



25th Irish Conference of Medievalists

National University of Ireland, Galway

24–26 June 2011

Programme

Registration: full rate €40, concessions (students, retired, etc.) €25

Conference dinner (subject to available places): €40

For abstracts and advice on travel and accommodation, see: www.irishmedievalists.com

This draft: 20 April 2011.

Friday, 24 June 2011

1.00pm: **Conference opening and registration**

2.30–4pm: **Session 1a**

Michael GIBBONS (Clifden): A critical evaluation of the proposed evidence for the existence of wooden table altars on early Christian sites in western Ireland

Diarmuid Ó RIAIN (Dublin): Searching for Christ's tomb in Charlemagne's tent: The *Schottenklöster* and the cult of the Holy Sepulchre

Mícheál MAC CRAITH (NUI Galway): An Irish account of the Shrine of Loreto

2.30–4pm: **Session 1b**

Cathy SWIFT (Mary Immaculate College, Limerick): Dynasty, Dallas and Merovingian marriage practices in early Ireland—a consideration of the *adaltrach*

Anne PATON (University of Glasgow): Leprosy in medieval Ireland as seen through hagiography

Áine FOLEY (Trinity College Dublin): 'Poor man be hanged by the neck, rich man by the purse': The social status of victims of execution in late medieval Ireland

4–5pm: [TBC] **Wine reception**

5pm: **Annual NUI Galway Lecture in Medieval Studies**

Alfred P. SMYTH (University of Kent): Ireland and Europe in the Middle Ages: Different cultures or different source materials?

Saturday, 25 June 2011

9.30–11am: **Session 2a**

Patrick GLEESON (University College Cork): Politics and ceremony in early medieval Munster: Finding the landscape and kingship of Cashel

John BLACK (Moravian College, Bethlehem PA): Sacred landscape in early medieval saints' cults

Joanna HUCKINS (University of Connecticut): Landscape and lamentation: Conceptualizing sacred space in medieval Irish texts

9.30–11am: **Session 2b**

Gillian KENNY (University College Dublin): Silent witnesses: The women of the *Histoire de Guillaume le Mareschal*

Patrick WADDEN (Exeter College, Oxford): Ireland and the Normans c. 1000: The evidence of Dudo of St Quentin's *History*

George THEOTOKIS (University of Glasgow): Geoffrey Malaterra as a military historian for the Norman expansion in Italy and Sicily—strengths and weaknesses in his narrative

9.30–11am: **Session 2c**

Eamonn KELLY (National Museum of Ireland): The finding of the *longphort* of Linn Duachail

Lenore FISCHER: Dublin's version of the Battle of Clontarf

Rosemary POWER (Birbeck College, London): Norse-Gaelic contacts after the Vikings

11–11.30am: **Tea/coffee break**

11.30am–1pm: **Plenary session A: Cross-currents in Irish and Norse literature**

Judith JESCH (University of Nottingham): Scandinavian culture along the Dublin–Orkney axis

Jan Erik REKDAL (University of Oslo): Viking warriors—Irish saints: Death of heroes and saints and literary resurrection?

Gísli SIGURDSSON (Árni Magnússon Institute, Reykjavík): The Gaelic influence in Iceland: What difference does it make?

1–2.30pm: **Lunch**

2.30–4pm: **Session 3a**

Patricia Ní MHAOILEOIN (NUI Galway): Heroic lives and unheroic deaths in early medieval Irish literature

Ralph O'CONNOR (University of Aberdeen): Images of kingship in *Togail Bruidne Da Derga*: Careless compilation or dramatic contrast?

Ruairí Ó HUIGINN (NUI Maynooth): *Tochmarc Emire*: An exemplary tale?

2.30–4pm: **Session 3b**

Paul MACCOTTER (University College Cork): The 12th-century pre-Invasion Irish Church: Misunderstood and maligned

Miriam CLYNE (NUI Galway): Patronage and the White Canons in late medieval Ireland

Lorna MOLONEY (NUI Galway): A comparative analysis of the emergence of the Gaelic lordships in Thomond in medieval Ireland

2.30–4pm: **Session 3c**

Rob LEE (University of Exeter): Language ascription by use of character libraries

Michael CLARKE (NUI Galway): A case study in revisionist theology among medieval Irish scholars

4–4.30pm: **Tea/coffee break**

4.30–6pm: **Plenary session B: New work on Columbanus**

Aidan BREEN (NUI Galway): Re-evaluating the critical text of Jonas, *Vita sancti Columbani* I

Emmet MARRON (NUI Galway): Geophysics at Annegray: Preliminary findings of recent archaeological investigations at Columbanus' first foundation

Sébastien BULLY (CNRS, UMR ARTeHIS Dijon-Auxerre): Avant et après Colombanus : archéologie du monachisme ancien dans le diocèse de Besançon

7.30pm: **Conference dinner at the House Hotel** (Galway city centre)

Sunday, 26 June 2011

9.30–11am: **Session 4a**

Jeannine KRAFT (Columbus College of Art & Design, Ohio): An assessment of the liturgical implications of the Irish high crosses

Emma NIC CÁRTHAIGH (University College Cork): Doomsday, Hell and homilies in the *Liber Flavus Fergusiorum*

Caitríona DEVANE: The half-barony of Moycarn, etymology and context

9.30–11am: **Session 4b**

David WOODS (University College Cork): The Aurora Borealis at the death of St Columba (*Vita Columbae* 3.23)

Sarah McCANN (NUI Galway): Irish asceticism at an Anglo-Saxon monastery: Adomnán of Coldingham

Damian BRACKEN (University College Cork): Peace, concord and Columbanus

9.30–11am: **Session 4c**

Brian ARKINS (NUI Galway): Yeats' use of Byzantium

Connell MONETTE (Al Akhawayn University, Morocco): Celtic elements in Moroccan Berber folktales

Amanda KELLY (NUI Galway): From Africa to Ireland in the 6th century AD: One sherd of evidence

11–11.30am: **Tea/coffee break**

11.30am–1pm: **Session 5a**

Shane LORDAN (University College Cork): Insert saint here: Reconciling Patrick to the apostolic Church

Robert J. POWELL (University College Cork): Martyrdom in Muirchú's *Life of Patrick*

11.30am–1pm: **Session 5b** (The Connacht Project, NUI Galway)

Máirín Ní DHONNCHADHA (NUI Galway): Early Connacht tales and some implications for the so-called Heroic or Ulster Cycle

Anne CONNON (Discovery Programme): *Acallam na Senórach* as a source for the political history of Connacht

Ann DOOLEY (St Michael's College, University of Toronto): The *Táin Bó Cúailnge* and *Acallam na Senórach*

1.15–1.45pm: **Plenary final meeting**

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