



American Conference for Irish Studies  
An Chomhdháil Mheiriceánach do Léann na hÉireann



British Commonwealth  
and Postcolonial Studies  
Conference



**IRISH**  
RESEARCH+  
TEACHING+



# TRADITION + INNOVATION

## Shared Conference

February 23-26, 2025  
The DeSoto Savannah

# FEATURED SPEAKERS

## Bob Harris

Bob Harris' memoir of his three decades of work as the Warden of Skellig Michael, *Returning Light: Thirty Years on the Island of Skellig Michael*, received unanimous praise from critics and was an international bestseller.

Rising from the Atlantic eight miles off the coast of County Kerry, the island is a UNSECO World Heritage site, and the most spectacularly situated of all the early medieval island monastic sites in Ireland.

Writing for the *New York Times Book Review*, Margaret Renkl exclaimed, "It is impossible to do justice to the beauty of *Returning Light*. The whole book is a poem."



## Frank Groome

Frank Groome, PhD, was appointed the Consul General of Ireland to the US Southeast in August 2024. Based in Atlanta, he leads Ireland's team covering Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

Dr. Groome was the Deputy Head of Mission at the Irish Embassy in The Hague between 2020 and 2024. Prior to that he was Deputy Director for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation in the Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin.

Frank holds a Master's degree in law from King's College London and Doctorate in diplomatic history from University College Dublin.



## Jennifer O'Mahoney

Dr. Jennifer O'Mahoney is a Senior Lecturer in Psychology at South East Technological University (SETU) and a Chartered Member of the Psychological Society of Ireland.

Dr O'Mahoney's research explores how trauma and victim-survivor narratives are remembered and represented. She is the Principal Investigator of the *Waterford Memories Project*, examining the lived experiences of those affected by historical institutional abuse in Ireland. She is also the Irish Co-Investigator for the EU project *Women's Online Wellbeing: A European Exploration of Digitalised Violence Against Women*.

Her work bridges academia and public discourse, ensuring that research on trauma, memory, and social justice reaches wider audiences and contributes to meaningful societal change.



### CONFERENCE FUNDING PROVIDED BY:



Government of Ireland  
Emigrant Support Programme



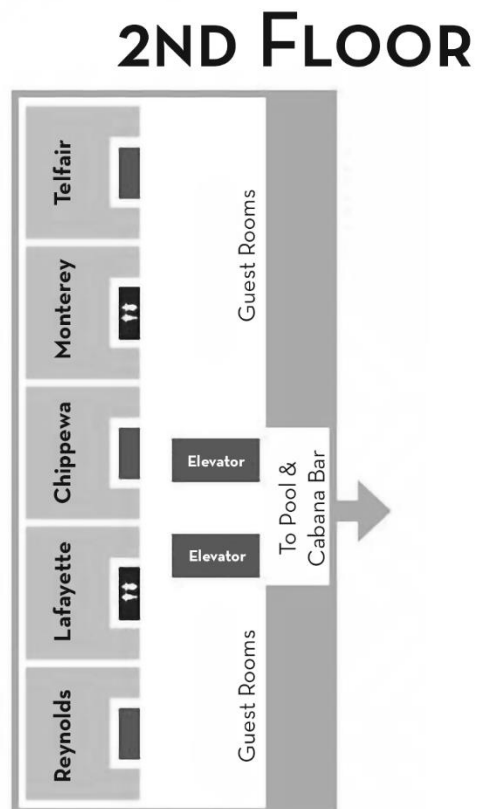
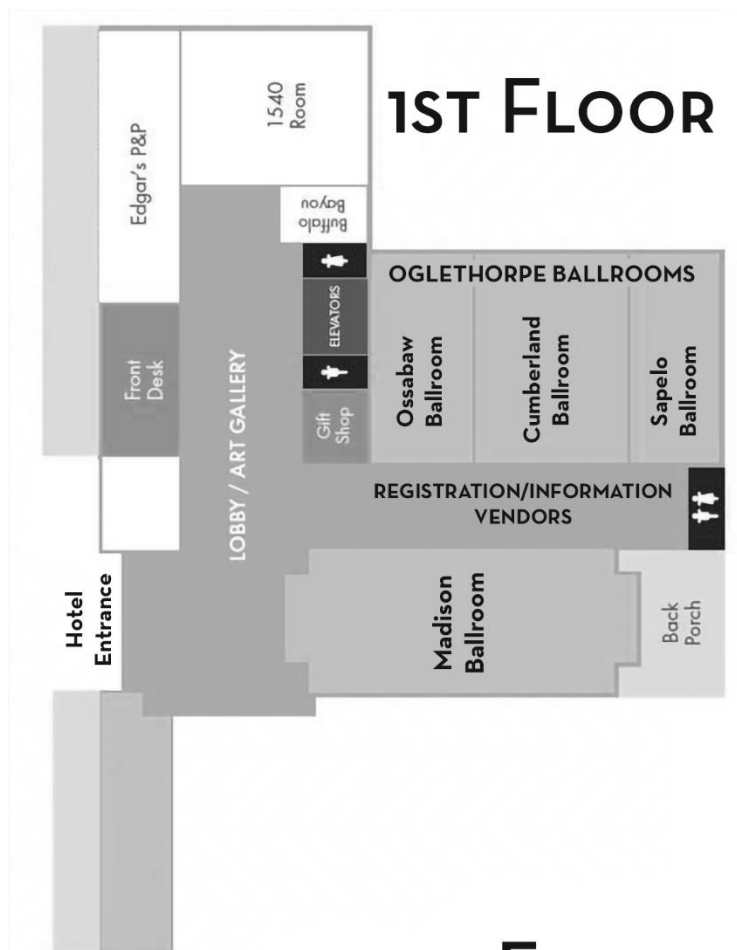
An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha  
Department of Foreign Affairs

# The DeSoto Savannah

## Floor Plans

The Conference will be using the first (ground) and second floors of the DeSoto.

When you enter the hotel through the main entrance on Liberty Street, you'll turn left to go through the lobby. The Front Desk will be on your left, and the Conference Registration / Information / Vendors area will be through the doors to your right.



# SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

## SUNDAY

1:00 PM	REGISTRATION/INFORMATION DESK OPENS
3:00–4:30 PM	SESSION A

## MONDAY

8:00 AM	REGISTRATION/INFORMATION DESK OPENS
9:00–10:15 AM	SESSION B
10:15-10:30 AM	BREAK
10:30-12:00 NOON	SESSION C
12:00 NOON – 12:30 PM	PLENARY SESSION: FRANK GROOME
12:30-2:00 PM	LUNCH (ON YOUR OWN)
2:00-3:15 PM	SESSION D
3:15-3:30 PM	BREAK
3:30-5:00 PM	SESSION E
5:00-6:00 PM	KEYNOTE ADDRESS: BOB HARRIS
6:00-8:00 PM	BOOK LAUNCHES AND RECEPTION

## TUESDAY

8:00 AM	REGISTRATION/INFORMATION DESK OPENS
9:00–10:15 AM	SESSION F
10:15-10:30 AM	BREAK
10:30-11:45AM	SESSION G
11:45-12:00 NOON	BREAK
12:00-1:30 PM	BUFFET LUNCH
1:45-2:45 PM	ACIS BUSINESS MEETING (others have an extended break)
2:45-3:00 PM	BREAK
3:00-4:30 PM	SESSION H
4:45-5:45 PM	KEYNOTE ADDRESS: JENNIFER O'MAHONEY
5:45-7:45 PM	BOOK LAUNCHES AND RECEPTION

## WEDNESDAY

8:00 AM	REGISTRATION/INFORMATION DESK OPENS
9:00–10:30 AM	SESSION I

# SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

REGISTRATION/INFORMATION DESK OPENS: 1:00

## SESSION A: SUNDAY 3:00 - 4:30

<b>A-1</b>	<b>The Power of Art</b>	<b>Sapelo Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Chandler Hanton, Georgia Southern University</i>	
	Innovating Tradition: Tools of Cultural Revival at Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann Méabh Ní Fhuartháin, University of Galway	
	Sindiwe Magona's <i>Beauty's Gift, The Musical: A Popular Adaptation of a Novel about HIV and AIDS</i> Renee Schatteman, Georgia State University	
	Exploring Connection as the Key to Keeping Tradition Alive through Art and Poetry Rosaleen Crowley, Butler University	
	Kerry Polka: Celebration of Irish Diaspora Heritage Peggy Pollard, San Jose State University	
<b>A-2</b>	<b>Irish Colonial Complicity</b>	<b>Cumberland Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Brandyn Bradford, Georgia Southern University</i>	
	<i>Dirrayawadha (Rise Up): Exploring Indigenous-Irish Contact in Australia</i> Jonathan O'Neill, Villanova University	
	Timothy Sheehan's Indian Wars Peter O'Neill, University of Georgia	
	"We do not want any Irish Sergeants Major Here": The 1902 Montego Bay Riots and Irish Policemen in the British Caribbean Michael Silvestri, Clemson University	
<b>A-3</b>	<b>Political Women</b>	<b>Ossabaw Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Amanda Nowicki, Georgia Southern University</i>	
	Women Playwrights in the Irish Free State: Exploring Gender and Resistance Kaitlynn McShea, Ball State University	
	Ellen Mahoney, the Fenian Sisterhood, and the Politics of Irish American Women Erin Barr, Buffalo State University	
	Abortion and Postcolonialism: Historical and Literary Considerations Laura Wright, Western Carolina University	
<b>A-4</b>	<b>Spaces Between: Border Spaces in Northern Irish Art and Literature</b>	<b>Telfair Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Morayo Akingbelue, Georgia Southern University</i>	
	The Space Between (Buildings): Creative Placemaking and the Belfast Entries Project Jeryn Mayer, Houston Community College	
	"This is Belfast. This is not Belfast.": The Paradox of the City in Jan Carson's <i>The Fire Starters</i> Mindi McMann, The College of New Jersey	
	Borders and Bridges in the Art of Oliver Jeffers Anna Teekell, Christopher Newport University	
<b>A-5</b>	<b>Bodies Politic</b>	<b>Monterey Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Anna McDonald, Georgia Southern University</i>	
	Women, Disgust, and Bodies out of Place: Eimear McBride's Kristevan Shadowkeelan Stephanie Alexander, Indiana State University	
	The Weaponized Body: Trans-Corporeality and Environmental Destruction in Mirza Waheed's <i>The Collaborator</i> Zachary Bordas, Talladega College	
	The Ghost of Damiens: The Phoenix Park Murders and the Politics of the Body in Late 19 <sup>th</sup> - Century Ireland Nick Sprenger, Rutgers University	
<b>A-6</b>	<b>Roundtable: Meet the Book Reviews Team for the <i>Journal of British Studies</i></b>	<b>Chippewa Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	Kenneth Shonk, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse	
	Carol Engelhardt Herringer, Georgia Southern University	

# MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24

REGISTRATION/INFORMATION DESK OPENS: 8:00

## SESSION B: MONDAY 9:00 - 10:15

<b>B-1</b>	<b>The Empire Giveth, and the Empire Taketh Away</b>	<b>Sapelo Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Saly Barr Ebest, University of Missouri-St. Louis</i>	
	"To teach, to form, and to elevate mind, national mind": The Irish Queen's Colleges and the Idea of a "National" University Alison Hight, Mississippi State University	
	An Instrument of National Improvement: The Queen's Colleges, Improvement, and Empire Jay Roszman, University College Cork	
	The USA, Northern Ireland, and the Importance of Bi-Partisanship Peter McLoughlin, Queen's University Belfast	
<b>B-2</b>	<b>Mother's Mix</b>	<b>Cumberland Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: April Trepagnier, Georgia Southern University</i>	
	In Defense of Catherine Coll: Irish Single Motherhood in 1880s New York Emma Quinn, St. John's University	
	Migration, Memory, and Motherhood: Tradition and Innovation in Diasporic Women's Novels Maryam Tadayon, University of New Mexico	
<b>B-3</b>	<b>Transnational Urban Imagination in Modern and Contemporary Irish Literature</b>	<b>Ossabaw Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Sarah Townsend, University of New Mexico</i>	
	Urban Planning and Transnationalism in <i>Finnegans Wake</i> Shinjini Chattopadhyay, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	
	"The houses they live in": Dublin, 1922 Liam Kruger, University of Notre Dame	
	Punched-Ticket Alibis and Desirable Facilities: Public Transit and Ambiguous Development in Postcolonial Fiction Eric Lewis, Georgia State University	
<b>B-4</b>	<b>Addressing Racial Constructs</b>	<b>Telfair Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Peggy Ratliff, Claflin University</i>	
	Fight the Power: Sinead O'Connor and Race Michael Brillman, University of California Davis	
	Maeve Brennan's "Herbert's Retreat" Stories: Race, Class, and Gender Megan Sullivan, Boston University	
<b>B-5</b>	<b>The Unseen and the Undead</b>	<b>Monterey Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Kathleen Walkup, Emerita, Mills College</i>	
	"This is a female text": Performance, Embodiment, and Transmission in "Caoineadh Airt Uí Laoghaire" and <i>A Ghost in the Throat</i> Tirna Chandra, University of Notre Dame	
	Where It Hurts: Ailment, Alienation, and Embodiment in Jhumpa Lahiri's <i>Roman Stories</i> Prathim-Maya Dora-Laskey, Alma College	
	They're Alive, Kind of: Poetic Revivals Before the Revival Renee Fox, University of California, Santa Cruz	
<b>B-6</b>	<b>Joyce Endures</b>	<b>Chippewa Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Cassia Mugge Recasens, Georgia Southern University</i>	
	Scylla and/or Charybdis: The Revolutionary Subversion of Sexual Dichotomy in Joyce's <i>Ulysses</i> Roisin Flanagan, New York University	
	Narrative of Self-loss in Tradition, Modernity and Posthumanity in <i>A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man</i> Bina Mehta, Arizona State University	
	Shyam Selvadurai's <i>Funny Boy</i> : Masculinity, Political Conflict, and the Influence of Joyce's <i>Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man</i> Laverne Nishihara, Indiana University East	

<b>B-7</b>	<b>Roundtable: Disability Justice Innovations for Irish Studies</b>	<b>Lafayette Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Kate Costello-Sullivan, Le Moyne College</i>	
	Integrating Intersectionality in Irish Studies Marion Quirici, Kennesaw State University	
	With Dignity—Yet with Difficulty: Prosthesis, Dependency, and Bodily Norms in <i>The Wild Irish Girl</i> Matthew L. Reznicek, University of Minnesota	
	Learning from Contemporary Disability Activism in Ireland Elizabeth Grubgeld, Oklahoma State University	
<b>B-8</b>	<b>Roundtable: Living Book Review of <i>Becoming Irish American</i></b>	<b>Reynolds Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: James Silas Rogers, Editor, New Hibernia Review (retired)</i>	
	Review: Matthew J. O'Brien, Franciscan University of Steubenville	
	Review: Mary C. Kelly, Franklin Pierce University	
	Review: James Silas Rogers, Editor, <i>New Hibernia Review</i> (retired)	
	Author's Response: Timothy J. Meagher, Catholic University of America (retired)	

## SESSION C: MONDAY 10:30 - 12:00

<b>C-1</b>	<b>Roundtable: The Future of Irish <i>Bildung</i></b>	<b>Sapelo Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Jane Elizabeth Dougherty, Southern Illinois University Carbondale</i>	
	Emma Donoghue's Queer <i>Bildungsromane</i> : <i>Hood</i> and <i>The Pull of the Stars</i> Molly Ferguson, Ball State University	
	Irish <i>Bildung</i> and the Question of Genre Sarah Townsend, University of New Mexico	
	Disability and Care: The Challenge of Selfhood in the Romantic National Tale Matthew Reznicek, University of Minnesota	
	Irish <i>Bildung</i> and the Non-Reproductive Feminized Body Ellen Scheible, Bridgewater State University	
	"She had history, where I just had time": Soula Emmanuel's Trans <i>Bildungsroman</i> Jane Elizabeth Dougherty, Southern Illinois University Carbondale	
<b>C-2</b>	<b>Contemporary Perspectives on Seamus Heaney</b>	<b>Cumberland Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Nicholas Allen, University of Georgia</i>	
	Curating and Researching Heaney Geraldine Higgins, Emory University	
	What Heaney's Letters Don't Tell Us Frank Shovlin, University of Liverpool	
	Heaney's Collaborations with Other Artists Kaitlin Thurlow, University of Georgia	
	Thinking About Heaney's Late Period Poetry Nicholas Allen, University of Georgia	
<b>C-3</b>	<b>"In the City of Chicago" . . . And Beyond</b>	<b>Ossabaw Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Rebecca Weaver-Hightower, Virginia Tech</i>	
	How Some Whites Stayed Irish: Understanding Contemporary Irishness on Chicago's South Side Michael Angland, Northwestern University	
	Mayor Richard J. Daley and the Northern Ireland Conflict. Andy Wilson, Loyola University Chicago	
	Lessons From the Pauper Graves: The Contested Meaning of the Leadville (Colorado) Irish Memorial and the State of Irish America James Walsh, University of Colorado Denver	
	The Legal Legacy of Thomas Francis Meagher in Ireland and Montana Seán Ó Conaill, University College Cork	

<b>C-4</b>	<b>A Slow Dance: A 50th-Anniversary Celebration of Wake Forest University Press</b>	<b>Telfair Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Alexander Muller, Wake Forest University</i>	
	Jefferson Holdridge, Director, Wake Forest University Press	
	Kathryn Kirkpatrick, Appalachian State University	
	Eric Falci, University of California, Berkeley	
<b>C-5</b>	<b>Turmoil and Crisis: 1930s Ireland</b>	<b>Monterey Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Hapsatou Wane, Georgia Southern University</i>	
	Tradition, Innovation and Post-Colonial Modernity: Real and Imaginary Rural Irelands during the 1930s	
	Bryan Fanning, University College Dublin	
	Preserving Tradition in the Minds of a Rising Generation: An Exploration of the Journal <i>Fianna</i> , 1935-36	
	Matthew Knight, University of Notre Dame	
	"Never Mind the Bullocks . . .": Futurist Visions of Ireland in the <i>Fianna Fáil Bulletin</i> , 1935-1938	
	Kenneth Shonk, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse	
<b>C-6</b>	<b>Identity Crises, Personal and Communal</b>	<b>Chippewa Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Kaustav Mukherjee, Gannon University</i>	
	"One Thing Into Another": Tradition and the Formation of Identity in Ciaran Carson's <i>The Insular Celts</i>	
	Christian Cotten-Dixon, Georgia Southern University	
	Innovating the New World Baroque: Exploring the Poetics of Relation and Opacity in Alejo Carpentier's <i>The Lost Steps</i>	
	Anmol Sahni, Emory University	
	Transnational Feminist Solidarity in Tarfia Faizullah's <i>Registers of Illuminated Villages</i>	
	Subrata Chandra Mozumder, University of Louisiana at Lafayette	
<b>C-7</b>	<b>Irish Economies: Fringes and Borders</b>	<b>Lafayette Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Miriam Mara, Arizona State University</i>	
	Forging Identity at the Economic Border: A Case Study of New South Subjectivity throughout the Americas	
	Brantley Nicholson, Georgia College	
	Traditional Folkways and Economic Innovation: Irish Travellers and the Historical Economic Networks of the Southern U.S. Mule Trade	
	Morgan Mayo, University of Galway	
	Economic Innovation and the Death of Irish Community Values	
	Patrick McGarty, Munster Technological University	
	Innovation and the Pressure to End Partition in Ireland: Challenging the Legacy of the Colonial Era	
	Timothy White, Xavier University	

## PLENARY SESSION: 12:00 – 12:30

Madison Ballroom

**Frank Groome, Consul General of Ireland to the US Southeast**

## LUNCH (ON YOUR OWN): 12:30 - 2:00

## SESSION D: MONDAY 2:00 – 3:15

<b>D-1</b>	<b>Famous Seamus</b>	<b>Sapelo Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Amrita Bakshi, The University of Alabama</i>	
	The Two Photographs of "The Tollund Man"	
	Brendan Corcoran, Indiana State University	
	Queer Cows Reproduction: Understanding Cows in Heaney's Poetry	
	Connor Montanya, Appalachian State University	



<b>D-2</b>	<b>The Power of Print</b>	<b>Cumberland Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Meaghan Dwyer-Ryan, Georgia Southern University</i>	
	Robert Emmet and Constitutional Innovation in 20 <sup>th</sup> -century Ireland, 1922-1967: Four <i>Dublin Opinion</i> Cartoons Felix Larkin, Fellow of the Royal Historical Society	
	Picturing Parnell: American Illustrated Newspapers and Charles Stewart Parnell's 1880 American Tour Ely M. Janis, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts	
	"God save the American Nation from traitors": Radical Innovators, Constitutional Unionism and the Irish-American Press Robert O'Sullivan, University of Notre Dame	
<b>D-3</b>	<b>Postcolonial Indigenous Ecocriticism</b>	<b>Ossabaw Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Donna Potts, Washington State University</i>	
	Narrative Flow as Ecocritical Resistance in Indigenous Water Fiction Amelia Chaney, University of Delaware	
	The Last Elephant Kraal Thakshala Tissera, University of Massachusetts Amherst	
	Ollmháthair Mhór Meets the Mothers of Invention: Tradition and Innovation in Irish Environmental Activism Donna Potts, Washington State University	
<b>D-4</b>	<b>Identity, Immigration, and Resistance</b>	<b>Telfair Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Lindsey Chappell, Georgia Southern University</i>	
	Saint Patrick's Day in Buenos Aires, 1875: The Commercial Roots of Irish-Argentine Identity Cian T. McMahon, University of Nevada, Las Vegas	
	Carceral Innovations and Innovative Resistance: The Irish in the "Bellevue Establishment" Anelise ShROUT, Bates College	
<b>D-5</b>	<b>Women, Work, and Power</b>	<b>Monterey Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Prathim-Maya Dora-Laskey, Alma College</i>	
	Knitting as Labour and Opportunity for Contemplation in Peig Sayers' Life Writing Deirdre Nic Mhathúna, Dublin City University	
	"Press came in pours of rain": The Vanished Innovation of Cuala Press Kathleen Walkup, Emerita, Mills College	
	Reanimating Irish Girlhood: Postcolonial Resistance in Cartoon Saloon's <i>Wolfwalkers</i> Nancy Marck Cantwell, Daemen University	
<b>D-6</b>	<b>Roundtable: Contemporary Irish Poetry -- Scott McKendry, <i>Gub</i> (Corsair Poetry, 2024)</b>	<b>Chippewa Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Ed Madden, University of South Carolina</i>	
	Nathalie Anderson, Emerita, Swarthmore College	
	John Waters, New York University	
	Elizabeth Fredericks, Hillsdale College	
<b>D-7</b>	<b>Postcolonial Pedagogy</b>	<b>Lafayette Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Eric Lewis, Georgia State University</i>	
	Tradition and Innovation in the Teaching of Irish Literature: The Evolution of an Interdisciplinary Approach Peggy Dunn Sturba, Coastal Carolina University	
	Mindfulness Pedagogy and Poetics of Exile: Hopkins's "The Wreck of the Deutschland" Pushpa Parekh, Spelman College	
	Using Anglophone Literatures from Formerly Enslaved and Colonized Territories to Decolonize 19 <sup>th</sup> -Century British Literature Classrooms Nazua Idris, Washington State University	
<b>D-8</b>	<b>Roundtable: Teaching and Reading Sally Rooney</b>	<b>Reynolds Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Ellen Scheible, Bridgewater State University</i>	
	Barry Devine, Heidelberg University	
	Molly Ferguson, Ball State University	
	Barbara M. Hoffmann, University of Miami	
	Jennifer A. Slivka, Virginia Wesleyan University	

## SESSION E: MONDAY 3:30 – 5:00

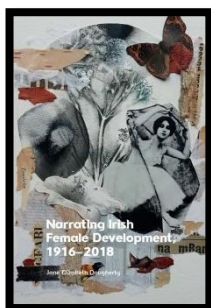
<b>E-1</b>	<b>Gender in Film</b>	<b>Sapelo Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Jerod Hollyfield, Middle Tennessee State University</i>	
	New British Realism: Urban Identity and Liminality in the Post-Millennium Queer Cinema Yi Li, Savannah College of Art and Design	
	The Repressed and the Dead: Reading the Jokes in Amar Kaushik's <i>Stree</i> Kaustav Mukherjee, Gannon University	
<b>E-2</b>	<b>Reconsidering Histories</b>	<b>Cumberland Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Mitali P. Wong, Claflin University</i>	
	Making Irish History: Tradition and Innovation in the Historiography of the Great O'Neill Hiram Morgan, University College Cork	
	The Articles of Peace (1649): Traditional Ireland too Innovative for England? Lee Morrissey, Clemson University	
	To Put All Irish History on Trial: Contested Memories of the Orange Order in Reilly v. Evans, 1831 Hannah Nolan, University of Maryland College Park	
<b>E-3</b>	<b>Restrictions and Rights</b>	<b>Ossabaw Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Cameron Bushnell, Clemson University</i>	
	But We Don't Speak of That Now: Keegan's <i>Small Things Like These</i> and Other Depictions of Public Complicity in Institutional Abuse Peggy Pollard, San Jose State University	
	Poetic Responses to the Magdalene Laundries and Mother & Baby Homes Elizabeth Fredericks, Hillsdale College	
	Consensus to Controversy: Campaigning Irish Journalism and the "Re-Discovery" of Industrial Schools as a Subject of Inquiry and Controversy, 1966-1980 Conall Ó Fátharta, Maynooth University	
<b>E-4</b>	<b>Where the Hidden Power Lies</b>	<b>Telfair Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Winnie Chan, Virginia Commonwealth University</i>	
	Overseers of Public Houses in Pre-Famine Ireland: Exploring Authority Through the "Rod of Temperance" Brad Kadel, Fayetteville State University	
	Amos Tutuola and the Rise of the Working Man John Rooks, Morris College	
<b>E-5</b>	<b>Carving Out New Spaces</b>	<b>Monterey Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Nazua Idris, Washington State University</i>	
	Tradition, Diasporic Poetics, and Performance Virginie Roche-Tiengo, University d'Artois	
	Rewilding the Irish Poem Kathryn Kirkpatrick, Appalachian State University	
	Checking Out: Spatial Denarration in "The Dead," <i>The Dark</i> , and <i>The Gathering</i> Jane Elizabeth Dougherty, Southern Illinois University Carbondale	
<b>E-6</b>	<b>A Word on the Wind: Poets Celebrate New Books</b>	<b>Chippewa Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Nathalie Anderson, Emerita, Swarthmore College</i>	
	<i>Skenographia</i> David Gardiner, University of St Thomas	
	<i>Dark Devouring</i> Thomas McGuire, United States Air Force Academy	
	<i>Ago: New and Selected</i> and <i>Heart Walk</i> Thomas Redshaw, University of St Thomas	
	<i>The Chances of Harm</i> Adrian Rice, Appalachian State University	
	<i>Rough</i> Nathalie Anderson, Emerita, Swarthmore College	

**KEYNOTE / PLENARY SESSION: 5:00 – 6:00**  
Oglethorpe Ballrooms

**Bob Harris, Warden of Skellig Michael**

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**BOOK LAUNCHES**



***Narrating Irish Female Development, 1916–2018***  
Jane Elizabeth Dougherty  
Edinburgh University Press, December 2024



***The Irish Bildungsroman***  
Edited by Gregory Castle, Sarah L. Townsend,  
Matthew L. Reznicek  
Syracuse University Press, February 2025

**RECEPTION: 6:00 – 8:00**  
Madison Ballroom, Foyer

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**MONDAY EVENING**

**Wexford, Savannah's Irish Pub, welcomes the ACIS/BCPS Conference**  
Join us for dinner or a drink; they're opening extra space for Conference attendees.

**USA Today's "Best Restaurant in Georgia, 2025," and a friend to Irish Studies.**  
Located in City Market

**See the #1 listing for "Worth the Walk" on the map on the inside back cover**

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# TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

REGISTRATION/INFORMATION DESK OPENS: 8:00

## SESSION F: TUESDAY 9:00 - 10:15

F-1	<b>The Transatlantic Racial Imagination from Parnell to the Free State</b> <i>Chair: Margot Backus, University of Houston</i> The Comic Press, Parnell, and Transatlantic Radicalism Michael de Nie, University of West Georgia "Subject peoples of all colors are rising": Ireland in Black American Discourse and the Limits of Irish Revolutionary Thinking, 1916-22 Mike Rast, Independent Scholar "Burned by the experience": White Critical Opposition to Alice Childress' Parnellite Nationalism in <i>Trouble in Mind</i> Margot Backus, University of Houston	Sapelo Ballroom, 1 <sup>st</sup> floor
F-2	<b>Courageous Art</b> <i>Chair: Chandler Hanton, Georgia Southern University</i> New Materialities/Materialism and Critical Discourse in Contemporary Visual Art in Ireland Jeannine Kraft, Columbus College of Art & Design Francis Bacon, the Death Drive, and Climate Change Robinson Murphy, Hobart and William Smith Colleges "Red Tape at the Big Green Dome": The Tradition of Community Mural Painting in Belfast, 1977-1981 Rachael Young, Boston College	Cumberland Ballroom, 1 <sup>st</sup> floor
F-3	<b>Irish Immigration: Resistance, Recovery, and Regret</b> <i>Chair: Kate Costello-Sullivan, Le Moyne College</i> Saigon Sojourn: An Irish-American Woman's Journey to Selfhood in Alice McDermott's <i>Absolution</i> Vivian Valvano Lynch, Emerita, St. John's University Irish American Catholic Women vs. the Church Sally Barr Ebest, Emerita, University of Missouri-St. Louis "Time to Consider it": Immigrant Regret and Redemption in Colm Tóibín's <i>Long Island</i> Kate Costello-Sullivan, Le Moyne College	Ossabaw Ballroom, 1 <sup>st</sup> floor
F-4	<b>Roundtable: Contemporary Irish Poetry -- Mícheál McCann, <i>Devotion</i> (2024)</b> <i>Chair: Julia Obert, University of Wyoming</i> Kelly Sullivan, New York University Anna Teekell, Christopher Newport University Ann Neelon, Emerita, Murray State University	Telfair Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
F-5	<b>Odd Alliances</b> <i>Chair: Zachary Bordas, Talladega College</i> Roads to Reunion: John Devoy's Organizing Mission for a United Clan-na-Gael, 1890-1899 Hollis Harris, Northern Illinois University Mutual Aid, Garrisons, and the Canadian Literary Tradition Philip Mingay, The King's University Mateship And Mining: The Settler Miner, His Friends, Enemies, And Servants. Rebecca Weaver-Hightower, Virginia Tech	Monterey Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
F-6	<b>Nineteenth-Century Visions of a New Ireland</b> <i>Chair: Claire Cowart, Southeastern Louisiana University</i> What Happened at Holycross? Peter Gray, Queen's University Belfast Lover, Lever, and the Problem of Comedy and the 19 <sup>th</sup> -Century Irish Novel David Kenney, University of Notre Dame Tradition and Regeneration: Douglas Hyde's Vision of Cultural Innovation Liam Mac Mathúna, Emeritus, University College Dublin	Chippewa Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor

<b>F-7</b>	<b>Manipulating Genres</b>	<b>Lafayette Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Subrata Chandra Mozumder, University of Louisiana at Lafayette</i>	
	The Outsourcing of the Hollywood Action Hero: Liam Neeson in the Age of Diminishing Returns Jerod Hollyfield, Middle Tennessee State University	
	Horror Tradition + Multicultural Innovation at the Genre Turn in Postcolonial British Literary Fiction Winnie Chan, Virginia Commonwealth University	
	Indra Sinha's <i>Animal's People</i> as a Response to Kipling's <i>Kim</i> : The Development and Legacy of Imperialism in the Colonial and Postcolonial Novel Emily Strickland, Goucher College	

## SESSION G: TUESDAY 10:30 - 11:45

<b>G-1</b>	<b>Re-Viewing a Nation and Its People</b>	<b>Sapelo Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Soumen Mukherjee, Vellore Institute of Technology</i>	
	On Sitting Down to Read Baedeker's <i>Indien</i> Again Hans-Georg Erney, Georgia Southern University	
	Working-class South Asians in Apartheid-Era South African Plays: A Reading of <i>The Lahnee's Pleasure</i> and <i>The Working Class Hero</i> Mitali P. Wong, Claflin University	
<b>G-2</b>	<b>Play and Production: The Irish Stage</b>	<b>Cumberland Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Hailey Bowen, Georgia Southern University</i>	
	Clothes Tell the Story: Costumes in Select Irish Theatre Productions Charlotte Headrick, Emerata, Oregon State University, and Patricia Hunt-Hurst, Emerata, University of Georgia	
	Boucicault and Burlesque: Development of the Stage Irish Hannah Thieryung, University of South Florida	
	Archival Research and <i>Long Day's Journey into Night</i> : A Case Study of the Abbey Theatre Production Elizabeth Ricketts-Jones, University of South Florida	
<b>G-3</b>	<b>Contemporary Irish Poetry Roundtable: Jane Clarke, <i>A Change in the Air</i> (2023)</b>	<b>Ossabaw Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Co-chair: Julia Obert, University of Wyoming</i>	
	<i>Co-chair: Eric Falci, University of California, Berkeley</i> Nathan Suhr-Sytsma, Emory University Gregory Ronco, University of Wyoming	
<b>G-4</b>	<b>Further and Further from Erin's Shores</b>	<b>Telfair Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: John Rooks, Morris College</i>	
	Erin's Daughters in the American West: Irish Migration and Westward Expansion in the Mid-19 <sup>th</sup> Century Megan Milburn-McAlister, Oregon Historical Society	
	Cowboy Kevin Barry: Irish Innovation and the American Western Thomas Shea, University of Connecticut	
	Seán Ó Faoláin in the Great North Woods: Ó Faoláin's 1959 Flynn Lectureship at the University of St. Thomas David Gardiner, University of Saint Thomas	
<b>G-5</b>	<b>Bending Gender</b>	<b>Monterey Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Michael de Nie, University of West Georgia</i>	
	Magical Realism and Defying Border Allegiance: Gender and Immigration in Hamid's <i>East, West</i> Cheryl Duffus, Gardner-Webb University	
	Piercing Gazes, Extended Visibility: Social Media and Sexuality in Contemporary Irish Literature Jason Buchanan, CUNY-Hostos College	

<b>G-6</b>	<b>Ireannach Filí Ban</b>	<b>Chippewa Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Cliona Ni Riordain, University of Notre Dame</i>	
	"Self-Selecting Tradition": Eavan Boland's Innovation Cameron Bushnell, Clemson University	
	Eavan Boland: Conversations on Irish Poetic Tradition Michael Robinson, Claremont Graduate University	
	From Bars to Cloisters: Exploring Confinement and Creativity in Ní Chuilleanáin's Poetry Wanda Balzano, Wake Forest University	
<b>G-7</b>	<b>Ireland and the US: Successes and Failures</b>	<b>Lafayette Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Pamela Rooks, Francis Marion University (retired)</i>	
	"We in the South know what it is to have battled": Southern Irish American Rhetoric During the Revolutionary Moment Mary Elizabeth Lennon, New York University	
	Irish Immigrants and Legislation in the United States Amanda Crabb, Curry College	
	Shamrocks and Magnolias: The Irish in the American South Patrick McCarty, University of St. Thomas	
<b>G-8</b>	<b>The Language of the Tribe</b>	<b>Reynolds Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Christian Cotten-Dixon, Georgia Southern University</i>	
	Seeking Patriotic Respectability: The Complexities of Irish-Language Identity in the United States, 1870-1914 Nicholas Wolf, New York University	
	Firkins, Corsets, and Roasted Curlew: A Guide to Irish Small Talk (Mion-Chomhradh) as of 1901 Compared to Present-Day Spruschain (Small Talk) Roslyn Blyn-LaDrew, University of Pennsylvania	
	"Fite Fuaite" (Interwoven): Relationality, Land, and Language within Irish Art Kristin Dowell, Florida State University	
<b>ACIS Executive Committee Meeting</b>		<b>DeSoto Lobby, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>

**BUFFET LUNCH: 12:00 - 1:30**  
**Madison Ballroom**

**ACIS BUSINESS MEETING: 1:45 – 2:45**  
**Oglethorpe Ballrooms**

**SESSION H: TUESDAY 3:00 - 4:30**

<b>H-1</b>	<b>Irish Writing of the 1990s</b>	<b>Sapelo Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Anna Teekell, Christopher Newport University</i>	
	W.B. Yeats and Feminist Scholarship: "The Second Coming" of the 1990s Claire Bracken, Union College	
	Edmund Burke, 1990s Gothic, and Contemporary Irish Women's Fiction Ellen Scheible, Bridgewater State University	
	Thirty Years of Consequence(s): Nation and Family in 1990s and Contemporary Novels Kate Costello-Sullivan, Le Moyne College	
	"Slightly Magical" Poems of the 1990s Lucy McDiarmid, Montclair State University	

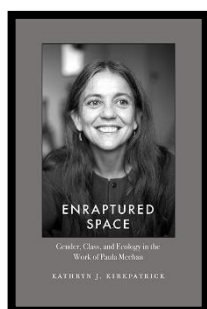
<b>H-2</b>	<b>Legacies of the Irish Literary Revival</b>	<b>Cumberland Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Hannah Graham, Georgia Southern University</i>	
	Collectors and Colloquies: Saint Patrick, Lady Gregory, and Cycles of Cultural Transformation in Irish Folklore Lindsey McClure, Southern Methodist University	
	<i>Cathleen Ni Houlihan and the Death Drive</i> Theodore Lehre, Boston College	
	Reading Lady Gregory's Trees: Brehon Laws, Traditional Ecological Knowledge, and Post-Colonial Literary Resacralization in the Woods of Coole Nichole Lariscy, University of Alabama at Birmingham	
	"To Set a Statesman Right": Politics and Magic in Yeats's Literary Legacy Nora Bonner, Georgia State University	
<b>H-3</b>	<b>Responding to Threats: Rituals, Resistance, and Truth-Telling</b>	<b>Ossabaw Ballroom, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Hans-Georg Erney, Georgia Southern University</i>	
	Critical Rituals: Rethinking Crisis in Legislative Settings Neil Kaplan-Kelly, Flagler College	
	On British Coloniality and Irish Solidarity Iman Gareeboo, University of Miami	
	How Irish Farm Narratives Support UN Agriculture Sustainability Goals Miriam Mara, Arizona State University	
<b>H-4</b>	<b>The Power of the Past: Desire and Confrontation</b>	<b>Telfair Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Bina Mehta, Arizona State University</i>	
	Negotiating A Changing World: Edith Somerville's Ambivalent Attitudes in <i>Mount Music</i> Claire Cowart, Southeastern Louisiana University	
	The Bildungsroman as Chains: The Antebellum Slave Narrative and 21 <sup>st</sup> -Century Young Adult Fiction Wayne Partridge, University of Oxford	
	Donal Ryan's <i>The Spinning Heart</i> : Financial Innovation and Irish Tradition Lee Morrissey, Clemson University	
	"Where the flaps don't meet the knots undone": Gail McConnell and the Erotics of Elegy Michelle Miles, Kennesaw State University	
<b>H-5</b>	<b>Facets of Yeats</b>	<b>Monterey Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Abby Bender, Sacred Heart University</i>	
	From Big Houses to Broken Homes: Irish Cultural Anxieties in Yeats and Rooney Christopher Bilby, Sacred Heart University	
	Supernatural Right: Yeats, the Body, and the Aesthetics of Epochal Change Jefferson Holdridge, Wake Forest University	
	"High Courtesy" and Yeats's Dialogues Harrison Glaze, Baylor University	
	Science and Material Culture: WB Yeats's Modernity Julie McCormick Weng, Texas State University	
<b>H-6</b>	<b>Open-Eyed, Full-Throated: Readings by ACIS Poets</b>	<b>Chippewa Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</b>
	<i>Chair: Nathalie Anderson, Emerita, Swarthmore College</i>	
	Roslyn Blyn-LaDrew, University of Pennsylvania	
	Kathryn Kirkpatrick, Appalachian State University	
	David Lloyd, LeMoyne College	
	Ed Madden, University of South Carolina	
	Ann Neelon, Emerita, Murray State University	
	Eamonn Wall, University of Missouri at St Louis	

**KEYNOTE / PLENARY SESSION: TUESDAY 4:45 – 5:45**  
Oglethorpe Ballrooms

**JENNIFER O'MAHONEY**  
**Sites of Conscience: Preserving Memory, Innovating Justice**

**RECEPTION: TUESDAY 5:45 – 7:45**  
Madison Ballroom, Foyer

**BOOK LAUNCHES**



***Enraptured Space: Gender, Class, and Ecology  
in the Work of Paula Meehan***  
**Kathryn J. Kirkpatrick**  
West Virginia University Press, March 2025



***Body Politics in Contemporary Irish Women's  
Fiction: The Literary Legacy of Mother Ireland***  
**Ellen Scheible**  
Bloomsbury Academic Publishing, January 2025

**TUESDAY EVENING**

**Wexford, Savannah's Irish Pub, welcomes the ACIS/BCPS Conference**  
**Join us for dinner or a drink; they're opening extra space for Conference attendees.**

**USA Today's "Best Restaurant in Georgia, 2025," and a friend to Irish Studies.**

**Located in City Market**  
**See the #1 listing for "Worth the Walk" on the map on the inside back cover**



# WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

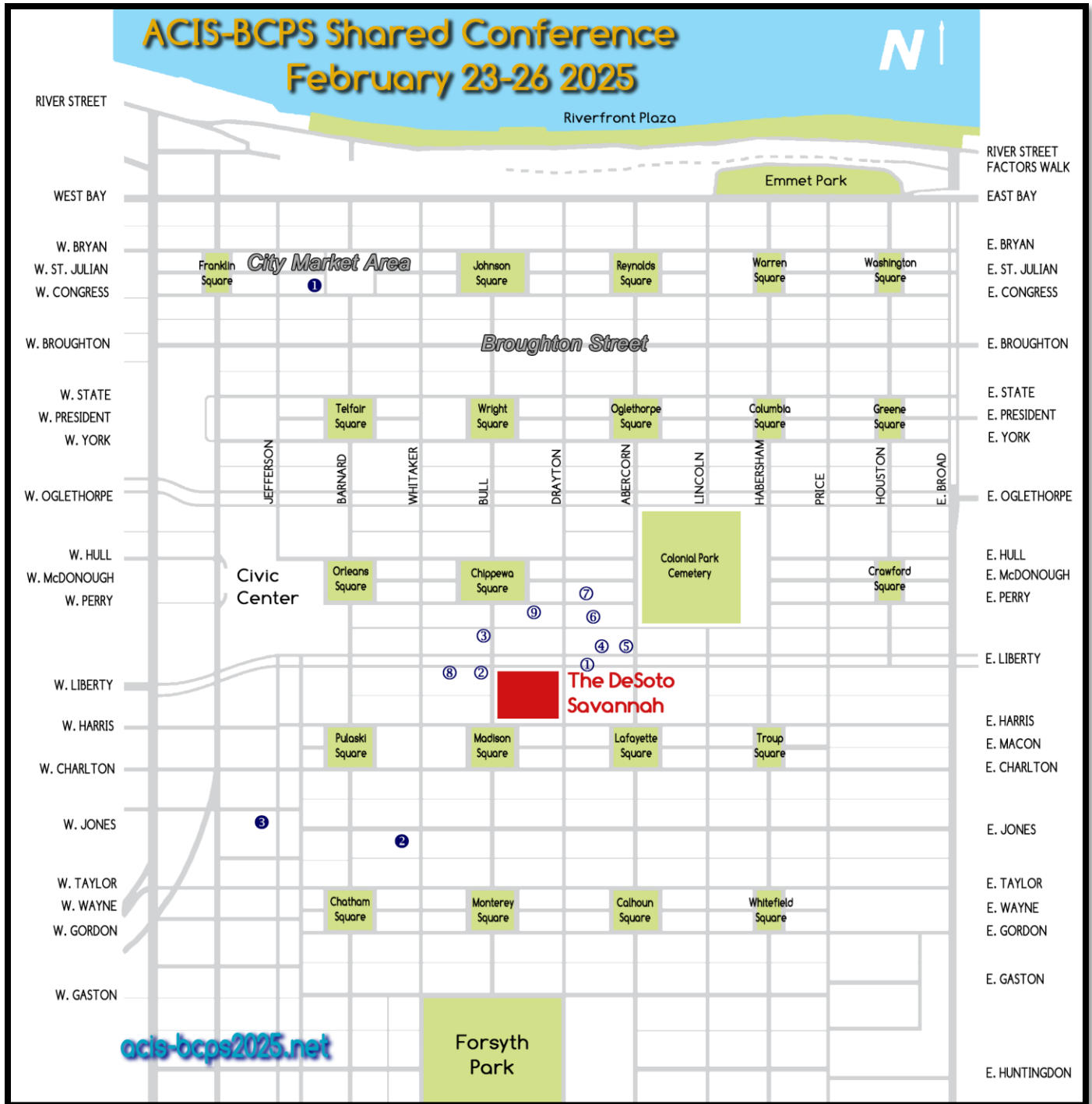
REGISTRATION/INFORMATION DESK OPENS: 8:00

## SESSION I: WEDNESDAY 9:00 - 10:30

I-1	<b>Innovative Preservation</b>	Sapelo Ballroom, 1 <sup>st</sup> floor
	<i>Chair: Felix Larkin, Fellow of the Royal Historical Society</i>	
	Charlie Haughey's Deer: Inishvickillane and the Wild Irish Environment Stephanie Barczewski, Clemson University	
	BioCultúr: Integrating Irish Culture, Heritage, and Language into Bioeconomy Strategies for a Sustainable Future Jamie Murray, Maynooth University	
	The Bell Index 2.0: Keeping a 1940s Periodical Accessible in the Digital Age Kelly Matthews, Framingham State University	
I-2	<b>Futures Across Cultures</b>	Cumberland Ballroom, 1 <sup>st</sup> floor
	<i>Chair: Anna McDonald, Georgia Southern University</i>	
	Innovative Time: Reading Futurity "Sideways" in Louise Erdrich's <i>Future Home of the Living God</i> Amanda Lagji, Pitzer College	
	Claude McKay's <i>Amiable with Big Teeth</i> : the Future is Here and Now (circa 1938) Matthew Miller, University of South Carolina Aiken	
	"There's Been an Accident": Colonial Legacies, Tradition, and the Future in Adrian McKinty's <i>The Island</i> Molly Slavin, Clark Atlanta University	
I-3	<b>Taxation and Trade in Modern Ireland</b>	Ossabaw Ballroom, 1 <sup>st</sup> floor
	<i>Chair: Douglas Kanter, Florida Atlantic University</i>	
	From Innovation to Ignominy: Ireland's Tax Policy for Foreign Direct Investment Emer Hunt, University College Dublin	
	The Revenue Service and the Irish Revolution Douglas Kanter, Florida Atlantic University	
I-4	<b>How They Lived and Died: The Long Shadow of the Great Hunger</b>	Telfair Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
	<i>Chair: Matthew Reznicek, University of Minnesota</i>	
	The Limits of Public Health in Victorian Belfast: Andrew Malcolm and the New Lodge District Survey of 1847 Sean Farrell, Northern Illinois University	
	Comparing the Colonial Famines: Counter-Hegemonic Failures in W. B. Yeats' <i>The Countess Cathleen</i> and Bankim Chandra's <i>Anandamath</i> Amrita Bakshi, The University of Alabama	
	The Uncanny in Healy's Famine Play, <i>The Black Stranger</i> Chu He, Indiana University South Bend	
	A Landscape that Rips the Heart: Spectral Silences Along the Path of the Great Famine Way E. Moore Quinn, College of Charleston	
I-5	<b>New Wine in New Wineskins</b>	Monterey Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
	<i>Chair: Meaghan Dwyer-Ryan, Georgia Southern University</i>	
	March 17: Holiday Pedagogy in the United States, 1900-1940 Marion R. Casey, New York University	
	A Waning Tradition: The Move from Home Wakes to Funeral Homes in Irish-American Fiction Beth O'Leary Anish, Community College of Rhode Island	
	Bringing a Sense of Home with You: Expanding Traditions in the Diasporic Built Environment Sophie Cooper, Queen's University Belfast	
I-6	<b>Roundtable: Irish Studies and Public Scholarship in the Humanities</b>	Chippewa Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
	<i>Chair: Stephen Watt, Emeritus, Indiana University Bloomington</i>	
	Marilynn Richtarik, Georgia State University	
	Julia C. Obert, University of Wyoming	
	Richard Rankin Russell, Baylor University	

# NOTES

# ACIS-BCPS Shared Conference February 23-26 2025



## DINING OPTIONS

### Right outside the door:

- ① **Treyler Park Hitch.** Open 11 am - 1 am. "Cozy/cool vibes reminiscent of a whisky library or a chic, modern Saloon."
- ② **The Public Kitchen & Bar.** Lunch: 11-3; Dinner: 4:30-10. "Elevated" casual farm-to-table dining.
- ③ **Six Pence Pub.** Open 11 am - 11 pm. "The most authentic English pub in Georgia."
- ④ **Savoy Society.** Open 4 - midnight, closed Tuesdays. "Global dishes & cocktails offered in a late-night, comfy bar & restaurant."
- ⑤ **J. Christopher's.** Open 7 am - 2 pm. Breakfast and Lunch. "Familiar Food . . . With Flair."
- ⑥ **Zunzi's.** Open 11 am - 11 pm. "Globally inspired hearty meals at this offbeat counter-serve eatery."
- ⑦ **Emporium Kitchen & Wine Market.** Brunch: 7 - 3; Dinner: 5 - 10. "American brasserie located within the exquisite Perry Lane Hotel."
- ⑧ **Mellow Mushroom.** Open 11 am - 11 pm. "Funky, art-filled chain pizzeria featuring craft beer, calzones & creative stone-baked pizzas."
- ⑨ **Fire Street Food.** Open 11 am - 10 pm. "Colorful, contemporary counter-serve offering Thai plates, sushi, burgers, and more."

### Worth the walk:

- ⑩ **Wexford, Savannah's Irish Pub.** Open 11 am - 10 pm. Named *USA Today's* "Best Restaurant in Georgia, 2025."
- ⑪ **Mrs. Wilkes' Dining Room.** Lunch only, 11 am - 2 pm. Home-cooked Southern food served boardinghouse style.
- ⑫ **Crystal Beer Parlor.** Open 11 am - 9 pm, closed Monday. "Cozy American bistro & bar in a century-old former grocery store."

**FUNDING PROVIDED BY:**



**Government of Ireland  
Emigrant Support Programme**



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha  
Department of Foreign Affairs

**CONFERENCE HOSTS**



Lindsey Chappell, Georgia Southern University  
Hans-Georg Erney, Georgia Southern University  
Howard Keeley, Georgia Southern University  
Cassia Mugge Recasens, Georgia Southern University  
Joe Pellegrino, Georgia Southern University  
Hapsatou Wane, Georgia Southern University  
Rachel Woodall, Georgia Southern University

