

## Commemorating the Sesquicentennial Celebration of the University's 1863 Founding



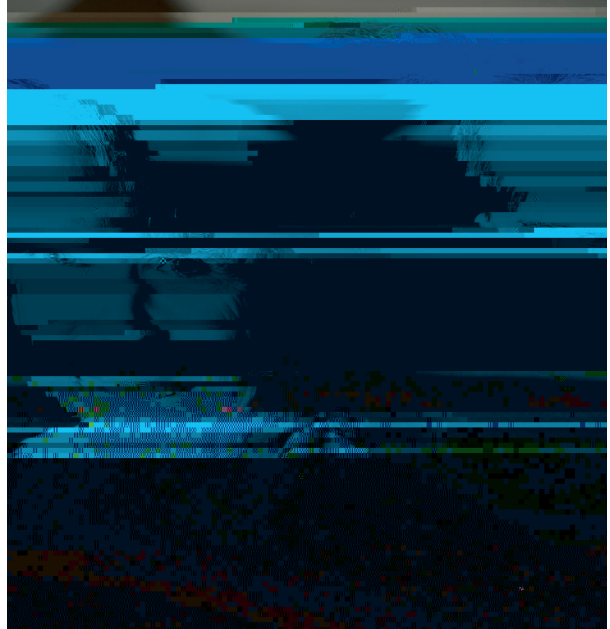
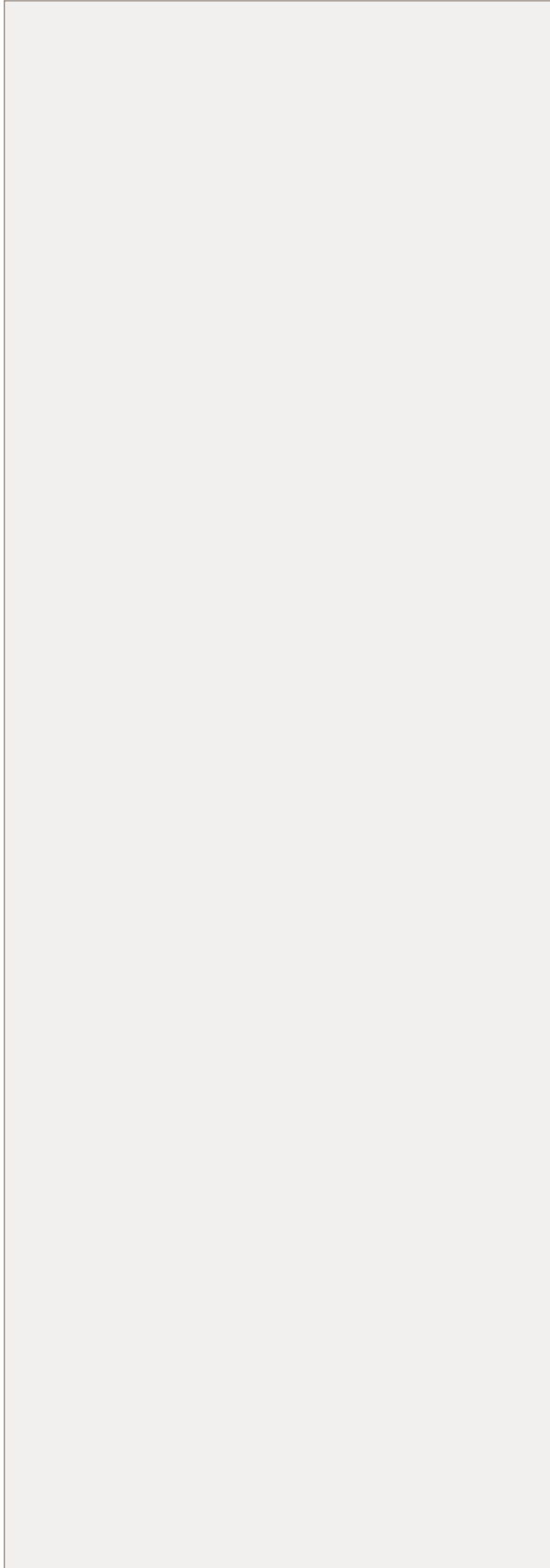
Mary McAleese

Library. She is currently studying for a doctoral degree in canon law at the Gregorian University in Rome, already having published a 2012 book entitled *Quo Vadis? Collegiality in the Code of Canon Law*.

McAleese, who served two terms as president of Ireland, from 1997 through 2011, was the first person born in Northern Ireland to hold that office. After earning a law degree at Queens University Belfast, she worked as a barrister, and later served as Reid Professor of Criminal Law at Trinity College Dublin. Her tenure as president of the Irish Republic was notable for the attention she gave to peace and reconciliation in the North. "Building Bridges" was the theme of her presidency, something she well understood the importance of, having been the eldest of 9 children in a family that was compelled to move out of North Belfast in the wake of sectarian violence. The presidential residence in Phoenix Park, *Áras an Uachtaráin*, was a venue at which McAleese hosted people from the North with whom she also engaged personally in Belfast. On May 17, 2011, Queen Elizabeth II met with McAleese at her official residence, the first ever visit by a British monarch to the Irish Republic. Less than a week later, McAleese hosted Queen Elizabeth II at her Phoenix Park home, President Barack Obama. It is the sum of these multiple career experiences and a reputation for engaging and candid dialogue that make her an ideal discussant with student and faculty audiences in history, politics, law, and religion.

upcoming semester. In the fall term, Mary McAleese will interact with both University and public groups, while also pursuing research of her own at the Burns

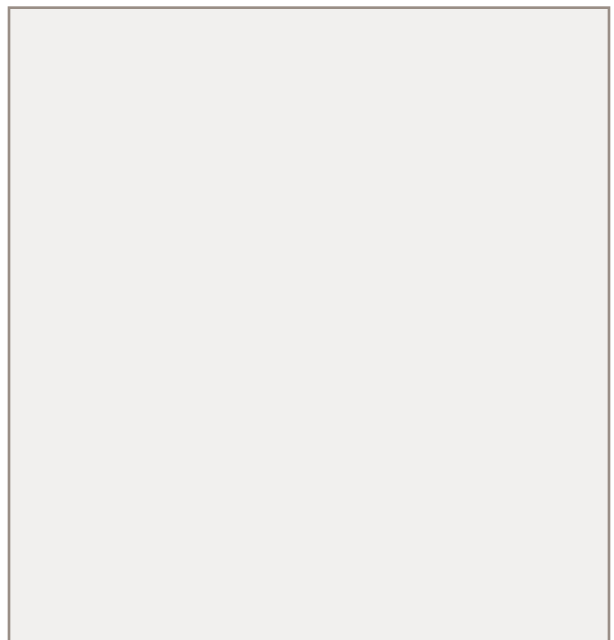
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This spring, an exhibit at the Burns Library highlights influences and milestones in the music career of Sullivan Artist-in-Residence Séamus Connolly. A world-renowned Irish traditional musician, performer, and teacher from Killaloe, Ireland, Séamus Connolly won 10 All-Ireland solo fiddle championships before immigrating to the United States in 1976. As Sullivan Artist-in-Residence in the Center for Irish Programs, Connolly teaches



Professor Terence Brown of Trinity College Dublin



# Boston College-Ireland

## A Decade of Commemoration

1913 was a tumultuous year in Irish history. Debates over Home Rule for Ireland dominated the papers on a daily basis, guns were brought into the country by unionists appalled at the spectre of Dublin rule, the political instability in the Balkans was becoming ever more evident, the suffragettes clamored for the vote, and industrial unrest would lead to the Dublin



comprised of 10 to 12 policymakers and practitioners, half from Northern Ireland and half from the Republic of Ireland, who visit Boston and one other U.S. city.

The first exchange program of this year took place in November and focused on the intersection of the arts and business. Ten participants engaged with their counterparts in Boston, such as the Massachusetts Cultural Council, to discuss the sustainable development of artistic endeavors. Participants then traveled to Milwaukee and Madison. In Wisconsin, cultural festivals like the Milwaukee Irish Fest were studied. The Irish Institute hosted a December program which illuminated U.S. developments in the marine economy sector, including offshore energy, fishing, transport, and recreation. The contrasting cities of Boston and Miami exposed the group to a variety of policies and practices relating to issues unique to each of those areas.

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