied*, 46 (1), 16-42.
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- Schwall, H. (2013). *Landscape language and the lilt of the light in Vona Groarke's poetry*. Third Contemporary British and Irish Poetry Conference. University of Manchester, 12 September 2013.
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- Van Dam, F., de Graef, O. (sup.), Goodlad, L. (cosup.) (2013). *The Man without Style: Victorian Liberalism and Literary Form in Anthony Trollope's Later Novels*, 380 pp.
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- Raymaekers, P., De Maeyer, J. (sup.), De Jonge, K. (cosup.) (2013). *Makers van een nieuwe wereld. De socioprofessionele geschiedenis van ingenieurs in België 1850-1914*.
- Jennes, G., Depauw, M. (sup.), Clarysse, W. (cosup.) (2013). *Inspired by the Gods: Theophoric Names in Late Period and Graeco-Roman Egypt*.
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- Eggermont, S., D'hoker, E. (sup.), O'Toole, T. (cosup.) (2013). *"Not as Man Liked to Imagine Her": British Women Writers and the Birth of the Modern Short Story (1880-1910)*, 300 pp.

3.3.2 Research Group of Peace and Transformation Studies

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- Gilligan, Robbie. 'Children, social networks and social support.' *Children's Services: Working Together*. Eds M. Hill, G. Head, A. Lockyer, B. Reid, and R. Taylor. Harlow: Pearson, 2012: 116-126.
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- Vermeersch, P. 'The European Union and the Roma: an analysis of recent institutional and policy developments.' *European Yearbook of Minority Issues* Vol.9 (2013) forthcoming.
- Luyten, P., Blatt, S. 'Interpersonal Relatedness and Self-Definition in Normal and Disrupted Personality Development: Retrospect and Prospect.' *American Psychologist* (2013).
- De Haene, L., Rober, P., Adriaenssens, P. and K. Verschuere. 'Voices of dialogue and directivity in family therapy with refugees: Evolving ideas about dialogical refugee care.' *Family Process* 51.3 (2012): 391-404.
- Paloutzian, R. F., Shankar, U., & Luyten, P. (in press). Forgiveness and Gandhian nonviolence: their confrontation in the light of psychological research. *Gandhi Marg*.

- Touquet, H. 'The RS as a strong nationalizing state and the consequences for postethnic activism.' *Nationalities Papers* 40.2 (2012): 203-220.
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- Kempke, S., Luyten, P., Claes, S., Van Houdenhove, B. (2012). 'Stress-related Mechanisms of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.' *Symposium Neurobiology of Functional Somatic Syndromes. Deutscher Kongress Für Psychosomatische Medizin und Psychotherapie: Die Zukunft der Psychosomatik (German Congress for Psychosomatic Medicine and Psychotherapy)*. Technische Universität München, Munich, Germany, 28-31 March.
- Coppens, E., Kempke, S., Van Oudenhove, L., Morlion, B., Van Wambeke, P., Luyten, P. (2012). 'Prevalence of different types of early childhood adversities in fibromyalgia and their relationship with clinical and psychosocial functioning.' *World Congress on Pain*. Milan (Italy), 27-31 August.
- Kempke, S., Luyten, P., Van Houdenhove, B., Claes, S. (2012). 'Prevalence and clinical impact of early childhood adversities in patients with chronic fatigue syndrome.' *Symposium Trauma and the body. International Conference on Peace Studies: The many faces of Trauma, Resilience and Transformation*. Leuven, 30-31 August.
- Ensink, K., Berthelot, N., Bernazzani, O., Normandin, L., Luyten, P. (2012). 'Mother-infant attachment, reflective functioning, and unresolved trauma in mothers with childhood histories of abuse and neglect: A prospective study.' *World Congress of the World Association for Infant Mental Health*. Cape Town, South-Africa, 19 April.

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- Vermeersch, P. (2013). 'Roma youth engagement: new opportunities.' *Realizing Roma Rights: Addressing Violence, Discrimination and Segregation in Europe*. Harvard University, 8 April.
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Dissertations

- Kempke, S., Luyten, P. (sup.), Vliegen, N. (cosup.), Van Houdenhove, B. (cosup.). *Early Adversity and Self-Critical Perfectionism in Chronic Fatigue Syndrome*, 2013.
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3.3.3 Research Group of Economics, Business, Law, Innovation and Valorization

Publications focusing on the Irish economy

- Tielens, J., van Aarle, B. and Van Hove, J. (2013), Evaluating the Impact of Various Eurobond Scenarios: The Case of Ireland, Greece and Portugal, forthcoming in *Journal of Macroeconomics*.
- van Aarle, B., Tielens, J. and Van Hove, J. (2013), The Financial Crisis and its Aftermath: the Case of Ireland, forthcoming in *International Economics and Economic Policy*.
- Van Hove, J. (2013), Determinants of Migration Patterns after the Crisis: Evidence for Ireland, mimeo.
- Van Hove, J. (2013), Irish Trade after the Crisis, mimeo.

International Trade

- Abraham, F., Studnicka, Z. and Van Hove, J. (2013), Export Survival and Returning to Exports, forthcoming as *National Bank of Belgium working paper*.

- Studnicka, Z., Thierie, W. and Van Hove, J. (2013), The Impact of Regional Trade Agreements on European Exports, forthcoming in *International Economics and Economic Policy*.
- Studnicka, Z. and Van Hove, J. (2013), Evidence and Determinants of the Duration of European Exports, mimeo.
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International Macroeconomics

- Engwerda, B. van Aarle, B., Plasmans, J. and Weeren, A. (2013), Debt stabilization games in the presence of endogenous risk premia, *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, Vol.37, p. 2525-2546.
- van Aarle, B. (2013), Macroeconomic dynamics in the Euro-Area: Effects of structural reforms and fiscal adjustments, *Journal of Economic Policy Reform*, Vol.16, No.4, p.320-335.
- van Aarle, B. (2013), Surveillance and control of fiscal consolidation on a supranational level, Working Paper WWWforeurope project, <http://foreurope.eu/>
- van Aarle, B. and Konings J. (2013), Budgetary sustainability in the presence of macroeconomic and financial market instability: An application to the case of Belgium, *Public Budgeting and Finance*, Vol.33, No.1, p.114-134.
- Marneffe, W., van Aarle, B. and Vereeck, L. (2013), Regulatory delay and growth: a cross country analysis, *European Journal of Law and Economics*, Vol.35, No.3, p.385-396.
- Economic Geography, Regional Economics and Networks

- De Bruyne, K. and Van Hove, J. (2013), Explaining the Spatial Variation in Housing Prices: An Economic Geography Approach, *Applied Economics* 45 (13), p. 1673-1689.
- De Bruyne, K. and Van Hove, J. (2013), The Impact of European Enlargement on the Direction and Prospects of Brussels Exports, *International Journal of Public Policy*, 45 (13), p. 1673-1689.
- De Bruyne, K., Magerman, G. and Van Hove, J. (2013), Revealed Multilateral Trade Resistance: A Network Approach, mimeo.

Migration

- Laleman, J.-P., Studnicka, Z. and J. Van Hove (2013), The Effects of Migration on International Trade Patterns: Evidence from Immigration in the OECD, mimeo.

4 Projects

4.1 PhD Projects

- Ghassemi, Mehdi (promotor: Alexandra Poulain/Lille, co-promotor Hedwig Schwall) Psychic structures in the Work of John Banville.
- Kren, Janez (promotor: Jan Van Hove): Dynamics in European Trade.
- Magerman, Glenn (promotor: Jan Van Hove, co-promotor: Karolien De Bruyne en Patrick VanCayseele): Networks and Optimal Variety Strategies in International Trade.
- Neicu, Daniel (promotor: Stijn Kelchtermans, co-promotor: Jan Van Hove, Peter Teirlinck, Reinhilde Veugeliers): Innovation Policy and Clusters in Europe: Economic Performance of Young Innovative Companies.
- Soete, Sophie (promotor: Jan Van Hove): Essays on the Trade Effects of Regional Trade Agreements.
- Studnicka, Zuzanna (promotor: Jan Van Hove, co-promotor: Filip Abraham): Essays on Firm and Product Heterogeneity in International Trade.
- Tielens, Joris (promotor: Jan Van Hove, co-promotor: Frank Smets): The Impact of Credit Frictions on the Dynamics of International Trade
- Brouckmans, Debbie (promotor: Elke D'hoker), Individual, Community and Nation in the Short Story Cycle in Ireland.
- Baldacchino, Rachel (promotor Elke D'hoker), Re-writing aesthetic ideology: An analysis of fin de siècle aesthetic discourse in Vernon Lee's essayistic works.
- Van Velk, Jan (promotor Ortwin de Graef), Troping Hope: A discursive and rhetorical-tropological analysis of the politics of humanity in the fiction and non-fiction of H.G. Wells.

- Seynhaeve, Benedicte (promotor Raphaël Ingelbien), Shakespeare and Irish Romanticism
- Vermeulen, Jeroen (Promotor Hedwig Schwall, co-promotor Patrick Luyten) Trauma in the work of Patrick McGrath

4.2 Research Funding

4.2.1 Direct Research Funding

- Title: Hefboomfinanciering
 - Funding source: KU Leuven, Groep Humane Wetenschappen
 - Period: 2011-2013
 - PI: Hedwig Schwall, co-PI: Patrick Luyten, Jan Van Hove
- Title: Project of the Irish Itinerary 2013
 - Funding source: Culture Ireland
 - Period: 2013
 - PI: Hedwig Schwall
- Title: Project EFACIS
 - Funding source: Irish Government
 - Period: 2013-2015
 - PI: Hedwig Schwall
- Title: Support to EFACIS projects
 - Funding source: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland through the Ambasad na hÉireann in Brussels/ Cultural Relations with Other Countries Programme
 - Period: 2013-2014 and 2014-2015
 - PI: Hedwig Schwall

- Title: Digitisation Manuscripts 17th century
 - Funding source: Irish Government
 - PI: Hedwig Schwall
- Title: Interdisciplinary Network Esthetics & Spirituality
 - Funding source: University of Bergen
 - PI: Hedwig Schwall
- Title: Conference on “Asthetics and Spirituality: Places of Interiority” (16-18 May 2013)
 - Funding source: FWO
- Title: Project of the Irish Itinerary 2013
 - Funding source: Culture Ireland
- Title: Grant to finance staff member
 - Funding Source: Irish Government
 - PI: Hedwig Schwall
 - Aims:
 - Facilitate communication between networks of Irish Studies in Europe and assist in the formation of new networks.
 - Facilitate the development of links between EFACIS and centres and networks of Irish Studies outside Europe, in particular in Latin America and Asia.
 - Coordinate dissemination of information regarding the work of individual centres, and enable new and existing groups within the network to connect and collaborate.
 - Reorganisation and development of the new EFACIS website, ensuring it will be used as a platform for partners to share information, and to provide a window to EFACIS’ activities to the general public.
 - Pro-active research to identify and connect with institutions where Irish studies are present.
 - Support in the organisation of EFACIS PhD seminars and conferences.
 - Office duties such as public relations, budgetary management, fundraising and sponsorship.
 - Pro-actively encourage the formation of new research groups who will continue to generate income and produce results after the two-year funding period.
 - Activities which further strengthen EFACIS activities.

The LCIS also gratefully acknowledges co-funding by the Universitet Bergen for the LCIS’s annual interdisciplinary conference, “Esthetics and Spirituality: Places of Interiority”, 16-18 May 2013. As the University of Bergen was interested in joining the network Esthetics and Spirituality and Barbara Baert’s Iconology Research Group, an international and interdisciplinary platform for the study of the interpretation of images (www.iconologyresearchgroup.org) its director and Coordinator of the European researcher network ENID (European Network on the Instruments of Devotion) was delegated to join the conference on Interiority, which touched on all the aspects of esthetics and spirituality the museum represents. Not only does Bergen’s University Museum’s house a splendid collection of Church Art, the museum also encourages the dissemination for outstanding research. We are very grateful to the Museum for supporting this conference.

4.2.2 Research Projects in Cooperation with the LCIS

- Title: Shakespeare and Irish Romanticism
 - Funding source: FWO
 - Period: 2012-2015
 - PI: Raphaël Ingelbien
- Title: The contribution of women writers to the birth of the modern short story in Britain: 1880-1910
 - Funding source: FWO (G.0313.10)
 - Period: 01.01.2010 - 31.12.2013
 - PI: Elke D'hoker
- Title: Historical, narratological, physical, theological aspects of a long-standing ritual: Irish aspects in the Camino de Santiago de Compostela
 - Funding source: The King's Inns
 - Period: 2014-2016
 - PI: Johan Verberckmoes
- Title: Parts With(out) Wholes: Individual, Community and Nation in the Short Story Cycle in Ireland
 - Funding source: BOF-OT (OT/11/020/TBA)
 - Period: 01.10.2011 - 30.09.2013
 - PI: Elke D'hoker
- Title: Problems in translating English to Dutch subtitles
 - Funding source: Dublin City University
 - Period: 2011-2015
 - PI: Michael Cronin (DCS), researcher: Reglindis De Ridder
- Title: Copying the Continent. The Irish and the 'military revolution' (1601-1649)
 - Funding source: Irish Research Council Postgraduate Scholarship
 - Period: 2010-2013
 - PI: Jane Ohlmeyer
- Title: The man without style: Victorian liberalism and literary form in Anthony Trollope's Later Novels
 - Funding source: FWO
 - Period: 2009-2013
 - PI: Ortwin de Graef
- Title: Strategies of border management: the evolution of the boundaries between the Habsburg Netherlands and the Dutch Republic, 1580-1660
 - Funding source: FWO
 - Period: 2012-2016
 - PI: Violet Soen
- Title: Hispano-Flemish elites in the Habsburg Low Countries. Transregional marriages and mixed identities, 1659-1708
 - Funding source: FWO
 - Period: 2013-2016
 - PI: Violet Soen and Werner Thomas
- Title: In woord en daad. Het aandeel van theologie en theologen in de ketterbestrijding en de katholieke hervorming in de Nederlanden (1519-1587)
 - Funding source: FWO
 - Period: 2009-2013
 - PI: Hans Cools

- Title: Between Hem and Image. The Healing of the Haemorrhoids in Western Medieval Narrative and Visual Culture. An Iconological Study
 - Funding source: FWO
 - Period: 2009-2013
 - PI: Barbara Baert
- Title: The Netherlands in the news. Italian messages, opinions and histories about the Eighty Years' War (ca. 1560 - ca. 1640)
 - Funding source: FWO
 - Period: 2010-2014
 - PI: Hans Cools
- Title: "If Anyone Hungers, He/She Must Eat in the House" (1 Cor 11:34) A Narrative-Critical, Socio-Historical and Grammatical-Philological Analysis of the Story of the Lord's Supper in Corinth (1 Cor 11:17-34)
 - Funding source: FWO
 - Period: 2012
 - PI: Reimund Bieringer
- Title: Touching the threshold to creation. The Haemorrhoids Motif (Mark 5:24B-34par) between anthropological origin and image paradigm
 - Funding source: FWO
 - Period: 2012
 - PI: Barbara Baert and Paul Vandenbroeck
- Title: Networks and optimal variety strategies in international trade
 - Funding source: KUB-BOF
 - Period: 2011-2015
 - PI: Jan Van Hove, co-PI: Karolien De Bruyne, Patrick Van Cayseele
- Title: Innovation policy and clusters in Europe: economic performance of Young Innovative Companies
 - Funding source: HUB-BOF
 - Period: 2011-2015
 - PI: Stijn Kelchtermans, co-PI: Jan Van Hove, Peter Teirlinck, Reinhilde Veugelers
- Title: The desirability of the investment protection schemes offered by the intellectual property rights concerning chips, computer programs and databases
 - Funding source: National Bank of Belgium
 - Period: 2011-2013
 - PI: Jozef Dumortier, co-PI: Jan Van Hove
- Title: Measurement and determinants of variety and quality in international trade
 - Funding source: FWO
 - Period: 2010-2013
 - PI: Filip Abraham, co-PI: Jan Van Hove
- Title: The impact of European preferential trade agreements on Flemish firms
 - Funding source: Flemish Government within the Flemish Interuniversity Policy Research Centre for Foreign Affairs, International Entrepreneurship and Development Cooperation
 - Period: 2012-2015
 - PI: Jan Van Hove, co-PI: Filip Abraham, Joep Konings, Bart Kerremans
- Title: VES Grant – Preparation FP7 Project ARTILEA – Regulations in International Trade
 - Funding source: KUL-BOF
 - Period: 2012-2013
 - PI: Jan Van Hove

5 Academic Events: Conferences and Seminars

The LCIS organized the following conferences in 2013:

Annual LCIS international inter- and multidisciplinary conference on 'Esthetics and Spirituality: Places of Interiority'

Date: May 16-18, 2013

Location: Leuven Centre for Irish Studies

Organisation: cooperation between the Leuven Centre for Irish Studies and the Faculties of the Arts, Theology and KADOC.

The selected proceedings of this conference will be published by Peeters and edited by Reimund Bieringer, Barbara Baert and Hedwig Schwall.



B. Baert, R. Vaesen, B. Farago, R. Duffy, H. Schwall

International Workshop on Networks and Trade

Date: October 3-4, 2013

Location: Leuven Centre for Irish Studies

Organisation: Leuven Centre for Irish Studies, jointly with the Research Group International Economics of the Center for Economic Studies (KU Leuven) and the Research Group Globalization, Innovation and Competition (HU Brussels) and INFER

Keynote speakers: Prof. Dr. Thomas Chaney (University of Chicago and Toulouse School of Economics) and Prof. Dr. Sanjeev Goyal (Cambridge University)

3rd Belgian Meeting on Social and Economic Networks

Date: October 3, 2013

Location: Leuven Centre for Irish Studies

Organisation: Leuven Centre for Irish Studies, The 3rd Belgian Meeting on Social and Economic Networks targeted at a wide research audience in several disciplines applying network theory in their research.

International Workshop on Firm and Product Heterogeneity in International Trade

Date: November 15-16, 2013

Location: Leuven Centre for Irish Studies

Organisation: Leuven Centre for Irish Studies jointly with the Research Group International Economics of the Center for Economic Studies (KU Leuven) and the Research Group Globalization, Innovation and Competition (HU Brussels) and INFER

Keynote speakers: Prof. Dr. Tibor Besedes (Georgia Institute of Technology) and Prof. Dr. Holger Görg (Christian-Albrechts-Universität Kiel and Kiel Institute for the World Economy).

Seminar 'Historical Abuse of Children Living in Out-of-Home Arrangements'

Date: November 29, 2013

Location: Leuven Centre for Irish Studies

Organisation: Hans Grietens (University of Groningen) and Robbie Gilligan (Trinity College Dublin), jointly with the Leuven Centre for Irish Studies

This workshop was a typical example of how researchers and practitioners in different national contexts can benefit from a comparative study. The central topic was "Historical abuse of children living in out-of-home arrangements".

This problem was presented in the different cases of Ireland (Eoin O'Sullivan & Robbie Gilligan), Scotland (Andy Kendrick, Moyra Hawthorn, & Julie Shaw); Sweden (Johanna Sköld) and the the Netherlands (Jeroen Dekker & Hans Grietens), with feedback from Peter Adriaenssens. The discussion was so fruitful that its observations will be published in 2014; the group has been consulted several times since for advice in policy-making.

Annual Conference of the Belgian Association of Anglicists in Higher Education on 'The Nineteenth Century'

Date: November 30, 2013

Location: Leuven Centre for Irish Studies

Organisation: Belgian Association of Anglicists in Higher Education (BAAHE), jointly with the Leuven Centre for Irish Studies

Keynote speakers: Prof. Dr. Regenia Gagnier (University of Exeter) and Prof. Dr. Anne Rigney (Utrecht University)

6 International Networks

6.1 Support of the Irish Government; visit of Prime Minister / Taoiseach

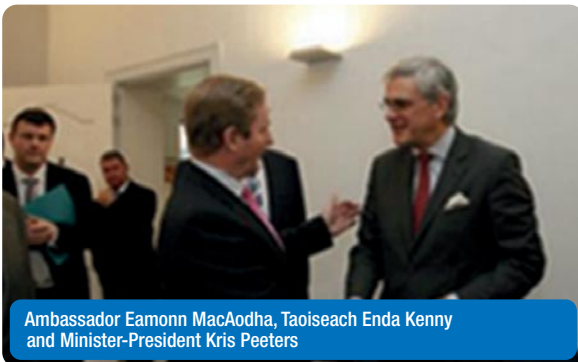
On 4 February 2013 Mr Enda Kenny, Prime Minister of Ireland, came to visit the Leuven Institute for Ireland in Europe and the LCIS. He was very positive about our work. We were delighted to find, four months later, that the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland gave us a grant from the “Cultural Relations with Other Countries Programme”. In a formal agreement the government promised *“to support the increase in activities associated with the establishment of European Federation of Associations and Centres for Irish Studies (EFACIS) in Leuven as the European and global hub of EFACIS activities”*. This support is now financing the cost of a contract staff member for EFACIS to work on strategically important initiatives, such as establishing EFACIS’s virtual presence, sharing learning globally and the increased coordination of activities which is critical



Taoiseach Enda Kenny

for the consolidation of EFACIS as a global resource for the pursuit of Irish Studies.

The presence of Kris Peeters, Prime Minister of the Flemish Government, implied that some of his entourage could consult with LCIS members on peace initiatives relating to the commemoration of the Great War. So far the LCIS has inspired and given an important impetus to several projects.



Ambassador Eamonn MacAodha, Taoiseach Enda Kenny and Minister-President Kris Peeters



Mr Gerry Mulligan, Northern Irish Executive, Prime Minister Enda Kenny and Hedwig Schwall

6.2 EFACIS

As we mentioned in the previous Annual report, EFACIS convened a Round Table on 7-8 September 2012 in Istanbul with representatives of all the big organizations of Irish Studies in the world: IASIL (sections of US, Japan/Korea and Europe were present), SOFEIR (Société Française for Irish Studies), NISN (Nordic Irish Studies Network), SILAS (Society for Irish Latin American Studies), AEDEI (Spanish Association of Irish Studies), and EFACIS. We identified three big problems:

- 1 A lack of international exchange of students which is needed for good practice, especially in PhD research;
- 2 A need for more input from culture. As most Irish studies focus on literature, culture and history to have more “raw material” is helpful. Moreover, this helps academics to open up their own work to the local communities. But organizing cultural events demand extra administration, so it would be good if this could be done centrally.
- 3 All organizations want a central website with information on Irish Studies

We decided to address the three main problems by

- 1 Intensifying our efforts to organize the international PhD seminars and by encouraging the workshops.

- PhD seminars:

So far we have two models of PhD seminars in EFACIS: the Prague version which is totally free (tuition and accommodation) which offers the students the possibility to present their work with feedback

from the local staff; and the Leuven version which costs 250 EUR (tuition and accommodation included, with 5 scholarships) offering lectures, seminars and presentations with feedback from an international set of specialists.

- Workshops:

As EFACIS wants to give special support to countries where Irish Studies is not yet organized on a national level, we are very enthusiastic about our colleagues' great work in Italy. After the workshops of Torino (April 2011) and Trieste (May 2012), Perugia did the Italian Irish scholars proud with their conference on “Irish Gothic”, which was hosted jointly by the Università degli Studi di Perugia and the Università per Stranieri di Perugia on 5-6 December 2013. In this joined effort of both universities, our colleagues Dr. Annalisa Volpone and Dr. Enrico Terroni did not only attract Irish Studies scholars from all over Italy but also from abroad.

- 2 The need of culture which, on the one hand, feeds the curriculum, and on the other hand promotes Irish writers' new works echoes a desideratum, voiced at the founding meeting of EFACIS in 1994, to connect academia and the arts more closely. In 2012 the **Irish Itinerary** was founded, a new EFACIS network, coordinated by the LCIS, which connects the different centres for Irish studies more closely through a culture programme which is embedded in the research plans of the participating researchers. (Heading 10 of this AR gives the full story.)

- 3 Thanks to a generous grant from the Irish Government coming through the Irish Embassy in Brussels we could finally respond, not only to the need for the Irish Itinerary but also to the need for a **central website** with information on Irish Studies. LCIS interns had already started to collect information about scholars in Irish studies and their work. Yet, as people move and courses and patterns change constantly, we need to encourage EFACIS members to insert their own updates in the system. This information is very useful as it allows people to find partners for research purposes; and it allows EFACIS to set strategic goals. As EFACIS and IASIL want to work more closely together the idea is to draw up a common policy paper which will benefit both organizations.

6.3 European Network for the Study of Short Fiction

Elke D'hoker is one of three founding members of the European Network for the Study of the Short Fiction, together with Michelle Ryan-Sautour from the University of Angers and Ailsa Cox from Edge Hill University. The inaugural meeting of the ENSFR will be held on 7-9 February 2014. See website: <http://ensfr.hypotheses.org/>.

RefoRC (Reformation Research Consortium) Violet Soen and Wim François participate in this multi- and interdisciplinary initiative. Web: www.reforc.com.

6.4 LITRA, the Centre for Literature and Trauma

Offers a very interesting Network for Memory Studies which brings in original thinkers in the Trauma and Reconciliation context. www.mnemonics.ugent.be/

In 2014 the colleagues from Ghent are also going to form a centre to participate in the Irish Itinerary.

6.5 International Network for Economic Research (INFER)

The Leuven Centre for Irish Studies continued its strategic partnership with INFER, the International Network for Economic Research. This network offers a nice platform for disseminating our research and for discussions about ongoing research. INFER has been an organization partner of the Centre for various economic events.

7 Teaching

7.1 The Culture and Language of Ireland Classes

These classes are open to students from all over the university. To our surprise over 90 students turned up in 2012; the number in 2013 fluctuated between 30 and 60. We are very grateful to Seán O'Dubhghaill for having taught these classes for three years in a row.

7.2 International perspective on Teaching

In 2015 Erasmus exchanges will be used for the **International Interdisciplinary Seminar on Ireland in Europe**. We are grateful to Prof. Dr. Marianne Elliott and Dr. Kevin Bean for their cooperation; while they will teach the sessions on religion and politics in Northern Ireland, Jan Van Hove will offer aspects on (Northern) Irish economics, Patrick Luyten will lecture about aspects of peace processes in Ireland and elsewhere. Further, Elke D'hoker, Raphaël Ingelbien and Hedwig Schwall will focus on the literary and cultural aspect of Ireland in Europe. We aim at students who are interested in a multidisciplinary approach to Irish studies. This course will be taught at KU Leuven, and if successful we will look into the possibility of making on-line modules.

This experiment can also be considered as a dry-run to explore the needs and possibilities of an Erasmus Mundus.

7.2 Internships

We hope that the internships we will offer for doing secretarial work for LCIS and EFACIS will benefit the students from Cultural Studies who will be solicited to apply. We believe that doing practical work and taking responsibilities in an international context (mainly European in this case) is a valuable aspect of their training. However, students will have to be near-native speakers.

8 Culture

8.1 The Irish Itinerary

2013 was a key year in the planning of the LCIS. Since in 2012 the LCIS was made the hub of EFACIS, the concept of the Irish Itinerary was developed and launched during the Irish Presidency of Europe in January-June 2013. The Itinerary is meant to structurally enhance the profile of Irish Culture on the European continent and to make culture an integrative part of research. In the first two instalments of the Irish Itinerary the academic element was still minimal; in 2015 the circuits will be activated in a translation and research project which celebrates the 150th anniversary of W.B. Yeats. In 2013 the LCIS organised the following events, most of which were part of the 2013 Irish Itinerary.

22 January 2013, J. Delors building, Brussels	organisation of reading by John Banville for the Librarians of the European Union	John Banville	
13 March 2013, Brussels (HUB)	reading by Mary Morrissy	Mary Morrissy	Irish Itinerary
13 March 2013, KULeuven	reading by Mary Morrissy	Mary Morrissy	Irish Itinerary
14 March 2013,	reading by Mary Morrissy	Mary Morrissy	Irish Itinerary
20 March 2013, Brussels	Gerry Smyth: 'Music in the work of James Joyce'	Gerry Smyth	Irish Itinerary
20 March 2013, Irish College	Gerry Smyth: 'Music in the work of James Joyce'	Gerry Smyth	Irish Itinerary
21 March 2013, KULAK Kortrijk	Gerry Smyth: 'Music in the work of James Joyce'	Gerry Smyth	Irish Itinerary
23 April 2013, Arts Faculty	Gerard Donovan: class on short story analysis	Gerard Donovan	Passaporta
16 May 2013, Irish College	Rita Duffy: 'Significant Garments'	Rita Duffy	Irish Itinerary
17 May 2013, Irish College	Lecture by Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin: 'In Penetralibus'	Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin	Irish Itinerary
24 October 2013, Irish College	Seamus Heaney Commemoration	Ciaran Carson, Deirdre Carson, Stephen Connolly, Sophie Collins, Joris Iven, Pádraigín Ní Uallacháin and Dónal O'Connor	Northern Ireland Executive
18 December 2013, Irish College	Companách: "A high-information, music performance event developed around the book, e-book and website <i>Companion to Irish Traditional Music</i> "	Fintan Vallely, Gerry O'Connor, Tiarnán Ó Duinnéin, Máire Ní Choilm	



Leuven seminar

We are very grateful to Culture Ireland, the National Library and the IFI, especially IFI Curator, Sunniva O'Flynn, Co-ordinator Jennifer Brady and Soracha Pelan Ó Treasaigh for their fantastic collaboration in the Irish Itinerary.

We also gratefully acknowledge the invaluable help given by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Executive.

8.2 Exhibitions

“Strangers to Citizens: the Irish in Europe, 1600-1800” in the KULeuven Central Library

From 28 May till 30 September 2013 the Exhibition *Strangers to Citizens* in the University's Central Library familiarized the numerous students visiting the library during study time as well as the many summer tourists with the Irish diaspora in Europe and Leuven's prominent role in this context from the sixteenth century onward. We want to express our sincere thanks to the Irish Embassy for their

invaluable help in realizing this splendid exhibition.

“*Strangers to Citizens: the Irish in Europe, 1600-1800*” tells the story of the Irish migrants who, following the wars of the 16th century left the Emerald Isle for continental Europe in search of a better life. Soldiers, scholars, merchants, students, priests and many more moved to their mainland neighbours, including the Low Countries. Eventually, they settled down in their host societies and produced renowned people such as the Austrian Francis Maurice Lacy, a second-generation Irish Field Marshal, or the noteworthy Marie Louise O'Murphy, the Irish beauty that caught the eye of the famous Giacomo Casanova, was immortalized in a portrait by François Boucher and ended up as a royal mistress to the French King Louis XV. The University of Leuven was also influenced by the Irish exodus, as witnessed by the Irish College, which in the winter of 1607 hosted Hugh O'Neill, the ‘Great Earl’ of Tyrone and his retinue, following their departure from Ireland which later became known as ‘the Flight of the Earls’. Given the intertwining histories of the Irish and Leuven, it was only logical then that the fascinating stories of these migrants and their descendants were put on prominent display in the University Library, right at the entrance. Almost every visitor to the Library, be it a student on his way to the Main Reading Room or a casual tourist, was seen to stop at one of the banners and read its tale. Originally, the exhibition was scheduled to last only two months, but due to its popular appeal it was extended till the end of September, which also proves that it was a success.”

Tarek Peeters, KU Leuven Central Library

8.3 Co-operation LCIS - Europalia

On 25.11.2013 the LCIS, the Leuven Institute for Ireland in Europe, the Embassy of Romania cooperated with Europalia in organizing a debate between Sorin Alexandrescu, Romanian Professor, essayist and literary theorist and Udaya Narayana Singh, Indian Professor, linguist and creative writer, about the mix of culture clash and passion brought about in the meeting of the young Mircea Eliade who went to study in India, and his teacher's daughter, Savitri. His report at the time is compared to her answer in a novel decades later, after Savitri has become a renowned novelist. Prof. Dr. Patrick Pasture, Director of the KU Leuven master programme in European Studies, moderated the debate.

The LCIS was glad to be able to facilitate this event for Europalia which focused on complexities of history, gender, religion and cultural difference, and is very grateful to the Romanian embassy for taking this initiative with us.
More info: www.europalia.eu.

9 Future Perspectives

9.1 Workshops and Conferences

International Workshop on Trade Agreements

Date: March 14-15, 2014

Location: Leuven Centre for Irish Studies

Organisation: Leuven Centre for Irish Studies, jointly with the Interuniversity Policy Research Centre for on “Foreign Affairs, International Entrepreneurship and Development Cooperation” for the Flemish Government

Keynote speakers: Prof. Dr. Scott Baier (Clemson University), Prof. Dr. Benjamin Zissimos (University of Exeter) and Mr. Joao Aguiar-Machado (European Commission – DG Trade)

International Workshop on Emerging Market Firms in Europe

Date: March 27-28, 2014

Location: Leuven Centre for Irish Studies

Organisation: Leuven Centre for Irish Studies, jointly with the COST Action on Southern Multinationals

International Conference on The Rhetorics of Food

Date: 26-28 May 2014

Location: Leuven Centre for Irish Studies

Organisation: Leuven Centre for Irish Studies, jointly with the faculties of Arts, Theology and Economics, European Studies, ICAG (Interfacultair Centrum voor Agrarische Geschiedenis) and FOST (VUB).

We hope to publish selected proceedings of the Irish component of the conference in ISE, Irish Studies in Europe.

Trollope Bicentenary Conference

Date: September 2015

Location: Leuven Centre for Irish Studies

Organisation: Leuven Centre for Irish Studies and Prof. Dr. Ortwin de Graef: there will be a special panel on Trollope & Ireland.

The annual multi- and interdisciplinary annual conference will focus on aspects of the **Diaspora** and will be held in close cooperation with UCD, TCD and Queen’s. This conference will also highlight the rich culture of the Irish in Europe, as reflected in the seventeenth-century manuscripts which ISOS and LCIS still aim to digitize in the near future, as the funding is in place.

A **Yeats** conference is being envisaged to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the poet’s birthday.

The **2015 EFACIS conference** will focus on “Beyond Ireland: Boundaries, Passages, Transitions”; it will take place on 3-6 June 2015 at the University of Palermo. Our colleague Dr. Chiara Sciarrino is preparing the conference, which will tie in with our Diaspora theme.

In 2016 **Utopia**, Thomas More’s famous book which was printed in Leuven, will be enjoying ample attention in a series of exhibitions, workshops and colloquies. In literary research dystopias will be a topic promoted by the LCIS, especially in an Irish context.

The Utopia theme will also tie in with the commemorations of **Easter 1916** in Ireland, and with the LCIS members’ work on the formation of nation and state, and the role of education therein.

A third theme that year will be **Columcille**. As he is one of the “patrons” of the idea of the Irish Itinerary his life’s work will be studied to commemorate the monk’s itinerant life. This will tie in with a special focus on Irish aspects of the Camino of Santiago in its age-long history. In this study, narrative, theological, physical and historical aspects of the Camino will be scrutinized in a conference.

9.2 Culture

For 2015 the LCIS aims at embedding the Irish Itinerary more deeply in the local cultural scene. This means that LCIS will work more closely together with other big cities in Belgium and with Passaporta. For the whole concept of the Irish Itinerary see *infra*.

150th anniversary of W.B. Yeats’ birth on 13 June, 1865.

9.3 Writer in Residence

2014 we hope to be able to offer Nuala Ni Dhomhnaill, renowned Irish poet and descendant of the O’Dhomhnaill family who fled to Leuven with the Flight of the Earls, some hospitality as writer in residence, as she wants to study the seventeenth-century manuscripts in the keeping of the Royal Library in Brussels.

These manuscripts, made at the Irish Franciscan College, which had strong bonds with the Earls, are of vital importance to the Gaelic culture. Therefore the LCIS

wants to find ways to allow Nuala to stay here for a month to peruse the manuscripts, which she wants to honour with not only an academic analysis but also a poetic reaction in her own Gaelic idiom, which is internationally admired.

For this initiative we will work together with the Culture Unit of the KU Leuven, the universities of Ghent and Liège and Passaporta.

9.4 International PhD Seminar 2014

The LCIS will host the Sixth PhD Seminar in Irish Studies in Europe from 25 to 29 August 2014. We will receive 28 PhD students from Ireland, the UK, Germany, Austria, the Czech Republic, France, Spain, Belgium, Italy, Brazil and Oman. Many different universities, such as the universities of Oxford, São Paulo, Wuppertal, Trinity College Dublin, University College Dublin, Freiburg im Breisgau, Hamburg, Vienna, Reims, Sassari, Ulster, Prague, Galway, Liverpool, London, ... are represented. These students conduct research within the field of literature, history and social sciences. During the seminar the students will give papers on subjects ranging from migration and space, Irish identity, ecofeminism, alienation and nihilism in the twenty-first century Irish short story, modernism and the Irish photographic book to Great War representations, archival amnesia and punk and subversion in Northern Ireland.

Besides these presentations the PhD students can also attend research seminars and plenary lectures. The lecturers this year are EFACIS president Seán Crosson (University of Galway), prof. Anne Mulhall (UCD), prof. Matthew Campbell (University of York) and prof. Claire Connolly (University of Cork). Research seminars are given by prof. Kevin Bean (University of Liverpool) , prof. Katharina Rennhak ((University of Wuppertal), prof. Charles Armstrong (University of Agder), prof. Fiorenzo Fantaccini ((University of Florence), prof. Dirk Van Hulle ((University of Antwerp), prof. Raphael Ingelbien (KU Leuven), prof. Elke D’hoker (KU Leuven) and prof. Hedwig Schwall (KU Leuven).

Topics are political history, field research in political sciences (applied to Northern Ireland) narratology, archival sciences, generic text analysis and digitization, ecocriticism, art and poetry analysis, open access publishing.

10 Focus 2013: the Irish Itinerary

In the first Annual Report of the LCIS we had as a special feature “The History of the Irish in Leuven/Lobháin 1607-2010”; the second report’s “lead article” offered a Short History of EFACIS, the European Federation of Associations and Centres of Irish Studies; the report of 2013 will focus on the Irish Itinerary.

Past: Historic model

In 2012, when EFACIS, the European Federation of Associations and Centres of Irish Studies, was founded as a legal body with its seat in the LCIS, the Leuven Centre for Irish Studies, itself housed in the Leuven Institute for Ireland in Europe, the idea to revive the **cultural and scholarly Irish network in Europe, founded by the Irish monks in the sixth and seventh centuries**, was born. The Irish presidency of the EU in 2013 gave the concept financial backing when Culture Ireland approved of the scheme.

While from the early Middle Ages onward the Irish monks founded centres of learning in Paris, Prague, Salamanca, Sankt Gallen, Bobbio, Rome, Leuven, and many other places, nowadays it is a group of strong individuals in academia who are keeping a sense of Irish Culture alive in different spots in Europe. However, in the current economic situation with strong cuts in university and other budgets, (Irish) culture was on the wane, so the Irish Itinerary wanted to re-gather strength through connectedness. Colleagues were invited to join the Itinerary so that we could centrally contact **artists, writers, musicians, performers, films and filmmakers** who would want to tour Europe. The condition for joining was to form a Centre for Irish Studies, so that we would be guaranteed a good **audience**.

Simplifying and Connecting

Culture means connecting, and indeed we find that Irish culture connects not only centres but also local groups which find and strengthen each other. This is the very aim of the Irish Itinerary: to offer forms of culture which increase the **interaction** between artists, academics and the social fabric of society.

The It also **motivates** small groups who work on Irish culture as being connected internationally increases relevance and visibility. The prospect of the It made people start forming new centres, such as in Pécs, Debrecen and Trieste, Nijmegen and Budapest in 2013, joined later by Lisbon, Coimbra, Porto, Florence, Sassari, Ghent, Toulouse, Wuppertal, Mannheim and Saarbrücken in 2014.

As these centres are coordinated by EFACIS, through the LCIS & the Leuven Institute for Ireland in Europe, this reduces paperwork for individuals. EFACIS does the paperwork as well as the connecting with the “providers” such as the **National Library**, the **Irish Film Institute (IFI)**, the artists, musicians and writers, and of course **Culture Ireland**. In each country, the **Irish Embassy** and the **DFA, Department of Foreign Affairs**, have also proved to be major supporters of the system.

Embeddedness and perspective

In order to give the events a greater **impact** the hosts of the Irish Itinerary contextualize the specific manifestations of Irish culture in their own city. This may imply that the local specialists in the field write the introductions and so share their expertise with others in the network.



Indeed, local colleagues are best placed to disseminate that extra information about the art work as they speak the national language and so reach a wider audience (especially in Central and Southern Europe). Sometimes colleagues who are, say, specialists in film, volunteer to write an essay that will tour along with a new film; likewise, when a poet decides to tour circuit A or B with a new poetry volume a centre from circuit C may provide extra input on the website of the Irish Itinerary or in the EFACIS journal.

Not only are individual events properly introduced, they are also advertised **far ahead** so that the cultural input can be part of the curriculum, and the event can be planned by the host town's cultural players and advertised by the media. Because the Irish Itinerary tries to programme events which fit in with the wider historical, political and social perspective an EFACIS advisory board will be formed of scholars who signal upcoming commemorations. While an individual centre for Irish Studies cannot be expected to

keep up with the busy calendar of commemorations that will take place in 2014-2020, the Irish itinerary will work out a programme; the centres can then plan to participate in certain events. Right now we are in full swing with the preparations for the 150th anniversary of Yeats' birthday (13 June 2015, officially declared Yeats Day).

Reciprocity: strengthening solidarity, creative and academic efforts

The Irish Itinerary sees Irish culture as a European project with a social dimension. It is a **reciprocal** thing: (1) between poor and better endowed centres; (2) between Ireland and other countries; (3) between artists, academia and the wider communities.

(1) On a financial basis the centres work in solidarity; richer centres help support the poorer in the Itinerary. EFACIS funds and coordinates the operation, supported by Culture Ireland and the IFI. In this **solidarity**, there is a certain social awareness/ practice which we see as a vital part of the idea of Europe which we want to realize in the Irish Itinerary.

(2) As the common European poster of the Itinerary with its interacting blue and green lines and colours indicates, culture is not a one-way event but an encounter of cultures that is **mutually** enriching. This may result in meetings like the one between Rita Duffy (from Northern Ireland) and the artist-scientist Koen Van Mechelen (Belgium) or we arrange for writers to meet painters (like John Banville and Michaël Borremans).

(3) Artists and academia can interact in many ways. Let us look at five examples. First, the university can boost cultural events in a city as artists like to meet an **informed** audience. Irish writers like being asked informed questions about their work, which challenges them to think further, formulate things more daringly. Academics are pleased too, because when students meet the actual performers this boosts their pupils' enthusiasm for the courses on Irish literature and culture.

Secondly students can contribute **creatively** to Irish culture, like when top students from a **translation** programme provide subtitles for Irish films, so that they will be more readily available to bigger, non-English or non-Irish-speaking audiences in their language area. So far this happened in Portugal and Germany, where Irish films are now available to the whole population rather than to some English-speaking specialists. Here, long-term planning is vital to allow teaching staff to set up MA and BA projects requiring students to do subtitling of films (cf Braga in 2013 and 2014). Likewise, the Yeats Reborn Project which invites scholars and others from all over Europe to translate parts of his work needs proper planning and coordinating.

Third, we find that academics like to turn their research into an exhibition or a **contribution** to an **exhibition**: examples are the splendid *Yeats* Exhibition of the National Library, or the one on *Roger Casement*, put together by the colleagues in São Paulo; or *Strangers to Citizens*, to which several continental scholars contributed. Fed by local historians, literary scholars, archeologists and others, European and other scholars help compile

Ireland's Cultural Heritage, especially that which originated in the diaspora, which, once turned into an exhibition, can travel through the Irish Itinerary.



Fourth, we notice that culture trickles down slowly but steadily. So, if academics contextualize Irish events by introducing them, be it in English or partly in their own language, it is also useful to have **material traces** of an event. Podcasting the event is a possibility here as this may provide an extra support for the memory. Likewise, books, DVDs, CDs etc. can be used as material by secondary school teachers. Their audiences are important: young students familiarized with Irish culture come to university with a very positive disposition to the culture, which makes them opt for courses with an Irish component.

Fifth, if culture can convince **more students** to do a PhD or internship in Irish studies the visibility of this research area increases, which also increases chances of getting facilities or funding from either the university or the city.



Sinead & Darina in Gothenburg

Uni-city

Though the impetus usually comes from a university, events are, when possible, planned in the centre of the local town/city, unless the audience fits better in an academic context. In Lille for example there are c. 3000 film-keen students on campus, in Brussels the auditoria of University College Brussels are just off the Grand' Place and allow for 200 people, Debrecen rooms allow for 400. In other places like Paris and Rennes the Centre Culturel is ideally located; Braga prefers to use a cinema in a busy shopping centre while Gothenburg's favourite cinema in town is connected with the art school; Vienna likes to screen the films in a central art cinema, which attracts many young people.

Glocal initiative and long-term planning

On the one hand there are the **centres** who want to have their favourite Irish writers, performers, artists; on the other there is the question of availability for all centres of one **circuit**. Both the quality of the programme and the availability are greatly helped by **long-term planning**. This is not only beneficial for the writers and artists but also necessary for the communities and book clubs who can familiarize themselves with the visitor's work in advance while academics can plan ahead and prepare certain themes and booklists in their courses and research. Likewise, projects in schools for translators can be started up in time so that films can be subtitled as part of the obtaining of a degree. So, once more, academic work adds value to Irish culture and vice versa.



Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin



Mary Morrissy

Results of the first Irish Itinerary February – June 2013

1. Nordic circuit: 25/2 – 8/3:
 - Darina Gallaher and Sinead Murphy
 - Anne Enright
 - *Once & Secret of Kells*
 visited
 - Agder: Charles Armstrong
 - Dalarna: Irene Gilsenan-Nordin
 - Gothenburg: Britta Olinder
2. France – Belgium: March – April - May
 - Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin (16-17 May in Leuven)
 - Rita Duffy
 - Mary Morrissy
 - Gerry Smyth
 visited
 - Lille: Alexandra Poulain
 - Paris: Wesley Hutchinson
 - Rennes: Anne Goarzin
 - Nijmegen: Marguéríte Corporaal
 - Leuven, Kortrijk, Brussels: Hedwig Schwall
3. Central Europe: 8/4-19/4
 - Darina Gallaher & Sinead Murphy: *Songs of Joyce*
 - Medbh McGuckian
 - *Secret of Kells & Once*
 visited
 - Vienna: Werner Huber (coordinator of the Central European circuit) Vienna organized a special Film fest for St Patrick's Day.
 - Prague: Ondrej Pilny
 - Debrecen: Csilla Bertha
 - Pécs: Maria Kurdi
 - Budapest: Michael McAteer
4. Southern Europe: Italy – Spain – Portugal: 22/4 - 3/5

Artists:

 - Rita Duffy
 - Murphy & Gallagher
 - *Once, His and Hers*
 visited
 - Trieste (IT): Laura Pelaschiar
 - A Coruña (SP): David Clark
 - Braga (P): Filomena Louro
5. UK: 6-17/5
 - Rita Duffy
 - Medbh McGuckian
 visited
 - Aberdeen: Shane Alcobia-Murphy
 - London / Twickenham: Lance Pettitt
 - Liverpool: Marianne Elliot



Time schedule

The programme of 2013 was exceptional in that all events had to be planned between February and July 2013, the time of the Irish Presidency. In 2014 we planned events for one whole calendar year (February - December 2014); we hope to do this every year, with planning for two or three years.

Definition of an EFACIS Centre in 2014

Forming an EFACIS centre means finding five people to

- form a regional centre with colleagues from universities nearby, or
- with colleagues from postcolonial/Cultural studies or other disciplines
- with people active in Irish literature and culture from beyond the university

Most important for the Itinerary is that the group can provide an audience of many enthusiasts of Irish Literature and Culture.

Every circuit appoints a coordinator chosen by the circuit participants.

PRACTICALITIES OF THE HOSTING:

Centres who want to host an II event pick a venue that is open to the world at large (not just academia); they put their own text on the use the posters of the Irish Itinerary which are used throughout Europe displaying the continuity in the system; they notify the Irish Embassy and use the local media (regional and national newspapers, radio stations, tv) to advertise the event. The Irish Itinerary's characteristic is its "uni-city", it wants to combine the know-how of the university with an appeal to the wider community (sympathizers, school teachers, young people). As the DFA supports the initiative working with your Irish Embassy is vital; centres always invite the embassy and report to them.

POSSIBILITIES OF PERFORMERS/WRITERS FOR 2014

Poets:

Ciaran Carson (with or without Deirdre Shannon); Gearóid Mac Lochlainn (Irish language poet and musician); Sinéad Morrissey; Louis de Paor; Mary O'Malley; Vona Groarke

Fiction writers:

Glenn Patterson; Mary Morrissy; Eilís Ní Dhuibhne; Claire Keegan; Claire Kilroy; Donal Ryan; Deirdre Madden; Colum McCann; Hugo Hamilton

Playwrights/Screenwriters/Film makers:

Enda Walsh; Mark O'Halloran; Lenny Abrahamson;
Neasa Hardiman

Drama:

Gerry Smyth and his colleague doing "The Brother"
(short play based on the columns by Flann O'Brien).

Musicians:

Lillis O Laoire (sean nos singer and academic);
Mary McPartlan (folk singer), can perform with Mairtín
O Connor (box player); Gerry Smyth (Joyce songs);
The Joyce Ladies (Darina Gallagher und Sinead Murphy)
have a new centenary programme on - 'Dubliners';
Ronan Browne (traditional piper) with poet/academic
Louis de Paor; Seamie O Dowd (traditional guitarist
performs with Mary McParlan or Lillis O Laoire);
Pádraigín Ní Uallacháin

Future

We plan to develop the Irish itinerary further on four points:

- 1 Cooperation with **local institutions** will become even more important.
- 2 Academic cooperation will be increased, kicking off with the Project "Yeats Reborn" which starts in May 2014 and will come to full fruition in 2015 with the **publication** of the best translations and essays from scholars from all over Europe. The reciprocity between Ireland and Europe will show in the specific ways in which the different target languages deal with Yeats's questions, diction, imagery, ideas.

- 3 The dissemination of (reflections on) culture: the Irish Itinerary is a network of arteries which allows Irish culture to flow throughout Europe. We will encourage local specialists in Irish studies to turn the results of their research into forms, such as **exhibitions**, to tour the circuits of this Itinerary to help spread Irish literature and culture.
- 4 The EFACIS **website** will fully support the Irish Itinerary in all its aspects: cultural, academic, communal. So podcasts, pictures, reactions from the audience, spin-off events, ... from the different venues will all be posted to make your efforts visible to the whole community.

The coordinating work of all these EFACIS activities is done by the LCIS. In future we hope to extend and intensify both our research work and our service to the Irish culture and community.

Prof. Dr. Hedwig Schwall

General Director

Prof. Dr. Elke D'hoker

Research Director for Literature, History, Theology,
Philosophy and Fine Arts

Prof. Dr. Patrick Luyten

Research Director for Peace and Transformative Growth

Prof. Dr. Jan Van Hove

Research Director for Economics, Business, Law,
Innovation and Valorization



Leuven Centre for
Irish Studies