



CUMANN IDIRNÁISIÚNTA NA gCOIMISINÉIRÍ TEANGA
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LANGUAGE COMMISSIONERS

Comhdháil
Chumann Idirnáisiúnta
na gCoimisinéirí Teanga **2016**
International Association
of Language Commissioners'
Conference **2016**

Dé Luain, 7 Márta -
Dé Céadaoin,
9 Márta 2016

Monday, 7 March -
Wednesday,
9 March 2016



OÉ Gaillimh
NUI Galway

ÉIRE
IRELAND

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2016

Clár Comórtha
Céad Bliain
Centenary
Programme

CLÁR ÁBHAR

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RÓNÁN Ó DOMHNAILL AN COIMISINÉIR TEANGA

Den chuid is mó agus muid ag plé cearta teanga anseo in Éirinn is ar an nGaeilge a dhirítear. Luíonn sé sin le réasún agus tá sé nádúrtha go mbíonn muid ag díriú ar ár dteanga féin, céad teanga oifigiúil an Stáit. Ach dar ndóigh tá tíortha eile agus teangacha eile atá ag streachailt leis na dúshlán chéanna a bhíonn againn anseo. Is maith ann mar sin Cumann Idirnáisiúnta na gCoimisinéirí Teanga agus tabharfaidh an chomhdháil seo deis dúinn comparáid a dhéanamh idir an chaoi a gcaitear le teangacha i limistéir éagsúla. Ní hionann mar shampla na forálacha in Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla anseo agus iad siúd i gCeanada. Céard iad na difríochtaí idir cumhachtaí Choimisinéir na Cosaíve agus cumhachtaí Choimisinéir na Breataine Bige? Nó New Brunswick agus Nunavut? Is léir go bhfuil go leor le foghlaim againn óna chéile agus cén áit níos fearr le tús a chur leis sin i mbliana ach i hallaí ársa Aula Maxima in Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh?

Ba mhaith liom buíochas faoi leith a ghabháil le Dónall Ó Braonáin ó Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge agus John Walsh ó Roinn na Gaeilge san Ollscoil as a bheith mar chomhpháirtithe liom in eagrú na comhdhála seo. Bhí a ndearcadh stuama ar chúrsaí ina chabhair mhór in eagrú na comhdhála.

We usually focus on Irish when discussing language rights here in Ireland. That stands to reason and it is natural that we would focus on our own language, the first official language of the State. But there are, of course, other countries and languages who are struggling with the same challenges that we face here. It is good then that the International Association of Language Commissioners exists and this conference will give us an opportunity to compare the way that languages are treated in different areas. For example, the provisions of the Official Languages Act here are not the same as those in Canada. What are the differences between the powers of the Commissioner of Kosovo and the powers of the Commissioner of Wales? Or New Brunswick and Nunavut? It is clear that we have a lot to learn from each other and where better to begin this year than in the ancient halls of the Aula Maxima in the National University of Ireland, Galway?

I would like to give particular thanks to Dónall Ó Braonáin from Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge and John Walsh from the Irish Department in the University for working with me in the organisation of this conference. Their wise views on matters was a big help in the organisation of the conference.

Is onóir mhór dúinn freisin go bhfuil an chomhdháil mar chuid de Chlár Comórtha Céad Bliain an Stáit agus cabhair maoinithe faighte dá réir ó chiste tacaíochta na Roinne Ealaíon, Oidhreacht & Gaeltachta don chomóradh. Beidh deis ann le linn na bliana seo amach romhainn machnamh a dhéanamh athuair ar na mianta a bhí ann ar bhunú an Stáit. Lárnach sa mhachnamh seo beidh staid ár dteanga náisiúnta agus a háit i sochaí an lae inniu.

Triúr a bhí lárnach i mbunú Chumann Idirnáisiúnta na gCoimisinéirí Teanga. B'shin iad an chéad Choimisinéir Teanga ag an Stát seo Seán Ó Cuirreáin, Coimisinéir Teanga Cheanada Graham Fraser agus iar-Aire Gnóthaí Eachtracha na Fionlainne Pär Stenbäck. Is cúis áthais dom go bhfuil an triúr acu linn don chomhdháil seo ar chearta teanga.

It is a big honour for us also that the conference is part of the State's Centenary Commemoration Programme and we received funding accordingly from the support fund of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht for the commemoration. There will be an opportunity during the coming year to reflect again on the ambitions that accompanied the foundation of the State. Central to this reflection will be the condition of our national language and its place in today's society.

Three people were central to the foundation of the International Association of Language Commissioners. They were this State's first Language Commissioner, Seán Ó Cuirreáin, Canada's Language Commissioner, Graham Fraser, and the former Finnish Minister for Foreign Affairs, Pär Stenbäck. I am delighted that the three of them are with us for this conference on language rights.



DR. JAMES BROWNE

UACHTARÁN, OLLSCOIL NA hÉIREANN, GAILLIMH
PRESIDENT, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY

Tá mic léinn á dtabhairt chun cinn i nGaillimh le 170 bliain ó bunaíodh OÉ Gaillimh in 1845. Tiomantas don teagasc ardchaighdeán agus tús áite don taighde a thuilleann cáil agus aitheantas idirnáisiúnta dúinn.

Cinntíonn 17000 mac léinn agus 2400 comhalta foirne gur comhlúadar áitiúil agus domhanda muid. Feabhas sa teagasc agus sa taighde a thugann scoth na mac léinn chomh fada linn. 2000 mac léinn idirnáisiúnta ó 92 thír a shocraíonn ar chúrsa léinn a dhéanamh linn. I measc láidreachtaí taighde na hOllscoile tá Innealtóireacht agus Eolaíocht Bhithleighis, Eolaíocht Chomhshaoil, Muireolaíocht, An Dlí i leith Chearta an Duine, Teicneolaíocht Idirlín, na Daonnachtaí Digiteacha, Seaneolaíocht Shóisialta, agus taighde um Leanai agus Teaghlach.

Déanann Fís 2020, Plean Straitéiseach OÉ Gaillimh, athdhearbhú ar thiomantas na hOllscoile don Ghaeilge agus don Ghaeltacht. Tá cáil idirnáisiúnta ar thaighde Roinn na Gaeilge i Scoil na dTeangacha, na Litríochtaí agus na gCultúr i dtaca leis an tsochtheangeolaíocht agus leis an mbeartas teanga. Ionad náisiúnta barr feabhais i léann an aistriúcháin agus san ateangaireacht atá in institiúid Ghaeilge na hOllscoile, Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge.

Tá an Ghaeltacht is mó in Éirinn buailte ar OÉ Gaillimh agus déantar treisiú ar an nasc teanga idir an Ollscoil agus an réigiún a bhuíochas den 3 Ionad Ollscoile i nGaeltacht na Gaillimhe agus i nGaoth Dobhair, Contae Dhún na nGall. Isteach is amach le 2500 mac léinn a bhíonn ag gabháil de chlár nó modúil Ghaeilge in OÉ Gaillimh ar bhonn bliantúil.

Cúis bhróid d'OÉ Gaillimh fáilte a chur roimh Chumann Idirnáisiúnta na gCoimisinéirí Teanga go Gaillimh.

Founded in 1845, NUI Galway has been inspiring students for 170 years and has earned international recognition as a research led university with a commitment to top quality teaching.

We are a global and local community of 17000 students and 2400 staff members. Our commitment to excellence in teaching and research attracts high-calibre students from all over the world. More than 2000 international students from 92 countries, choose to study here. Our research strengths include Biomedical Science and Engineering, Environmental Science, Marine Science, Human Rights Law, Internet Technology, Digital Humanities, Social Gerontology and Child and Family Research.

'Vision 2020', the NUI Galway Strategic Plan reaffirms the University's longstanding commitment to the Irish language and Irish-speaking communities in our region. Roinn na Gaeilge in the School of Languages, Literatures & Culture is internationally recognised for its robust research agenda in sociolinguistics & language policy. The University's Irish language institute Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge is a national centre of excellence for translation and interpreting studies.

NUI Galway is adjacent to the largest Irish-speaking region in Ireland and the University's linguistic links with the region are strengthened by three University Centres in the Galway Gaeltacht and in Gaoth Dobhair, Co. Donegal. Some 2500 students take Irish language programmes or modules in NUI Galway on an annual basis.

NUI Galway is proud to welcome the International Association of Language Commissioners to Galway.



GRAHAM FRASER

CATHAOIRLEACH, CUMANN
IDIRNÁISIÚNTA na gCOIMISINÉIRÍ TEANGA
CHAIRPERSON, INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
LANGUAGE COMMISSIONERS

Tá mé thar a bheith sásta go bhfuil an tríú cruinniú seo de Chumann Idirnáisiúnta na gCoimisinéirí Teanga á reáchtáil i nGaillimh. Is ag comhdháil i mBaile Átha Cliath a d'eagraigh an chéad Choimisinéir Teanga, Seán Ó Cuirreáin, a thángthas ar an smaoineamh an Cumann a bhunú agus is cuí dá bhrí sin go bhfuilimid ar ais in Éirinn. Ar leibhéal pearsanta, tháinig mé go Gaillimh go luath tar éis mo cheapacháin mar Choimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla i gCeanada sa bhliain 2006. Is tráthúil, mar sin, go bhfuil mé ar ais anseo deich mbliana níos déanaí.

Bhí naisc Cheanada le hÉirinn láidir riamh agus tá na mílte duine as Ceanada, nó na milliúin b'fhéidir, bródúil gur as Éirinn a sinsir, mar a bhíonn le feiceáil go minic ag paráidí Lá Fhéile Pádraig. Tá mé bródúil dá bhrí sin gur anseo a thángthas ar an smaoineamh ár gCumann a bhunú agus go bhfuil sé anseo arís agus é fós an-óg. Cuireann an ceiliúradh Céad Bliain deis uathúil ar fáil chun an gaol rithabhachtach idir teanga agus cultúr, agus idir teanga agus féiniúlacht, a phlé. Go deimhin féin, beidh deis againn tuiscint a fháil ar na naisc sin ar bhealach ar leith ag an gcomhdháil seo ó tharla go mbeidh Sandra Inuitiq, Coimisinéir Teangacha Nunavut, ag plé ról na féiniúlachta i saothar Robert Flaherty, scannánóir Gael-Mheiriceánach a rinne Nanook of the North sa bhliain 1922 agus Man of Aran sa bhliain 1934.

I am particularly pleased that this third meeting of the International Association of Language Commissioners is being held in Galway. The Association was conceived at a conference in Dublin, organised by the first Coimisinéir Teanga, Seán Ó Cuirreáin, and so it is fitting that we return. On a personal level, one of my first experiences on becoming Canada's Commissioner of Official Languages in 2006 was to come to Galway, so to return here ten years later marks an effective bookend to my decade in office.

Canada's links with Ireland have always been strong, and thousands, if not millions of Canadians cherish their Irish roots with pride, as many annual St. Patrick's Day parades testify. So I am proud that our Association was conceived here and, still very young, returns. The Centenary celebrations provide a singular opportunity to discuss the critical relationship between language and culture, and language and identity. Indeed, this conference will enable us to understand some of those links in a particular way, as Sandra Inuitiq, the Nunavut Languages Commissioner, will be discussing the role of identity in the works of Robert Flaherty, an Irish-American filmmaker who made both Nanook of the North in 1922, and Man of Aran in 1934.

Tá ról uathúil ag an gCoimisinéir Teanga i ngach ceann dár ndlíní. Níl comhghleacaí ar bith againn sa bhaile. Dá bhri sin, cé go bhfuil ár sainorduithe beagán difriúil óna chéile, táimid go léir tiomanta do neamhspleáchas ár n-oifige, tá meas againn go léir orthu siúd a lorgaíonn cabhair ónár n-oifig le go dtabharfaí a gcearta teanga dóibh, agus tugaimid go léir tacaíocht do bheogacht na teanga a bhfuil sainordú againn í a chosaint agus a chur chun cinn. Foghlaimimid óna chéile, tugaimid tacaíocht dá chéile agus éistimid lena chéile, agus is minic a bhímid ag déanamh iontais de na dúshláin éagsúla a bhíonn roimh gach duine againn. Ní haon iontas, mar sin, gur luachmhar linn ár gcomhdhálacha.

Is mian liom buíochas a ghabháil le Rónán as ucht an chomhdháil seo a eagrú, le Ciste Comórtha 1916 as ucht na tacaíochta a fuaireamar uaidh, agus le hOllscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh as ucht gach cóir a chur orainn. Go gcuire an chomhdháil seo le heolas gach duine againn agus go saibhrí sí muid ar fad.

Our positions of Language Commissioners are unique in our jurisdictions. We have no colleagues at home. So, while our mandates vary somewhat, each of us shares a commitment to the independence of our offices, respect for those who seek help from our offices in having their language rights respected, and support for the vitality of the languages we are mandated to protect and promote. We learn from each other, we support each other, and we listen to each other, often marvelling at the different challenges each one of us faces. This is one of the reasons why our conferences are so valuable to each of us.

I want to thank Rónán for his initiative in organising this conference, the 1916 Commemoration Fund for its support, and the University of Galway for its hospitality. May this conference inform and enrich us all.

UACHTARÁN na hÉIREANN,
MICHEÁL D. Ó HUIGÍN
PRESIDENT OF IRELAND,
MICHAEL D. HIGGINS





AN tONÓRACH ADRIAN HARDIMAN

BREITHEAMH DEN CHÚIRT UACHTARACH

JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT

Rugadh an Breitheamh Adrian Hardiman i mBaile Átha Cliath agus fuair sé a chuid oideachais ag Coláiste Belvedere, an Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath (áit ar bhain sé céim amach i stair) agus ag Óstaí an Rí. Glaoth chun an Bharra i 1974 é agus chleacht sé mar abhcóide ar feadh na gcéad 26 bliain eile. Rinneadh abhcóide sinsir de i 1989. Bhain sé taitneamh as slí bheatha speisiúil sa Chúirt agus sa Bhinse Fiosrúcháin agus bhí baint aige le go leor de na príomhchásanna ag an am. Scríobhadh sé agus chraoladh sé go rialta ar ábhair dhlíthiúla agus pholaitiúla.

Tarraingíodh é ó na radhairc bheoga agus chonspóideacha i 2000, nuair a ceapadh é chun na Cúirte Uachtaraigh, agus áirítear lena chuid foilseachán deireanach agus leis na foilseacháin dá chuid atá le foilsiú go luath: "The Role of the Supreme Court in our Democracy" in Political choice and Democratic Freedom in Ireland (Mulholland, 2004); "Native and foreign judges and laws in Ireland: a post-colonial reflection" in (Sarkin agus Binchy eag), The Administration of Justice: Current Themes in Comparative Perspective (Four Courts Press, 2004); "Socio-economic Litigation and the Separation of Powers" in The Commonwealth Lawyer, Imleabhar 14, Uimh. 3 (Nollaig 2005); "The Trial of Robert Emmet" in History Ireland, Imleabhar 13, uimh. 4 (Iúil/Lúnasa 2005); "A Gruesome

Mr. Justice Adrian Hardiman was born in Dublin and educated at Belvedere College, University College Dublin (where he graduated in history) and the King's Inns. He was called to the Bar in 1974 and practised as a barrister for the next 26 years, taking Silk in 1989. He enjoyed an interesting career in Court and Tribunal, appearing in many of the leading cases of the day. He used to write and broadcast regularly on legal and political topics.

Withdrawn from all vivid and controversial scenes since 2000, when he was appointed to the Supreme Court, his recent and forthcoming publications include: "The Role of the Supreme Court in our Democracy" in Political choice and Democratic Freedom in Ireland (Mulholland, 2004); "Native and foreign judges and laws in Ireland: a post-colonial reflection" in (Sarkin and Binchy eds), The Administration of Justice: Current Themes in Comparative Perspective (Four Courts Press, 2004); "Socio-economic Litigation and the Separation of Powers" in The Commonwealth Lawyer, Volume 14, No. 3 (December 2005); "The Trial of Robert Emmet" in History Ireland, Vol. 13, no. 4 (July/August 2005); "A Gruesome Case: James Joyce's Dublin Murder" in (Larkin and Kissane eds) Librarians Poets and Scholars: a festschrift for Dónall Ó Luanaigh (Dublin, National Library of Ireland Association, forthcoming, 2007); "Shot in Cold

Case: James Joyce's Dublin Murder" in (Larkin agus Kissane eag) Librarians Poets and Scholars: a festschrift for Dónall Ó Luanaigh (Baile Átha Cliath, Cumann Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann, le foilsiú, 2007); "Shot in Cold Blood: Military Law and Irish Perceptions in the suppression of the 1916 Rebellion" in (Doherty agus Keogh eag) The Long Revolution: the 1916 Rising in context (Mercier, Corcaigh, 2007); "Law Crime and Punishment in Bloomsday Dublin" (Irish Legal History Society, le foilsiú, 2007).

Tá an Breitheamh Hardiman ina Bhinseoir ag Óstaí an Rí, ina Mháistir Binse ag an Teampall Láir, Londain agus ina Bhall d'Acadamh Ríoga na hÉireann.

Blood: Military Law and Irish Perceptions in the suppression of the 1916 Rebellion" in (Doherty and Keogh eds) The Long Revolution: the 1916 Rising in context (Mercier, Cork, 2007); "Law Crime and Punishment in Bloomsday Dublin" (Irish Legal History Society, forthcoming, 2007).

Mr. Justice Hardiman is a Bencher of the King's Inns, a Master of the Bench of the Middle Temple, London, and a Member of the Royal Irish Academy.



GRAHAM FRASER

Ceapadh Graham Fraser i mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2006 mar shéú Coimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla do Cheanada, agus rinneadh athnuachan ar a théarma go dtí 2016. Ó shin i leith, an aidhm atá aige ná dhá theanga oifigiúla Cheanada a chur chun cinn agus cearta teanga na gCeanadach a chosaint.

Mar iar-iriseoir agus scríbhneoir, bhí poist éagsúla ag an Uasal Fraser le nuachtáin ar leith, mar shampla an Toronto Star, Globe and Mail agus Le Devoir. Ina theannta sin, tá cúig leabhar scríofa aige, lena n-áirítear Sorry, I Don't Speak French, leabhar a chabhraigh le plé poiblí ar pholasaí teanga i gCeanada a spreagadh as an nua.

Mar Choimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla, is minic a thugtar cuireadh don Uasal Fraser chun a chuid tuairimí maidir le saincheisteanna teangacha oifigiúla réigiúnacha, náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta, a chur in iúl. Toghadh é mar an chéad Chathaoirleach ar Chumann Idirnáisiúnta na gCoimisinéirí Teanga i mBealtaine 2013.

Graham Fraser was appointed in October 2006 as Canada's sixth Commissioner of Official Languages, and had his mandate renewed until 2016. Since then, his mandate has been to promote Canada's two official languages and protect the language rights of Canadians.

A former journalist and writer, Mr. Fraser held various positions with several newspapers, such as the Toronto Star, The Globe and Mail and Le Devoir. Additionally, Mr. Fraser has written five books, including Sorry, I Don't Speak French, which helped stimulate renewed public discussion of language policy in Canada.

As Commissioner of Official Languages, Mr. Fraser is often invited to express his views on provincial, national and international official languages issues. He was elected as the first Chair of the International Association of Language Commissioners in May 2013.



MERI HUWS

Bhunaigh an Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 oifig Choimisinéir Teanga na Breatnaise. Ceapadh Meri Huws mar chéad Choimisinéir Teanga ar 1 Aibreán 2012. Sular ceapadh í mar Choimisinéir, bhí sí ina cathaoirleach ar Bhord na Breatnaise ó 2004-2011, agus bhí sí ina ball den bhord chomh maith ó 1993 go dtí 1997. Fuair sí a cuid oideachais i Fishguard High School, sula ndeachaigh sí i mbun céim sa Dlí agus Polaitíocht in Ollscoil na Breataine Bige, Aberystwyth. Rinne sí iarchéim i St Ann College Oxford agus thraenáil sí le bheith ina hoibrí sóisialta, lonnaithe in iarthuaisceart na Breataine Bige. Lean sí le gairm san ardoideachas sna 80idí agus 90idí, bhí sí ina léachtóir i Normal College, Bangor, agus in Ollscoil Newport sular oibrigh sí ar feadh tréimhse in Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath. Bhí sí ina cathaoirleach freisin ar Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg (Cumann Teanga na Breatnaise) ó 1981-1983. Sa mbliain 1999 bhog sí le dul ag obair in Ollscoil Bangor mar Leas-Seansailéir Cúnta, agus bhí sí sa bpost sin ar feadh deich mbliana. Ceapadh í mar Leas-Seansailéir Cúnta in Ollscoil na Breataine Bige Trinity St. David i 2009, sular ceapadh í mar Choimisinéir Teanga na Breatnaise i 2012. Tá aithne mhór sa saol poiblí sa mBreatain Bheag ar Meri Huws. Is minic a fhaigheann sí cuireadh ó choistí sa mBreatain Bheag le fianaise a thabhairt don Tionól Náisiúnta, óráidí a thabhairt ag comhdhálacha agus cruinnithe ar fud na tíre, agus le labhairt ar chlár nuachta agus cúrsaí reatha.

The office of Welsh Language Commissioner was created by the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011. Meri Huws started as the first Commissioner on 1 April 2012. Before being appointed as Commissioner, Ms Huws chaired the Welsh Language Board from 2004-2011, and was also a member of the board from 1993 until 1997. She received her education at Fishguard High School, before studying a degree in Law and Politics at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth. She studied for a postgraduate degree at St Ann College Oxford and trained to be a social worker, based in north-west Wales. She followed a career in higher education in the 80s and 90s, she lectured in Normal College, Bangor, and Newport University before working for a period in Dublin City University. Ms Huws also chaired Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg (the Welsh Language Society) from 1981-1983. In 1999 she moved to work at Bangor University as Deputy Vice-Chancellor, and was in the post for ten years. She was appointed as the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Wales Trinity St. David in 2009, before being appointed as Welsh Language Commissioner in 2012. Ms Huws is a familiar face in public life in Wales. She is often invited to give evidence to National Assembly for Wales committees, to address conferences and meetings across the country, and to talk on news and current affairs programmes.



RÓNÁN Ó DOMHNAILL

Ar an 12 Márta 2014, cheap Uachtarán na hÉireann Rónán Ó Domhnaill mar Choimisinéir Teanga, tar éis dó a bheith ainmnithe ag an Rialtas. Ghlac Tithe an Oireachtais (Dáil Éireann agus Seanad Éireann) d'aon ghuth leis an ainmniúchán.

Chaith Rónán Ó Domhnaill 16 bliain mar iriseoir leis an gcraoltóir náisiúnta in Éirinn, RTÉ agus le TG4. Ceapadh é mar Chomhfhreagraí Polaitíochta le Nuacht RTÉ/TG4 i 2006. Chuir sé clár pholaitíochta ar nós The Week in Politics i láthair chomh maith.

Chuir a ról mar iriseoir go leor béime ar thuairisciú agus anailisiú scéalta a bhain le cearta agus reachtaíocht teanga i dtaobh na Gaeilge de. I measc na scéalta suntasacha atá clúdaithe aige tá foilsiú Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla chomh maith leis an Staidéar Cuimsitheach Teangeolaíoch ar Úsáid na Gaeilge sa Ghaeltacht agus an Straitéis 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge 2010 – 2030.

Tuairiscíonn an Coimisinéir Teanga díreach chuig Tithe an Oireachtais. Is minic Rónán os comhair coistí Oireachtais chun labhairt faoi chearta teanga an tsaoaránaigh agus an gá na cearta sin a chosaint agus a threisiú.

Rónán Ó Domhnaill was appointed Language Commissioner on 12 March 2014. He was appointed by the President of Ireland following his nomination by the Government. Both Houses of the Oireachtas, (Dáil Éireann and Seanad Éireann) unanimously accepted that nomination.

Rónán Ó Domhnaill spent 16 years as a journalist with the national broadcaster in Ireland, RTÉ and with TG4. He was appointed as Political Correspondent with Nuacht RTÉ/TG4 in 2006. He also presented political programmes such as The Week in Politics.

His role as a journalist placed much emphasis on reporting and analysing political stories relating to language rights and legislation regarding the Irish language. The significant stories he has covered include the publication of the Official Languages Act, as well as the Comprehensive Linguistic Study of the Use of Irish in the Gaeltacht and the 20 Year Strategy for the Irish Language 2010 – 2030.

The Language Commissioner reports directly to the Houses of the Oireachtas. Rónán is often before Oireachtas committees to speak about language rights and the need to protect and strengthen those rights.



RAFAEL RIBÓ

Is é Rafael Ribó Ombudsman na Catalóine ón mbliain 2004 agus é anois ag cur isteach a dhara tréimhse sa bpost sin. Bhí sé ina Uachtarán ar Bhord Stiúrthóirí na hEorpa den Institiúid Ombudsman Idirnáisiúnta ó 2009 go dtí 2012 tráth ar ceapadh é mar dhuine de stiúrthóirí an Bhoird Dhomhanda.

Tá céim aige in Eacnamaíocht agus i nDlí agus is léachtóir ollscoile é in Eolaíocht Pholaitiúil agus Riaracháin. Is iar-bhall parlaiminte de Pharlaimint na Catalóine agus de Pharlaimint na Spáinne é. Bhí an tUasal Ribó ina Ard-Rúnaí ar Pháirtí Aontaithe Sóisialach na Catalóine agus ina uachtarán ar an bpáirtí polaitíochta an Iniciativa per Catalunya. Tá cuid mhór leabhar, caibidlí agus staidéar foilsithe aige ar nós Catalonia's Political System, The National Question and the Catalan Nations, Handbook of Political Science, Citizenship and Nationalism agus Special Regions and European Union Treaty Reform.

Rafael Ribó has been Sindic de Greuges de Catalunya (Catalan Ombudsman) since 2004. Now he is on his second mandate. He was President of the European Board of Directors of the International Ombudsman Institute (IOI) from 2009 to 2012 when he was appointed as one of the directors of the World Board.

With degrees in Economics and Law, Mr. Ribó is a university lecturer in Political and Administrative Science. A former MP in the Catalan and Spanish Parliaments, Mr. Ribó was Secretary General of the PSUC (Unified Socialist Party of Catalonia) and president of the Iniciativa per Catalunya political party. He has published several books, chapters and studies such as Catalonia's Political System, The National Question and the Catalan Nations, Handbook of Political Science, Citizenship and Nationalism and Special Regions and European Union Treaty Reform.



FRANÇOIS BOILEAU

I láthair na huaire, tá an tUasal François Boileau ag leanúint dá thríú tréimhse mar Choimisinéir do Sheirbhísí Teanga na Fraincise in Ontario. Sular thosaigh sé a thréimhse mar Choimisinéir i mí Lúnasa 2007, ghníomhaigh an tUasal Boileau mar chomhairleoir dlí d'Oifig Choimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla.

Ó 1993 go 2003, bhí poist éagsúla aige leis an Fédération des Communautés Francophones et Acadienne du Canada (FCFA), in oifig Quebec, lena n-áirítear stiúrthóir, oifigeach idirchaidrimh pholaitiúil agus dlí, agus comhairleoir dlí. Ceann de na héachtaí is tábhachtaí a bhain sé amach i rith an ama sin ná ionadaíocht a dhéanamh don FCFA os comhair Chúirt Achomhairc Ontario sa chás Montfort. Sa chás seo, bhunaigh sé straitéisí agus chuir sé comhordú dlí ar fáil do gach idirghabhálaí, lena n-áirítear Coimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla Cheanada agus Association Canadienne Française de l'Ontario (ACFO).

Ó 1995 go dtí 1997, i Winnipeg, ba é an tUasal Boileau an chéad stiúrthóir feidhmiúcháin de chuid Chlár Dúshlán Cúirte Cheanada. Le linn a thréimhse, d'fhorbair sé tosaíochtaí straitéiseacha agus pleananna oibriochta na heagraíochta. Bhí sé freisin i gceannas ar an gcuid den chlár a bhain le cearta teanga agus ghníomhaigh sé mar urlabhraí oifigiúil do na meáin, don rialtas agus don phobal, chomh maith le feidhmeanna go leor eile.

Tuairiscíonn an Coimisinéir do Sheirbhísí Teanga na Fraincise díreach chuig Tionól Reachtach Ontario. Tá sé de chumhacht aige moltaí a dhéanamh ar nithe a bhaineann le cur i bhfeidhm an Achta um Sheirbhísí Teanga na Fraincise.

Mr. François Boileau is currently pursuing his third mandate as the French Language Services Commissioner of Ontario. Prior to beginning his mandate as Commissioner in August 2007, Mr. Boileau acted as legal counsel for the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages.

From 1993 to 2003, he held various positions with the Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada (FCFA), in its Quebec City office, including director, political and legal liaison officer, and legal counsel. One of his most important achievements during that time was to represent the FCFA before the Ontario Court of Appeal in the Montfort case. For this case, he established strategies and provided legal coordination for each of the interveners, including for the Commissioner of Official Languages of Canada and the Association canadienne française de l'Ontario (ACFO).

From 1995 to 1997, in Winnipeg, Mr. Boileau became the first executive director of the Court Challenges Program of Canada. During his tenure, he developed the organisation's strategic priorities and operational plans. He also headed up the language rights component of the program and acted as its official spokesperson for media, government and community stakeholders, along with many other functions.

The French Language Services Commissioner reports directly to the Legislative Assembly of Ontario. He has the power to make recommendations on matters pertaining to the application of the French Language Services Act.



MANUEL LEZERTUA

I mí an Mheithimh 2015, thogh an Pharlaimint Manuel Lezertua mar Ararteko - Ombudsman Thír na mBascach/Cosantóir Cearta Saoránach, lena n-áirítear cearta teanga, trí thromlach cáilithe de 3/5 den vóta, mar a éilíonn an dlí.

Fuair Manuel Lezertua céim PhD (cuid 1) le honóracha, in Ollscoil Thír na mBascach, i 1982; cuid 2 (ar feitheamh) in Ollscoil Granada faoi stiúir an Ollaimh J. Vida Soria.

Bronnadh onóracha sa Dlí in Ollscoil Deusto (Bilbao) air sa mbliain 1980 agus i King's College (Londain) sa mbliain 1982 (LLM).

Tá taithí ghairmiúil aige mar oifigeach de chuid Rialtas na mBascach sa Roinn Riaracháin Phoiblí agus Dlí agus Cirt ó 1983-1985 agus mar dhlíodóir de Chúirt Bhunreachtúil na Spáinne ó 1992-1994.

Chomh maith le cuid mhór post eile a bhí aige mar oifigeach idirnáisiúnta buan de Chomhairle na hEorpa, bhí sé ina Oifigeach Dlí den Choiste Eorpach um Chearta Sóisialta ó 1986-1988; ina Oifigeach Dlí sa Chúirt Eorpach um Chearta an Duine ó 1988-1992; agus ina Phríomh-Riarthóir de Choiste na nAirí ó 1994-1996 i gceannas ar shaincheisteanna um Chearta Daonna, lena n-áirítear cearta mionlach.

Tá cuid mhaith foilsithe aige maidir le Dlí Cearta Daonna, Comhtháthú Eorpach agus saincheisteanna maidir le Dlí Coiriúil Idirnáisiúnta. Tá foilseachán amháin ar fú tagairt ar leith a dhéanamh dó, is é sin "The case law of the European Court of Human Rights in linguistic matters".

In June 2015, Manuel Lezertua was elected by Parliament as Ararteko - Ombudsman of the Basque Country/Citizen's Right's Defender, including linguistic rights, through a qualified majority of 3/5 of the vote, as required by the law.

Manuel Lezertua obtained a PhD Degree (1st part) in University of Basque Country, with honours, in 1982; 2nd part (pending) in Granada University under the direction of Professor J. Vida Soria.

He graduated with honours in Law at Deusto University (Bilbao), in 1980, and King's College (London), in 1982 (LLM).

He has professional experience, serving as an official of the Basque Government, Department of Public Administration and Justice, from 1983 to 1985 and a Lawyer for the Constitutional Court of Spain from 1992 to 1994.

As well as holding many other posts as a permanent international official of the Council of Europe, he was a Legal Officer in the European Committee for Social Rights from 1986-1988; a Legal Officer in the European Court of Human Rights from 1988-1992; and a Principal Administrator in the Committee of Ministers from 1994-1996, in charge of Human Rights issues, including minority rights.

He has many publications in Human Rights Law, European Integration and International Criminal Law issues. One publication worth particular mention is "The case law of the European Court of Human Rights in linguistic matters".



KATHERINE d'ENTREMONT

Ceapadh Katherine d'Entremont mar Choimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla New Brunswick i Meitheamh 2013 le haghaidh tréimhse seacht mbliana.

Thosaigh sí a saol oibre mar mhúinteoir Tumoideachais Fraincise i Sussex agus i Fredericton. Ina dhiaidh sin chuaigh sí ag obair leis an tSeirbhís Phoiblí i New Brunswick áit a raibh poist shinsearachais éagsúla aici. Clúdaíonn a saineolas réimsí go leor, mar shampla teangacha oifigiúla, an earnáil bhardasach, acmhainní daonna, agus cothromas san ionad oibre.

Óna cuid spéise i bhfoghlaím fadsaoil chuaigh sí ar aghaidh le bheith ina Príomh-Oifigeach Feidhmiúcháin ar an mBunachar Sonraí Náisiúnta Litearthachta d'Aosaigh i 2007, soláthraí dátheangach náisiúnta ar líne d'acmhainní Litearthachta agus Scileanna Riachtanacha.

Sular ceapadh í mar Choimisinéir, bhí Katherine d'Entremont ina Riarthóir ar an Table of Provincial and Territorial Ministers Responsible for Local Government, tráth ar stiúir sí tionscnaimh phan-Cheanada ar cheisteanna rialtais áitiúil.

Is gníomhaire neamhspleách de chuid an Tionóil Reachtuil Coimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla New Brunswick. Is iad a cuid feidhmeanna ná imscrúdú, tuairisciú agus moltaí a dhéanamh maidir le comhlíonadh Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla.

Tá sí freagrach freisin as cur chun cinn an dá theanga oifigiúla sa réigiún.

Katherine d'Entremont was appointed Commissioner of Official Languages for New Brunswick in June 2013 for a seven-year mandate.

She started her career as a French Immersion teacher in Sussex and Fredericton. She then joined the New Brunswick Public Service where she held various senior positions. Her expertise covers many fields, such as official languages, the municipal sector, human resources, and workplace equity.

Katherine d'Entremont's interest in lifelong learning led her to become the Chief Executive Officer of the National Adult Literacy Database in 2007, a national bilingual provider of online Literacy and Essential Skills resources.

Prior to becoming Commissioner, Ms. d'Entremont was the Administrator of the Table of Provincial and Territorial Ministers Responsible for Local Government. As such, she led pan-Canadian initiatives on local government issues.

The Commissioner of Official Languages for New Brunswick is an independent agent of the Legislative Assembly. Her role is to investigate, report on, and make recommendations with regard to compliance with the Official Languages Act. She is also responsible for the promotion of the advancement of both official languages in the province.



BART WEEKERS

Is é Bart Weekers Ombudsman na bPléimeannach ón mbliain 2010. In éineacht lena fhoireann, déanann sé iarracht le réiteach a fháil nuair nach n-éiríonn le saoránach agus an Rialtas Pléimeannach é sin a dhéanamh. Tá spéis i gcónaí aige sa gcóimheá dheacair sin: tuigeann sé go gcaithfidh an rialtas torthaí a fháil, ach is mian leis leanúint ar aghaidh ag cur i gcuimhne go bhfuil ar an rialtas aire a thabhairt don saoránach.

Dá bhrí sin, tá sé faoi láthair ag cur go leor dá chuid fuinnimh i dtionscadail a chuirfidh ar chumas an tsaoránaigh teacht ar an eolas agus ar an tseirbhís sin ar fad ar bhealach éasca.

Chomh maith leis sin ba é Bart Weekers an chéad Abhcóide Ginearálta ag an gComhairle Stáit. Sna deich mbliana a d'oibrigh sé ansin (2000-2010) chuir sé lena chumas ó thaobh aighnis idir saoránach agus an rialtas a réiteach agus ó thaobh comhairle a chur ar an rialtas i dtaobh an chaoi le haighneas a sheachaint agus a réiteach.

Iar-státseirbhíseach ag an bParlaimint Phléimeannach agus ball foirne polaitiúil é, mar sin tá taithí aige ar dhearcadh polaiteoirí agus státseirbhíseach.

Is gnáthshaoránach é Bart ina shaol laethúil – in éineacht lena theaghlach, ach freisin trína thiomantas do chlubanna spóirt agus do scoil a chuid leanaí.

Bart Weekers has been the Flemish Ombudsman since 2010.

Together with his team, the Flemish Ombudsman tries to find solutions when the citizen and the Flemish Government do not manage to do so. He is still fascinated by that incredibly difficult balance: he understands that the Government has to obtain results, but he wants to continue to serve as a reminder that a Government has to take care of the citizen.

Bart is consequently putting a great deal of energy at this time into projects that should enable the citizen to access all that knowledge and service through one easy channel.

Bart is also a first advocate general at the Council of State. In the ten years that he has worked there (2000-2010) he acquired proficiency in settling disputes between the citizen and the Government and in advising the Government on how to prevent and to solve disputes. Earlier in his career, he was a civil servant at the Flemish Parliament and a political staff member, so the view of politicians and civil servants is not alien to him either.

Bart is also an ordinary citizen, in day-to-day life - together with his family, but also through his commitment to the sports club or his children's school.



SLAVIŠA MLADENOVIĆ

Ceapadh Slaviša Mladenović mar Choimisinéir Teanga na Cosaive i mí na Nollag 2012. An fheidhm atá aige ná stádas comhionann theangacha oifigiúla na Cosaive, úsáid na dteangacha oifigiúla agus na teangacha atá in úsáid oifigiúil sna réigiúin a chinntiú. Ina theannta sin, déanann sé chuile iarracht ar mhaithe le cosaint, caomhnú agus cur chun cinn teangacha pobal nach teangacha oifigiúla iad nó nach bhfuil in úsáid go hoifigiúil.

Fuair sé a chéim san Eacnamaíocht agus Bainistíocht ó Institiúid Teicneolaíochta Rochester. Fuair an tUasal Mladenović an chuid is mó dá thaithí ghairmiúil ó bheith ag obair don mhisean OSCE agus ó bheith rannpháirteach in anailís, aistriúchán, tuairisciú, agus teagmháil leis na meáin. Chomh maith leis sin, tá oideachas breise agus oiliúint ag an Uasal Mladenović i ndearadh tionscadail, caidreamh poiblí agus scileanna scríbhneoireachta proifisiúnta.

Slaviša Mladenović was appointed Language Commissioner of Kosovo in December 2012. His mandate is to ensure the equal status of Kosovo's official languages, the use of official languages and languages in official use in municipalities. Moreover, he strives for the protection, preservation and promotion of the languages of communities which are not an official language or in official use.

He obtained his degree in economics and management from the Rochester Institute of Technology. Most of Mr. Mladenović's professional experience was gained while working for the OSCE mission and partaking in analysis, translation, reporting, and contacting the media. Furthermore, Mr. Mladenović has additional education and training in project design, public information (PR), and professional writing skills.



SANDRA INUTIQ

Faigheann Sandra a cuid oibre abhcóideachta roimhe seo do bhoird agus do chomhairlí éagsúla ar cheartas sóisialta i réimsí óige agus cearta lonúiteach, úsáideach ina ról reatha.

Tá a paisean tiomáinte ag a cuid tuairimí pearsanta ar éagothroime teanga i Nunavut.

Rinne Sandra staidéar ar stair lonúiteach agus ar phróisis Éileamh Talún tríd an gclár Nunavut Sivuniksavut in Ottawa. Fuair sí a Céim Dlí sa bhliain 2005 agus ba í an chéad bhean lonúiteach í a cháiligh mar abhcóide i Nunavut sa bhliain 2006. D'fhill sí abhaile le dul ag obair do Rialtas nua Nunavut. D'oibrigh sí mar Anailísí Polasaí ar feadh dhá bhliain go leith go dtí gur fhill sí ar a cuid staidéir. D'oibrigh sí mar Chomhairleoir Dlí do Rialtas Nunavut ar feadh breis agus dhá bhliain, ansin chuaigh ag obair d'Oifig Choimisinéir Teangacha Nunavut mar Stiúrthóir Polasaí. I mí Eanáir 2013 ceapadh í mar Choimisinéir na dTeangacha Nunavut.

Sandra finds her previous advocacy work for various boards and councils on social justice in areas of youth and Inuit rights, useful in her current role. Her passion is driven by personal observations of language inequalities in Nunavut.

Sandra studied Inuit History and Land Claim processes through the Nunavut Sivuniksavut program in Ottawa. Sandra received her Law Degree in 2005, and passed her bar after articling being the first Inuit woman to do so in Nunavut in 2006.

She returned home to work for the new Government of Nunavut. She worked as a Policy Analyst for two and half years until returning to her studies. She worked as a Legal Counsel for the GN for over two years, then went on to work for the Office of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut as the Director of Policy. In January 2013 she was appointed as the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut.



COLIN H. WILLIAMS

Is Comhalta Cuairte de chuid Choláiste St Edmund, Ollscoil Cambridge é Colin H. Williams FLSW, áit ina bhfuil sé ag obair ar ghnéithe den Comparative Language Strategy. Thug sé cúnamh i mbunú Chumann Idirnáisiúnta na gCoimisinéirí Teanga [CICT] nuair a bhí sé ina Ollamh Taighde i Scoil na Breatnaise, Ollscoil Caerdydd, Caerdydd, agus bhí sé ina rapóirtéir le haghaidh chuile chomhdháil ina dhiaidh sin. Tá a chuid spéise scolártha dírithe ar obair coimisinéirí teanga, sochtheangeolaíocht agus polasaí teanga i bpobail ilchultúrtha, gnóthaí eitneacha agus mionlaigh, agus tíreolaíocht pholaitiúil. Roimhe seo bhí sé ag múineadh in Ollscoileanna i gCeanada, i Sasana, sa Bhreatain Bheag agus sna Stáit Aontaithe. Idir 2000-2010 cheap an Comhthionól Náisiúnta don Bhreatain Bheag é mar bhall de Bhord na Breatnaise áit ar dhírigh sé ar pholasáí teanga, straitéis idir-rialtasach agus gnéithe idirnáisiúnta de phleanáil teanga.

Colin H. Williams FLSW is a Visiting Fellow of St Edmund's College, University of Cambridge where he is working on aspects of Comparative Language Strategy. He helped found the International Association of Language Commissioners [IALC] when he was a Research Professor in the School of Welsh, Cardiff University, Cardiff, and has been the rapporteur for each successive conference. His main scholarly interests are in the work of language commissioners, sociolinguistics and language policy in multicultural societies, ethnic and minority relations, and political geography. He has previously taught in universities in Canada, England, Wales and the USA. Between 2000 - 2010 the National Assembly for Wales appointed him as a member of the Welsh Language Board where he concentrated on language policy, intergovernmental strategy and international aspects of language planning.



PÄR OLAV MIKAEL STENBÄCK

Sa mbliain 1999, bhronn Uachtarán Phoblacht na Fionlainne an teideal onórach "Aire" ar Pär Olav Mikael Stenbäck. Tá sé an-ghníomhach i ngnóthaí parlaiminte agus is iar-Aire Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus iar-Aire Oideachais den Fhionlainn é. I láthair na huaire tá sé gníomhach ar chomhairlí agus in eagraíochtaí éagsúla. Is é an Cathaoirleach é ar Bhord na nLontaobhaithe, Fondúireacht Páistí agus Óige na Fionlainne agus tá sé mar Leas-Chathaoirleach ar an gComhairle Idirnáisiúnta den ghluaiseacht UWC. Tá sé ina Uachtarán ar Pharlaimint Chultúrtha na hEorpa chomh maith le bheith ina Leas-Uachtarán agus mar bhall den A.J. Sandman Foundation.

I measc a chuid saothar foilsithe tá "Vision and Reality", 2003 (i Sualainnis), "When the World Opened Up", 2007, cuid a haon dá chuimhní cinn (i Sualainnis), "Crisis and Disasters" 2009, cuid a dó dá chuimhní cinn (i bhFionlainnis agus i Sualainnis) agus is colúnaí é don pháipéar laethúil "Hufvudstadsbladet" ón mbliain 2001.

Bronnadh Bonn Henri Dunant air sa mbliain 2009, an chéim is airde de Ghluaiseacht na Croise Deirge.

In 1999, the President of the Finnish Republic bestowed the honorable title of "Minister" on Pär Olav Mikael Stenbäck. He is very active in parliament affairs and is a former Foreign Affairs Minister and a former Minister of Education of Finland. He is actively involved on councils and various organisations. He is the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Finnish Children and Youth Foundation and is Vice-Chairman of the International Council, UWC Movement. He is President of the European Cultural Parliament and Vice-President and a member of AJ Sandman Foundation.

Amongst his published works are "Vision and Reality", 2003 (in Swedish), "When the World Opened Up", 2007, part one of his memoirs (in Swedish), "Crisis and Disasters" in 2009, part two of his memoirs (in Finnish and in Swedish) and he is a columnist for the daily paper "Hufvudstadsbladet" since 2001.

In 2009, he was awarded the Henri Dunant Medal, the highest distinction of the Red Cross Movement.



STEPHEN MAY

Is Ollamh le hOideachas é Stephen May in Te Puna Wananga (Scoil Oideachais na Maorach) i nDámh an Oideachais agus na hOibre Sóisialta, Ollscoil Auckland, an Nua-Shéalainn. Is údar idirnáisiúnta é ar chearta teanga, polasaí teanga, dátheangachas agus oideachas dátheangach agus cur chuige criticiúil ilchultúrtha ar an oideachas agus, go dtí seo, tá 15 leabhar foilsithe aige agus os cionn 90 alt agus caibidil sna réimsí seo. I measc a chuid príomhleabhar tá The Multilingual Turn (2014), Language and Minority Rights (2ra heagrán, 2012) agus Critical Multiculturalism: Theory and Praxis (2010) in éineacht le Christine Sleeter. Tá sé mar Eagarthóir Ginearálta ar an 3ú heagrán den Encyclopedia of Language and Education (2016) ina bhfuil deich n-imleabhar, Eagarthóir Bunaitheach ar an iris idirdhisciplíneach, Ethnicities, agus ó 2005-2015 bhí sé ina Chomh-Eagarthóir ar Language Policy. Tá sé ina Chomhalta den American Educational Research Association.

Stephen May is Professor of Education in Te Puna Wananga (School of Maori Education) in the Faculty of Education and Social Work, University of Auckland, New Zealand. He is an international authority on language rights, language policy, bilingualism and bilingual education and critical multicultural approaches to education and, to date, has published 15 books and over 90 articles and chapters in these areas. His key books include The Multilingual Turn (2014), Language and Minority Rights (2nd edition, 2012) and, with Christine Sleeter, Critical Multiculturalism: Theory and Praxis (2010). He is General Editor of the 3rd edition of the 10-volume Encyclopedia of Language and Education (2016), a Founding Editor of the interdisciplinary journal, Ethnicities, and was from 2005-2015 Associate Editor of Language Policy. He is also a Fellow of the American Educational Research Association (AERA).



ROBERT DUNBAR

Is é an tOllamh Robert Dunbar Cathaoirleach na Ceiltise in Ollscoil Dhún Éideann. Is iarbhall é de Bòrd na Gàidhlig agus de MG ALBA. Bhí sé mar chomhairleoir ar ullmhú an Acht Teanga Ghaeilge (Albain) 2005 agus bhí ról suntasach aige i ndréachtú Threoir Reachtuil an Bòrd do réiteach Pleananna Teanga Ghaeilge. I 2010, ghníomhaigh sé mar chomhairleoir do Choiste Thionól Náisiúnta na Breataine Bige a rinne mionscrúdú ar an Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011. Bhí ról suntasach aige ó thaobh tacaíocht a thabhairt do POBAL agus do phobal na Gaeilge agus iad ag forbairt moltaí d'Acht na Gaeilge do Thuaisceart Éireann. Is saineolaí de chuid Chomhairle na hEorpa é agus d'oibrigh sé go dlúth le Coiste na Saineolaithe agus le Rúnaíocht na Cairte Eorpaí do Theangacha Réigiúnacha nó Mionlaigh. Sular chríochnaigh sé a dhochtúireacht ar fhilíocht na hAlban i nDún Éideann, bhain sé amach LL.M. sa Dlí Idirnáisiúnta ó Scoil Eacnamaíochta Londain agus LL.B. ó Scoil Dlí Osgoode Hall in Toronto, Ceanada.

Prof. Robert Dunbar is Chair of Celtic at the University of Edinburgh. A former member of Bòrd na Gàidhlig and of MG ALBA, Prof. Dunbar had advised on the preparation of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 and played a significant role in the drafting of the Bòrd's Statutory Guidance for the preparation of Gaelic Language Plans. In 2010, he acted as advisor to the Committee of the National Assembly for Wales which scrutinised the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011. He played a significant role in supporting the development by POBAL and the Irish language community of proposals for an Irish Language Act for Northern Ireland. An expert of the Council of Europe, he has worked closely with the Committee of Experts and the Secretariat of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. Before completing his doctorate at Edinburgh on Scottish Gaelic poetry, he earned an LL.M. in International Law from the London School of Economics and an LL.B. from Osgoode Hall Law School, in Toronto, Canada.



JOHN WALSH

Léachtóir Sinsearach le Gaeilge i Scoil na dTeangacha, na Litríochtaí agus na gCultúr, Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh is ea an Dr John Walsh. Múineann sé an tsochtheangeolaíocht agus cúrsaí gaolmhara ag leibhéal na bunchéime agus na hiarchéime agus bhí sé ina Cheann ar Roinn na Gaeilge ó 2014 go 2015. Ó 2012 go 2015, ba é an Leas-Déan Taighde i gColáiste na nDán, na nEolaíochtaí Sóisialta agus an Léinn Cheiltigh é agus ó 2008 go 2012, bhí sé ina Chomh-Stiúrthóir ar an tionscadal náisiúnta siollabais An Mheitheal um Theagasc na Gaeilge ar an Tríú Leibhéal. Ar na spéiseanna taighde atá aige tá: an tsochtheangeolaíocht chriticiúil, sochtheangeolaíocht na Gaeilge, beartas teanga, idé-eolaíocht teanga, meáin teangacha mionlaigh agus teanga agus forbairt shocheacnamaíoch. Foilsíodh an dara heagrán dá leabhar *Contests and Contexts: the Irish language and Ireland's socio-economic development* (Peter Lang) i 2012 agus i 2008 bhí sé ar dhuine d'eagarthóirí an leabhair *TG4@10: Deich mBliana de TG4 (Cló Iar-Chonnacht)*. Foilsíodh a chéad leabhar *Díchoimisiúnú Teanga: Coimisiún na Gaeltachta 1926* i 2002 (Cois Life). Tá dlúthbhaint aige leis an ngréasán COST (European Co-operation in Science and Technology) a dhéanann taighde ar 'nuachainteoirí' teangacha éagsúla, an Ghaeilge ina measc.

Dr John Walsh is a Senior Lecturer in Irish in the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures at the National University of Ireland, Galway. He teaches sociolinguistics and related courses at undergraduate and postgraduate level and he served as Head of the Department of Irish from 2014-2015. From 2012 to 2015, he was Vice-Dean for Research in the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Celtic Studies and from 2008-2012, he was Joint Director of the national third-level syllabus project *An Mheitheal um Theagasc na Gaeilge ar an Tríú Leibhéal*. His research interests include critical sociolinguistics, sociolinguistics of Irish, language policy, language ideology, minority language media and language and socio-economic development. The second edition of his book *Contests and Contexts: the Irish language and Ireland's socio-economic development* (Peter Lang) was published in 2012 and in 2008 he jointly edited the book *TG4@10: Deich mBliana de TG4 (Cló Iar-Chonnacht)*. His first book *Díchoimisiúnú Teanga: Coimisiún na Gaeltachta 1926* was published in 2002 (Cois Life). He is an active member of the COST (European Co-operation in Science and Technology) network which researches 'new speakers' of various languages including Irish.



TADHG Ó hIFEARNÁIN

Tá an Dr. Tadhg Ó hIfearnáin ina léachtóir sinsearach le Gaeilge in Ollscoil Luimnigh. Is sochtheangeolai é agus suim faoi leith aige sa bheartas teanga ó thaobh teorice agus feidhme de. Tá sé ina bhall de Choiste Comhairleach na Pleanála Teanga ag Údarás na Gaeltachta agus is pátrún oinigh é de laith, Feidhmeannas Pleanála Teanga na Breataine Bige. Tá go leor taighde goirt déanta aige ar chás na Gaeilge agus na Gaeltachta agus ábhar foilsithe aige chomh maith ar shochtheangeolaíocht fheidhmeach na dteangacha Ceilteacha eile, go háirithe Gaeilge Mhanann, Gaeilge na hAlban agus an Bhriotáinis.

Dr. Tadhg Ó hIfearnáin is a senior lecturer in Irish in the University of Limerick. He is a sociolinguist with a particular research focus on language policy, from both theoretical and applied perspectives. He is a member of Údarás na Gaeltachta's language planning advisory committee and an honorary patron of laith, the Welsh centre for language planning. He has conducted many field-based research projects on Irish and the Gaeltacht and has also published widely in the applied sociolinguistics of the other Celtic languages, particularly Manx, Scottish Gaelic and Breton.



DEIRDRE NÍ LOINGSIGH

Tá an Dr Deirdre Ní Loingsigh ina Stiúrthóir ar Aonad na Gaeilge agus ina léachtóir i Scoil an Chultúir agus na Cumarsáide in Ollscoil Luimnigh (OL). Cuirtear réimse de chúrsaí agus de chláracha tacaíochta teanga dírithe ar an nGaeilge san ionad oibre ar fáil in Aonad na Gaeilge.

Tarraingíonn taighde Dheirdre ar a cuid taithí proifisiúnta ag tacú le forbairt agus le cur chun cinn na Gaeilge in OL agus ar a cúlra san aosoideachas chomh maith. Tá dianscagadh déanta aici ar ról nua, ról an chomhairleora teanga mar oideachasóir proifisiúnta teanga chun an fhoghlaím fhéinriartha a chothú, agus chun cabhrú le hoibrithe atá ina bhfoghlaimoíirí bheith ina bhfoghlaimoíirí teanga agus ina n-úsáideoirí Gaeilge níos fearr san ionad oibre. Tá spéis ar leith aici i mbunú líonraí tacaíochta teanga foirmeálta sa chomhthéacs eagraíochtúil d'fhostaithe a bhfuil an dualgas orthu seirbhísí poiblí trí Ghaeilge a sholáthar de réir Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla, 2003.

Dr Deirdre Ní Loingsigh is Director of Aonad na Gaeilge (the Irish Language Promotion Unit) and a lecturer in the School of Culture and Communication at the University of Limerick (UL). Aonad na Gaeilge offers a range of programmes and language support initiatives relating to Irish for the workplace.

Her research draws on her professional experience supporting the development and promotion of Irish at UL and her background in adult education. She has explored a new role, that of language advisor as professional language educator, promoting learner autonomy and helping worker-learners become better language learners and users of Irish in their place of work. She is particularly interested in the establishment of formal language support networks in an organisational context, for employees required to provide public services through Irish in accordance with the Official Languages Act, 2003.



MÁIRE SEOSAIMHÍN BREATHNACH

Rugadh agus tógadh Máire Seó Breathnach sa Seanphobal i nGaeltacht na nDéise, Co Phort Láirge. Tá céim aici sa Tráchtáil (BComm) ó Choláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh agus tá sí pósta san Aird Mhór, Co Phort Láirge agus triúr clainne uirthi.

Tá codanna dá saol go dtí seo caite ag Máire Seó ag obair mar Oifigeach Caidrimh Phoiblí le hÚdarás na Gaeltachta sna Forbacha i nGaillimh; le comhlacht caidrimh phoiblí príobháideach, Setanta Communications i mBaile Átha Cliath; agus leis an Chernobyl Children's Project i gcathair Chorcaí, mar Oifigeach Caidrimh Phoiblí agus Cúntóir Pearsanta d'Adi Roche.

Tá Máire Seó fostaithe mar Oifigeach Gaeilge le Comhairle Contae Phort Láirge ón mbliain 2002 i leith. Tá sé de dhualgas uirthi obair le foireann agus le custaiméirí na Comhairle ar mhaithe le forálacha Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla 2003 agus reachtaíocht eile Ghaeilge a chomhlíonadh. Bíonn sí ag obair chomh maith ar mhaithe le cur chun cinn na Gaeilge go ginearálta sa chontae, agus í ag plé le heagrais agus le grúpaí pobail ar fud an chontae ar mhaithe leis an nGaeilge.

Máire Seó Breathnach was born and raised in Seanphobal in Gaeltacht na nDéise in County Waterford. She has a degree in Commerce from University College Cork. She is married in Aird Mhór, County Waterford and she has three children.

Máire Seó has spent parts of her life working as a Public Relations Officer for Údarás na Gaeltachta in Na Forbacha, Galway; with a private public relations firm, Setanta Communications in Dublin; and with the Chernobyl Children's Project in Cork city, as a Public Relations Officer and personal assistant to Adi Roche.

Máire Seó Breathnach is employed as Irish Language Officer for Waterford County Council since 2002. It is her duty to work with the council's staff and customers in relation to the provisions of the Official Languages Act 2003 and to ensure compliance with other Irish language legislation requirements. She also works to promote the Irish language in general in the county, dealing with organisations and community groups for the benefit of the language.



MUIREANN NÍ MHÓRÁIN

Ceapadh í ina Príomhfheidhmeannach ar an gComhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscolaíochta (COGG) in 2002. Chaith sí tréimhse fhada mar mhúinteoir Gaeilge agus mar mhúinteoir tacaíocht foghlama iar-bhunscoile agus í ag plé le forbairt churaclaim le linn an ama sin. Tá cáilíochtaí iarchéime aici i Léann an Mhíchumais Foghlama. Chaith sí 3 bliana mar chigire Gaeilge sular ceapadh le COGG í.

Muireann Ní Mhóráin was appointed CEO of An Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscolaíochta (COGG) in 2002. She worked as an Irish teacher for a period of time and as a secondary school learning support teacher dealing with curriculum development during that time. She has post-graduate qualifications in Learning Disability Studies. She spent three years as an Irish Language inspector prior to being appointed CEO of COGG.



BLÁTHNAID NÍ GHRÉACHÁIN

Ó 2006 i leith, is í Bláthnaid Ní Ghréacháin an Príomhfheidhmeannach ar Gaelscoileanna Teo., an cheanneagraíocht atá freagrach as an Tumoideachas/Gaeloideachas agus Réamhscolaíocht lán-Ghaeilge ar bhonn náisiúnta. Le linn na tréimhse seo, chaith sí seal mar chomhalta boird ar An Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscolaíochta (COGG), Forbairt Naíonraí Teoranta, Comhdháil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge, agus ar choistí náisiúnta agus uile-oileáin eile chun leas chur chun cinn na Gaeilge agus an Oideachais lán-Ghaeilge.

Is ball reatha í den bhFóram Comhpháirtíochta, coiste atá comhdhéanta de cheannasaithe na gceanneagraíochtaí móide Foras na Gaeilge. Roimhe sin, chaith sí 5 bliana ag obair le Fiontar, Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath mar léachtóir le Gearmáinis agus ina dhiaidh sin mar bhainisteoir tionscadail ag forbairt iarchéime.

Tá B.A. sa Ghaeilge agus sa Ghearmáinis aici, M.A. sa Ghearmáinis, agus M.A. sa Chleachtas Dátheangach.

Since 2006, Bláthnaid Ní Ghréacháin is CEO of Gaelscoileanna Teo., the lead organisation responsible for Immersion Education, Gaeloideachas and Pre-School education through the medium of Irish on a national basis. During this period, she has served as a board member of An Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscolaíochta [COGG], Forbairt Naíonraí Teoranta, Comhdháil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge and of national and all-island committees promoting the Irish language as well as Irish medium education.

She is a current member of Fóram Comhpháirtíochta, Partnership Forum, a committee composed of leaders of the lead organisations as well as Foras na Gaeilge. She previously spent five years working with Fiontar, Dublin City University as a lecturer in German and later as a project manager in postgraduate development.

She has a B.A. in Irish and in German; M.A. in German, and M.A. in Bilingual Practice.

Dé Luain, 7 Márta 2016

Aula Maxima, Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh

19.30	Seoladh Oifigiúil na Comhdhála - Uachtarán na hÉireann, Micheál D. Ó hUigín
	Léacht na Comhdhála – An tOnórach Adrian Hardiman, <i>Breitheamh den Chúirt Uachtarach</i>
21.00	Críoch – Sólaistí

Monday, 7 March 2016

Aula Maxima, National University of Ireland, Galway

19.30	Official Opening of Conference - President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins
	Conference Address – The Honorable Mr. Adrian Hardiman, <i>Justice of the Supreme Court</i>
21.00	Close - Refreshments

Dé Máirt, 8 Márta 2016, Óstán Galway Bay

08.15	Clárú don Chomhdháil – Tae/Caife
09.00	Fáiltiú Oifigiúil Rónán Ó Domhnaill, <i>Coimisinéir Teanga, Éire</i>
09.10	Deich mBliana mar Choimisinéir Teanga: Ceachtanna Foghlamtha Graham Fraser, <i>Cathaoirleach, CICT</i>
09.40	Ábhar - Fás agus Forás: Éabhlóid an Dlí Teanga Cainteoirí Meri Huws, <i>Coimisinéir Teanga, An Bhreatain Bheag</i> Bart Weekers, <i>Ombudsman na bPléimeannach</i> Katherine d'Entremont, <i>Coimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla, New Brunswick</i> Rafael Ribó, <i>Ombudsman na Catalóine</i> Cathaoirleach – John Walsh, <i>Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh</i>
10.40	Briseadh Tae/Caife
11.00	Ábhar - Glór mo Mhuintire: Teanga & Féiniúlacht Cainteoirí Slaviša Mladenović, <i>Coimisinéir Teanga, An Chosaiv</i> François Boileau, <i>Coimisinéir do Sheirbhísí Teanga na Fraincise, Ontario</i> Manuel Lezertua, <i>Ararteko - Ombudsman Thír na mBascach</i> Cathaoirleach - Seosamh Mac Donncha, <i>Cathaoirleach, Foras na Gaeilge</i>
12.00	Ábhar - Cearta Mionteangacha in Aois na Móréagsúlachta Teangeolaiche Cainteoir Stephen May, <i>Ollscoil Auckland, An Nua-Shéalainn</i> Á chur in aithne ag – John Walsh, <i>Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh</i>
12.45	Lón

Dé Máirt, 8 Márta 2016, Óstán Galway Bay

14.00	Ábhar – Ról na Reachtaíochta i gCosaint Cearta Teanga John Walsh, <i>Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh</i> Tadhg Ó hIfeárnáin, <i>Ollscoil Luimnigh</i> Cathaoirleach – Anna Ní Ghallachair, <i>Cathaoirleach, Údarás na Gaeltachta</i>
14.45	Briseadh Tae/Caife
15.10	Ábhar – Beart de Réir ár mBriathair: Feidhmiú Reachtaíocht Teanga Deirdre Ní Loingsigh, <i>Ollscoil Luimnigh</i> Máire Seó Breathnach, <i>Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Phort Láirge</i> Dyfan Sion, <i>Oifig an Choimisinéara Teanga, An Bhreatain Bheag</i> Cathaoirleach – Gearóid Denvir, <i>Ollamh Emeritus, Roinn na Gaeilge, Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh</i>
16.10	Bronnadh Q-mark ar Theastas Eorpach na Gaeilge Emyr Davies, <i>Cathaoirleach, Association of Language Testers in Europe</i> Á chur in aithne ag – Anna Ní Ghallachair, <i>Stiúrthóir Ionad na dTeangacha, Ollscoil na hÉireann, Maigh Nuad</i>
16.30	Ábhar – Ról na Féiniúlachta i Saothar Robert Flaherty Cainteoir Sandra Inutiq, <i>Coimisinéir Teanga, Nunavut</i> Ag comhrá le – Tomás Ó Siocháin, <i>Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh</i>
16.50	Clabhsúr an Lae – Dónall Ó Braonáin, <i>Príomhfheidhmeannach, Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh</i>

Tuesday, 8 March 2016, Galway Bay Hotel

08.15	Conference Registration – Tea/Coffee
09.00	Official Welcome Rónán Ó Domhnaill, <i>Coimisinéir Teanga, Éire</i>
09.10	Ten Years as Language Commissioner: Lessons Learnt Graham Fraser, <i>Chairperson, IALC</i>
09.40	Topic – The Evolution of Language Law <i>Speakers</i> Meri Huws, <i>Language Commissioner, Wales</i> Bart Weekers, <i>Flemish Ombudsman</i> Katherine d'Entremont, <i>Commissioner of Official Languages, New Brunswick</i> Rafael Ribó, <i>Catalan Ombudsman</i> <i>Chairperson</i> – John Walsh, <i>National University of Ireland, Galway</i>
10.40	Tea/Coffee Break
11.00	Topic – Language & Identity <i>Speakers</i> Slaviša Mladenović, <i>Language Commissioner, Kosovo</i> François Boileau, <i>French Language Services Commissioner, Ontario</i> Manuel Lezertua, <i>Ararteko – Ombudsman, Basque Country</i> <i>Chairperson</i> – Seosamh Mac Donncha, <i>Cathaoirleach, Foras na Gaeilge</i>
12.00	Topic – Minority Language Rights in the Age of Linguistic Superdiversity <i>Speaker</i> Stephen May, <i>University of Auckland, New Zealand</i> <i>Introduction</i> – John Walsh, <i>National University of Ireland, Galway</i>
12.45	Lunch

14.00 Topic – The Role of Legislation in Protecting Language Rights

Speakers

John Walsh, *National University of Ireland, Galway*

Tadhg Ó hIfearnáin, *University of Limerick*

Chairperson – Anna Ní Ghallachair, *Chairperson, Údarás na Gaeltachta*

14.45 Tea/Coffee Break

15.10 Topic – Implementing Language Legislation

Speakers

Deirdre Ní Loingsigh, *University of Limerick*

Máire Seó Breathnach, *Waterford City and County Council*

Dyfan Sion, *Office of the Language Commissioner, Wales*

Chairperson – Gearóid Denvir, *Professor Emeritus, The Irish Department, National University of Ireland, Galway*

16.10 Presentation of Q-mark to Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge exams

Emyr Davies, *Chairperson, Association of Language Testers in Europe*

Introduced by – Anna Ní Ghallachair, *Director, Language Centre, National University of Ireland, Maynooth*

16.30 Topic – The Role of Identity in the Works of Robert Flaherty

Speaker

Sandra Inutiq, *Languages Commissioner, Nunavut*

In an interview with – Tomás Ó Siocháin, *National University of Ireland, Galway*

16.50 Closure – Dónall Ó Braonáin, *Chief Executive, Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, National University of Ireland, Galway*

Dé Céadaoin, 9 Márta 2016, Óstán Galway Bay

08.15	Clárú don Chomhdháil – Tae/Caife
09.00	Fáiltiú
09.15	Ábhar – Tuaisceart Éireann; Cearta Teanga & Acht Teanga <i>Cainteoir</i> Robert Dunbar, <i>Ollscoil Dhún Éideann, Albain</i> <i>Á chur in aithne ag</i> - Janet Muller, <i>POBAL</i>
10.00	Ábhar – Oideachas Tri Ghaeilge; sa Ghaeltacht, Taobh Amuigh den Ghaeltacht & i dTuaisceart Éireann <i>Cainteoirí</i> Muireann Ní Mhóráin, <i>An Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta & Gaelscolaíochta</i> Bláthnaid Ní Ghréacháin, <i>Gaelscoileanna Teoranta</i> Liam Ó Flannagáin, <i>Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta</i> <i>Cathaoirleach</i> - Seosamh Mac Donnacha, <i>Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh</i>
11.00	Briseadh Tae/Caife
11.20	Ábhar – An Tábhacht le Teanga i Luath-Oideachas – Dearcadh ón Fhionlainn <i>Cainteoir</i> Pär Stenbäck, <i>Aire Stáit, An Fhionlainn</i> <i>Á chur in aithne ag</i> - Meri Huws, <i>Coimisinéir Teanga, An Bhreatain Bheag</i>
11.50	<i>Cainteoir</i> Colin Williams, <i>Rapóirtéir</i> <i>Á chur in aithne ag</i> - Graham Fraser, <i>Coimisinéir Teanga, Ceanada</i>
12.20	Focal Scoir Meri Huws, <i>Coimisinéir Teanga, An Bhreatain Bheag</i>
12.30	Críoch Oifigiúil Rónán Ó Domhnaill, <i>Coimisinéir Teanga, Éire</i>

Wednesday, 9 March 2016, Galway Bay Hotel

08.15	Conference Registration – Tea/Coffee
09.00	Welcome
09.15	Topic – Northern Ireland: Language Rights and a Language Act <i>Speaker</i> Robert Dunbar, <i>University of Edinburgh, Scotland</i> <i>Introduction</i> - Janet Muller, <i>POBAL</i>
10.00	Topic – Education through Irish; in the Gaeltacht, Outside the Gaeltacht & in Northern Ireland <i>Speakers</i> Muireann Ní Mhóráin, <i>An Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta & Gaelscolaíochta</i> Bláthnaid Ní Ghréacháin, <i>Gaelscoileanna Teoranta</i> Liam Ó Flannagáin, <i>Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta</i> <i>Chairperson</i> - Seosamh Mac Donnacha, <i>National University of Ireland, Galway</i>
11.00	Tea/Coffee Break
11.20	Topic – The Importance of Language in Early Education: A Finnish Perspective <i>Speaker</i> Pär Stenbäck, <i>Minister of State, Finland</i> <i>Introduction</i> - Meri Huws, <i>Language Commissioner, Wales</i>
11.50	<i>Speaker</i> Colin Williams, <i>Rapporteur</i> <i>Introduction</i> - Graham Fraser, <i>Language Commissioner, Canada</i>
12.20	Final thoughts Meri Huws, <i>Language Commissioner, Wales</i>
12.30	Official Conclusion Rónán Ó Domhnaill, <i>Coimisinéir Teanga, Éire</i>