

Conference Programme
Globalising the Rising
1916 in international context



UCD O'Reilly Hall
Friday 5 – Saturday 6 February
2016



This conference was generously funded by the UCD Research Seed Funding Programme: Decade of Centenaries Internal Award Scheme 2014-16

About the conference

The conference organisers would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to UCD and to invite you to participate in this and the other centenary events which are being hosted by the university throughout the decade of commemorations.

This conference focusses on the Easter Rising which broke out in Dublin on 24 April 1916. Aiming to inform public discourse in advance of the state centenary, it investigates the Rising both from international and interdisciplinary perspectives. By internationalising the Irish experience, this seminal event in modern Irish history will be considered in global context. The rising was shaped by transnational forces, including the end of empire, the growth of nationalism, and the First World War. Furthermore, the 1916 Rising was watched closely by radicals and aspirant revolutionaries as far away as India and Russia.

By interpreting the Rising from multiple disciplinary perspectives, new avenues of research into the 1916 Rising will be explored. Study of the Rising is by no means confined to historians. Scholars in memory studies, political science, medicine, language, and literary criticism will outline how this event impacts upon their own disciplines and also how their disciplines can advance our understanding of this event.

About UCD

University College Dublin has its origins in the mid-nineteenth century under the leadership of the renowned educationalist Cardinal John Henry Newman. Since its foundation in 1854, the University has flourished and made a unique and substantial contribution to the creation of modern Ireland, based on successful engagement with Irish society on every level and across every sphere of activity.

UCD is one of Europe's leading research-intensive universities; an environment where undergraduate education, masters and PhD training, research, innovation and community engagement form a dynamic spectrum of activity.

UCD has a particularly important role to play in activities around the Decade of Centenaries. Many UCD staff, students and graduates were involved in critical events between 1912 and 1923. UCD came of age during the revolutionary decade. Following independence, the university and its graduates have played an integral role in the foundation and the development of the modern Irish state. The university is also a major holder of archives of national and international significance relating to the period.

Linking in with national and international commemoration initiatives, UCD has devised a programme of scholarship and outreach for the Decade of Centenaries. Our vision in this is to inform debate and understanding with an objective voice in a manner that brings education and new perspectives to the fore. We also seek to reflect on the centenaries through creative and cultural works.

For more information on this and other UCD Decade of Centenaries events, see centenaries.ucd.ie/events-calendar



Friday 5 February 2015, Day 1

08:45-09:30 Conference registration

09:30-10:00
Conference welcome and opening address

10:00-11:00
Keynote

Fearghal McGarry (QUB), “A Land Beyond the Wave”: Transnational Reflections on Easter 1916’

Chair: Lindsey Earner-Byrne (UCD)

Break, 11:00-11:30

11:30-12:30
Panel 1 – Memory Studies and 1916

Chair: Emilie Pine (UCD)

- **Roisín Higgins** (Teesside University) “Remember, Reflect and Re-imagine”: the Rising as a projection of Ireland’
- **Patrick Lonergan** (NUI Galway), ‘Performing the Rising/The Rising as Performance’
- **Oona Frawley** (Maynooth University), ‘The “Terrible Beauty” of Memory’

Lunch break, 12:30-13:45

13:45-14:45
Panel 2 – Beyond 1916: transnational contexts and imperial insurrections

- **Kate O’Malley** (RIA), “Was that not true courage which mocked at almost certain failure?” Easter 1916 and India’
- **Michael Silvestri** (Clemson University, South Carolina), “The Arts of Sedition”: The Easter Rising, British Imperial Intelligence and Anti-Colonial Nationalism’

Break, 14:45-15:15

15:15-16:15
Panel 3 (IBIS panel) – ‘Politics, Violence and Legitimacy’

Chair: David Farrell (UCD)

- **Sumantra Bose** (LSE), ‘Why do national self-determination movements embrace armed struggle?’
- **Jennifer Todd** (UCD), ‘Temporality and legitimacy in violent conflicts: European comparisons’
- **Melanie Hoewer** (UCD), ‘The complexity of violence in transitional societies. A comparative approach’

16:30-17:30

Exhibition launch – ‘Reading 1916’

Lucy Collins (UCD)

The exhibition 'Reading 1916' explores the events of 1916 through the books, documents, private papers, periodicals and ephemera held in UCD Special Collections at the James Joyce Library. The exhibition can be visited in the James Joyce Library throughout the conference. Further information on this project is on display in the conservatory of O’Reilly Hall.



Saturday 6 February, Day 2

09:30-10:00

Conference registration

10:00-11:00

Panel 4 – Treating the wounded: medicine in 1916: trenches and barricades

Chair: David Durnin (UCD)

- **Joe Duignan** (UCD and SVUH, retired), ‘Surgery in 1916’
- **Ronan Cahill** (UCD) & **Sr Eugene Nolan** (Mater Hospital), ‘The Mater Hospital and the 1916 Rising’
- **Barry Kennerk** (Temple Street Hospital), ‘More danger than he can digest’: Paediatric gunshot injuries of Easter Week 1916 in context’

Break, 11:00-11:30

11:30-12:30

Panel 5 – Revival and Rebellion: The Irish language and the 1916 Rising

Chair: Aoife Whelan (UCD)

- **Regina Uí Chollatáin** (UCD), ‘Ó Chéitinn go Conradh: The Gaelic League and the 1916 Rising’
- **Alan Titley** (UCC), ‘The Rising in Irish language sources’
- **Cathal Billings** (UCD), ‘“It is Gaelachas that is fighting Galldachas here” - Irish language, Gaelic Games and *Gaelachas* after the revolution’

Lunch break, 12:30-14:00

14:00-15:00

Panel 6 – Inspirations: reacting to Irish insurrection abroad

Chair: Robert Gerwarth (UCD)

- **Graham Dominy** (University of South Africa, Pretoria), ‘“Not a position for a gentleman”: Sir Matthew Nathan as colonial administrator from Cape Coast Castle to Dublin Castle via Natal’
- **Caoimhe Gallagher** (TCD), ‘Operation Polar Bear, the Mysterious James Motley Pinkerton and the “Dubliner Putsch” - Revolutionary Reaction to 1916 from the Heartland of Political Exile in Europe’

Break, 15:00-15:30

15:30-16:30

Roundtable discussion Interpreting the Rising

- **Diarmaid Ferriter** (UCD)
- **Eunan O’Halpin** (TCD)
- **Susan Schreibman** (Maynooth University)

16:30

Closing remarks

Conor Mulvagh (UCD)

