

2013



Faculty of Theology Quality Review



Faculty of Theology
Saint Patrick's College, Maynooth
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CHAPTER I: THE FACULTY OF THEOLOGY

Historical Profile

St Patrick's College was founded in 1795. In addition to the courses in Philosophy and Theology required for the education of candidates for the priesthood, its curriculum included courses in the humanities (Classics, English, Irish and Modern Languages) and natural philosophy (including Mathematics and Experimental science). At time of the celebration of its first centenary, the College was granted Pontifical status.

In 1908 the National University of Ireland (NUI) came into being, with constituent Colleges in Dublin, Cork and Galway. The terms of the act of parliament establishing the University excluded the use of public funds for the teaching of, and granting of degrees in, Theology. It gave the new university, however, the right of recognising other institutions for teaching and granting of degrees. Under these terms, the trustees of Maynooth applied for recognition of the College's non-theological courses in 1909. The following year, St Patrick's College Maynooth became a recognised College of the National University, with Faculties of Arts, Philosophy and Celtic Studies. At the conclusion of an initial experimental period of four years, the status of recognised College was granted in perpetuity and extended to include a Faculty of Science. Maynooth was accordingly both a Pontifical University for the ecclesiastical sciences and a recognised College of the National University in Arts, Philosophy, Celtic Studies and Science. The President of St Patrick's College was head of both institutions and priest-members of the College held professorships and lectureships under the auspices of the National University.

The student body of the College remained exclusively clerical until 1966, when lay students were admitted to the courses of the recognised College. In time, the recognised College would become the larger constituent of St Patrick's College, Maynooth. With the increasing of number of students, the teaching staff of the NUI became more numerous and varied in background.

Several attempts had been made during the 1960s to secure the recognition of Theology within the BA degree of the National University, but, for a number of reasons, not least the projected reorganisation of the Irish University system, they were unsuccessful. The Pontifical University eventually introduced a Degree of Bachelor of Arts and Theology in 1979. This is currently a joint honours degree: the Arts component is taught and assessed within the undergraduate programmes of the National University, while Theology is taught and assessed within the Faculty of Theology. Members of both Universities attend the Examination Boards. The Pontifical University awards the degree.

The Universities Act 1997, restructured the university education in Ireland. As a result of the Act, the recognised College of Maynooth became the independent National University of Ireland, Maynooth (NUIM), within the new structures of NUI, with its own Governing Body, President and administration, independent of Saint Patrick's College.

By reason of its history, Maynooth is, then, a complex educational unit. Two independent universities share a common campus, library resources, and various other facilities as are outlined below. This is a unique relationship that springs from a shared history and heritage. NUIM is conscious that its roots stretch back to the foundation of 1795. As SPCM looks to the future, it is conscious of the synergies it has with NUIM and of the possibilities these offer for cooperation and development in research and teaching in the theological sciences. In addition, the existing inter-institutional cooperation has the potential to act as a model for the sector.

Faculty Profile

At present, the Faculty of Theology consists of seven Professors, eleven Lecturers, one Director of Pastoral Theology and fifteen Occasional Lecturers. The recent appointment of the Professor of Systematic Theology as the Bishop of Limerick has occasioned a vacancy in this position. The Chair of Homiletics is also currently vacant.

Statistics for the current year indicate that there are 477 registered students in the Faculty with 229 fulltime undergraduate students. Currently, there are 115 registered postgraduates. The first year student intake for the current academic year was significantly down and early indications are this trend will continue, if not as dramatically, in the same direction. The Faculty is not isolated in this development which is reflected in downward trends in humanities, and theology in particular, in many third level institutions in Ireland. Our affiliated and part-time courses over the last few years have expanded rapidly and this development looks likely to continue. Deep cutbacks in grants for postgraduate students have also raised serious concerns about future student number projections in the postgraduate programmes, reversing very positive growth in this area for the Faculty in recent years.

The Faculty of Theology is governed by the Trustees, a body corporate in canon and civil law (*Statutes* 7.1). The Trustees are the Trustees of the College of Maynooth, a corporate body so named in an Act of Parliament in 1845 (8 and 9 Vic., c.25) (1.2). The Trustees are presided over by the bishop who is first in precedence (7.2). The Chairman of the Trustees is also the Chancellor. The Chancellor represents the Holy See to the University and the University to the Holy See. It is the right and duty of the Chancellor to support the mission of the University and ensure Catholic doctrine is preserved in its integrity and the Statutes implemented. Among his other duties, the Chancellor is to promote good relations between staff members and also to foster communion between the University and the local Church.

Faculty Mission

In its Mission Statement, which is publically displayed in a number of locations, the Pontifical University's Faculty of Theology states its principal aims:

- Achieving the highest standards at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, in systematic theology, moral theology, scripture, philosophy, canon law, liturgical studies, ecclesiastical history / patrology, mission studies and pastoral studies;
- Equipping students with the required academic formation for ministry and the civil position or profession that they are likely to take up;
- Promoting excellence and innovation in teaching, research and publication that respond to contemporary developments in ecumenical, inter-religious and cultural dialogues in an increasingly complex and diverse Irish society;
- Broadening access in higher and continuing education through inter-disciplinary and focused programmes that meet contemporary needs.
- Creating a supportive, learning and reflective environment, equipped with the best structures and resources available, to enable the academic, spiritual and human development of the student in an atmosphere which respects diversity and difference.

Consistent with these aims, the Faculty of Theology is dedicated to promoting principles of good practice across the spectrum of its work. Implicit in this is the provision of a working environment which enables students and members of staff to achieve their full potential.

Faculty Vision

While the principal strategic objectives of the Faculty are detailed in a later section, they can be summarised:

- Securing a viable place in the current third level landscape in Ireland;
- Adapting programmes to meet rapidly changing and specific vocational and professional requirements;
- Responding to the changing and diversifying student profile;
- Developing new collaborations with other theological faculties and Catholic universities around Ireland and abroad;
- Continuing to be an attractive and desirable place to study, teach and research theology;
- Making a meaningful and relevant contribution to the mission of the Church and society;
- Meeting best practice, standards and procedures at national and international level in relation to third level education.
- Remaining faithful to what is best and distinctive in its own recognised academic tradition and identity

Faculty Survey

Nine full-time Faculty members were surveyed about the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) concerning the Faculty of Theology. The results can be summarised here.

Among the strengths of the Faculty:

- The availability of a complete range of the theological disciplines delivered by a highly-qualified staff in their respective disciplines;
- The spirit of collaboration and commitment among the Faculty staff;
- The proximity of the Faculty to the NUIM and the excellent facilities and resources available to staff and students who share the same campus (Library, student services, etc)
- The distinguished history, tradition, brand recognition;
- Geographical location;
- The beautiful campus and community experience among staff and students;
- Proximity of seminary and the mixture of seminarians and lay students studying theology together;
- Spiritual and liturgical supports for students and staff.

Among the weaknesses of the Faculty:

- Lacking an independent and objective evaluation of courses and degrees;
- Perception that the Faculty / College is too clerical, Catholic, denominational;
- Problems in governance; no active interest by Trustees in the broader mission of the Faculty and place of theology in Ireland and third level;
- Teaching staff carrying out many administrative responsibilities;
- Decreasing student numbers and the low academic ability of some in-coming students in recent years;
- Fragmentation of courses;
- Lack of incentive to engage in research and publication;
- Small number of fulltime lay / female lecturers.

Among the opportunities for the Faculty:

- Greater interaction with the wider university world both nationally and internationally;
- More flexible (part-time, weekend, evening) programmes for lay people interested in Theology and who are working, especially in 50 km radius;

- Use of website to enhance profile of the University;
- Greater engagement with NUIM at undergraduate level;
- On site resources, especially the library;
- Developing links with other Catholic Universities and Faculties of Theology in Europe and elsewhere;
- Greater engagement with mature / adult learning constituency.

Among the threats facing the Faculty:

- The increasing marginalisation of theology and the Faculty of Theology from the wider Irish culture;
- The declining number of student applications;
- The negative publicity about Church due to scandals;
- The decline of faith, Church and the progressive secularization of Irish society;
- Students' preference for religious studies in contrast to theology;
- Abolition / reduction of grants and funds by the State;
- Disengagement by Trustees who show no interest in the wider University experience; Trustees' interests limited to clerical / seminary constituency;
- Lack of job opportunities for qualified lay theologians;
- Inertia of the academic system, as seen in its slowness to innovate, the Faculty hampered by the weight of its own tradition;
- Sense of fatalism and inertia among Faculty.

Faculty Quality Assurance

Since 1997, the Faculty of Theology has actively engaged in Quality Assurance and Review. Initially, this process was conducted through Faculty Days to discuss and review the work of the Faculty of Theology. The initial quality review culminated in a milestone meeting of the Faculty at Mullaghmore in January 2005, where over a three day meeting, the Faculty worked to produce a template of improvement for the future. This meeting initiated a process of structural change, programme revision, internal re-organisation and other 'quality improvement' measures.

Following on this process, the Faculty of Theology agreed to undergo its first formal Quality Review. Drawing on the generous help of the Quality Promotion Unit of NUIM, the Faculty established a Quality Promotion Group to prepare for such an eventual review. The Quality Review on-site visit was on 1-3 May 2007. The Reviewers were: Dr John McDade (Heythrop College, London), Ms Ailín Doyle (Milltown Institute of Philosophy and Theology) and Professor Terence Merrigan (Katholieke Universiteit,

Leuven). The External Quality Review Report was published on the College website and the Faculty undertook to implement many of its recommendations dealt with in the section *Implementation of University Processes and Policies*.

That same year, in September 2007, the Holy See established an Agency for the Evaluation and Promotion of Quality in Ecclesiastical Universities and Faculties (AVEPRO). The Agency's duty is to promote and develop a culture of quality within the academic institutions that depend directly on the Holy See and ensure they possess internationally valid quality criteria. In 2010 the Faculty sent a delegate to participate in a conference organised by AVEPRO at the Gregorian University.

In 2011 the Faculty of Theology applied to have all its academic awards listed on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF). In October of that year the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland (NQAI) approved the listing of almost all of the Faculty's academic awards on the NQF. It is a major recognition on the part of the Irish state of the quality of academic programmes taught in Maynooth. It was the first statutory recognition of theological awards in Ireland, which previously had to rely on the Maynooth's long tradition and place in education in Ireland. This recognition of the awards confirmed for students, other educational institutions and employers that the educational standards at the Faculty of Theology are comparable to similar awards at the same level in the state and elsewhere. It also gave confidence to students and all other stakeholders that the awards are quality assured.

The planned quinquennial Quality Review of 2012 was deferred due to the Apostolic Visitation of Irish Seminaries in February 2011, and the subsequent publication of its Report in 2012.

At the beginning of the current academic year the Faculty of Theology once again initiated the process to prepare for a Quality Review which would balance being the first-cycle Quality Review in line with the *Internal Evaluation Quality Assurance Guidelines for Ecclesiastical Universities and Faculties* issued by AVEPRO. This review is also a second-cycle Quality Review in the Irish University context following the guidelines used by Irish Universities and in particular the NUIM. For that reason, this review will reflect also its progress in implementing the recommendations of the 2007 Quality Review Report.

A Quality Review Committee composed of the Dean, the Registrar, the Director of Postgraduate Studies and the Director of Affiliated Programmes was established and it met weekly since the beginning of the second semester. The Committee surveyed students, academic and administrative staff questionnaires proposed by the AVEPRO with some modifications to the survey employed for students.

The Faculty of Theology values its close relationship with the Holy See and warmly welcomes this new engagement with AVEPRO in the process of on-going review of its work and its role in contributing to a viable future for theology in Ireland.

CHAPTER II: TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT

Introduction

The Faculty of Theology has endeavoured to implement the observations and recommendations with regard to the teaching, learning and assessment of theology as outlined in the 2007 Quality Review Report. These quality improvements were enhanced and complimented by the review of programmes conducted at the annual Faculty Day.

Key Developments since Quality Review 2007

Undergraduate Programmes

The key developments in teaching, learning and assessment implemented by the Undergraduate Board since the publication of the last Quality Review can be summarised as follows:

- The alignment of undergraduate programmes with the National Qualifications Framework;
- The redesign of the theology curriculum in the Bachelor of Theology and Arts (BATH);
- The alignment of modules and programmes in accordance with ECTS system;
- The repositioning of Theology in a new subject group in NUIM, giving students an improved choice of subject combinations;
- A review of the modes of assessment and increased weighting of continuous assessment;
- The establishment of an Undergraduate Board with oversight of teaching, learning and assessment of all undergraduate courses and which reports back the Faculty;
- The expansion of affiliated programmes.

The implementation of some of the recommendations of the previous Quality Review in teaching, learning and assessment is still a “work in progress”. Some of the key recommendations to be introduced are:

- The need to create a clear rationale and aims for the Bachelor in Theology that differentiates this course from the Bachelor of Divinity and the Bachelor of Theology and Arts;
- Issues of student retention at the end of the first year of the Bachelor of Arts;
- The provision of the *Diploma Supplement*;
- The possibility of a “Long Essay” or Dissertation in the Bachelor of Divinity course facilitating those students to engage in autonomous and independent research similar to other Faculties of Theology.

Postgraduate Programmes

Since the publication of the last Quality Review the Postgraduate Board:

- Sought to clarify and state the course aims for the Masters in Theology programme;
- Standardised the assessment of modules for the M.Th with a 7,000 word essay for each one;
- Introduced a common module template for Kalendarium including aims, content, bibliography and assessment;
- Mapped the various postgraduate awards in Theology on the NQAI scheme;
- Developed the level of co-operation with the Department of Philosophy in the National University of Ireland, Maynooth with the sharing of postgraduate courses;
- Noted the difference between the M.Th Mode A and Mode B with potential applicants.
- Ensured that STL examination papers are sent to the relevant external examiners;
- Standardised the ‘viva’ examination for the STL thesis;
- Began working on a one year taught Masters programme which will run in the evenings and will not have the language requirements.
- Introduced and has continued to work on the proposal stage of the PhD which is presented to the Faculty after it is examined at the Post Graduate Board. There has been general appreciation of the process and the Faculty feedback by candidates;
- Standardised the procedures for the Viva Examination of the PhD and put in writing.

Faculty of Theology Academic Awards

The Faculty continues to promote theological teaching, learning and assessment in accordance with the principles and norms presented in the Apostolic Constitution *Sapientia Christiana*, the Apostolic Exhortation *Pastores Dabo Vobis*. In line with national and international statutory requirements, aims and standards, the Faculty approves the design and oversees the implementation of the courses listed for each programme in the Kalendarium. The admission requirements for each programme vary and are specified in the Kalendarium.

Undergraduate Programmes

- Baccalaureate in Divinity (BD) – 180 ECTS
- Baccalaureate in Theology and Arts (BATH) – 180 ECTS
- Baccalaureate in Theology (BTh) – 180 ECTS

- Baccalaureate in Philosophy (BPhil) – 180 ECTS
- Diploma in Philosophy and Arts – 120 ECTS
- Diploma in Diaconate Studies – 90 ECTS
- Diploma in Pastoral Theology – 60 ECTS
- Diploma in Biblical and Theological Studies – Limerick – 90 ECTS
- Certificate in Christian Studies – Kilkenny – 30 ECTS
- Certificate in Theological Studies – Kilkenny – 20 ECTS

Postgraduate Programmes

- Licentiate in Divinity (STL) – 120 ECTS
- Doctoral Degree in Divinity (DD)
- Masters Degree in Theology (MTh) - 120 ECTS
- Doctoral Degree in Theology (PhD)
- Masters Degree in Pastoral Theology (MPS) – 120 ECTS
- Masters Degree in Liturgical Music – 120 ECTS

European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System

In accordance with the ‘Bologna Process’ for the reform and development of Higher Education, of which the Holy See and the Irish Government are signatories, the Faculty of Theology has sought to keep delivery of its programmes in line with the recommendations and best practice of the Process as practised by the Irish Universities and in line with the guidance of the Congregation for Catholic Education. All undergraduate courses are presented in accordance with ECTS (‘European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System’).

Each undergraduate programme is a three-year full-time course divided into 5 and 2.5 ECTS modules. Each programme is 180 ECTS. A BATH student must complete and pass theology modules which comprise 20 ECTS in first year before progressing to second and third year. In second and third year, the Theology and Arts components are 30 ECTS respectively. Descriptors of each module’s aims, learning outcomes and credit weighting are found in the Kalendarium. Each module introduces students to the fundamentals of theology, philosophy and scripture as proposed by the Catholic tradition, in dialogue with contemporary thought and employing the best methods of research and teaching.

Academic Awards Aligned with NQF

In 2011, the Faculty of Theology applied to the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland (the NQAI) to have 23 academic awards aligned with the National Framework of Qualifications (the NFQ). (C.f. <http://www.nqai.ie/documents/finalstpatrickscollege.pdf>)

The awards range from level 6-10. This alignment is enabled through the Policies and Criteria for the inclusion in, or alignment with, the National Framework of Qualifications (Framework) of the awards of certain awarding bodies which were adopted by the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland in July 2006, and updated in 2008 (Policies and Criteria for the Inclusion in, or Alignment with, the National Framework of Qualifications of the Awards of Certain Awarding Bodies). These policies are designed to enable the recognition of awards, or learning outcomes associated with awards, of certain awarding bodies which are not already recognised through the Framework. In its policy, three different types of bodies to which the policy applies are identified. The Faculty fitted under Group C: Certain bodies from outside the state which make awards in Ireland.

International Awards, or Group C awards, as identified in the policy are defined as awards made by national awarding bodies from other jurisdictions that have a status in law, or are otherwise recognised as having authority to make awards that have national recognition in their host jurisdiction and whose awards are included in national frameworks or, where such a framework is not in place, in an equivalent national tool for relating qualifications to each other, where such awards are made following the successful completion of programmes by learners in Ireland. Awards which fall within this category can be aligned with the Framework. The alignment of the awards of The Faculty of Theology are undertaken in the context of the verification of the compatibility of the Irish National Framework of Qualifications with the Framework for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area and the proposed Qualifications Framework of the Ecclesiastical Faculties (QFEF) of the Holy See.

Affiliated Programmes

The Faculty of Theology has traditionally enjoyed close links with a range of other higher education institutions and church bodies, which led to the development and recognition of many third level programmes. In recent years, this network has widened to include new partners. Furthermore, contemporary developments at third level education have demanded greater requirements of oversight in policy and procedure. As a result, an Affiliated Programmes Board was established, chaired by a Director of Affiliated Programmes. Answerable to the Faculty, its role is to support and direct the role of the Director as a liaison between the Faculty of Theology and other bodies, with specific regard to the provision of third level courses. The Director acts as a point of contact for the administration of these courses, the on-going oversight of the quality of these courses, and their recognition within the National Quality Framework.

Currently one of the oldest relationships is coming to a conclusion. In order to further its own mission, the Maryvale Institute, Birmingham UK, has developed new links more

conducive to its aims: one year remains in our mutual responsibilities. Much has been learned from this association that is now feeding into the new ties being forged.

A number of new affiliated programmes have been accredited by the Faculty in the last few years. Most of these programmes are overseen by St. Patrick's College but are largely designed and delivered by an affiliated institution: for example, the Diploma in Biblical and Theological Studies in partnership with the Dominican Biblical Institute in Limerick. Others have been designed by the Faculty of Theology and are delivered out by locally around the country, as is the Diploma in Diaconate Studies in partnership with a number of dioceses. Others still have been developed with other third level institutions but are delivered on campus, such as the Diploma in Catholic Education in partnership with the University of Notre Dame (USA).

Vitally, structures are continually being developed to ensure the quality of these courses for the benefit of the students that partake in them. For example, well-established courses such as the Higher Diploma in Counselling in partnership with ACCORD (Catholic Marriage Care Service) is presently undergoing its own internal quality assurance review.

The network of affiliates not only facilitates the building of relationships of St. Patrick's College within the third-level sector but also beyond traditional domains. Indicative of this is the accrediting of a Diploma in Christian Studies in partnership with the United Diocese of Cashel and Ossory of the Church of Ireland. At the same time, the network helps to advance the mission of St. Patrick's College. To this end, it is envisaged that the network will continue to develop and deepen. Conversations are underway with a number of interested parties to develop programmes in the coming years.

Affiliated Programmes:

- Diploma in Diaconate Studies, Regional
- BA Divinity, Maryvale Institute, Birmingham UK
- Diploma in Biblical and Theological Studies, Dominican Biblical Institute, Limerick
- Higher Diploma in Marriage Counselling, Accord, Columba Centre, Maynooth
- Certificate in Marriage Preparation, Accord, Columa Centre, Maynooth
- Diploma in Catholic Education, in partnership with the University of Notre Dame
- Certificate in Theological Studies, Ossory Roman Catholic Diocese
- Certificate in Christian Studies, United Diocese of Cashel and Ossory, Church of Ireland

Curriculum Design

The curriculum design is overseen by the Undergraduate Board and is underpinned by the following objectives:

- To impart to students a profound knowledge of the subject matter, enabling the student to appreciate the inherent unity and harmony of the entire doctrine of the faith and form a personal synthesis of each discipline and of the science of theology as a whole;
- To awaken in students an interest in theology and an enduring love for it;
- To enable students to critically evaluate and interpret contemporary culture in the light of Christian tradition;
- To qualify students to the highest professional standards for teaching and ministry;
- To equip students for on-going education and research in theology at post-graduate level.

Bachelor of Arts and Theology

In the 2007 Quality Review Report, the Peer Reviewers had the impression that a disproportionate amount of the Faculty's teaching, resources and focus was directed to the Bachelor of Divinity programme at the expense of the BATH which was the biggest cohort of the undergraduate students. The 2007 Quality Review Report highlighted the need for the Faculty to articulate a rationale and aims for the Bachelor of Theology and Arts that differentiated it from the Bachelor of Divinity and the Bachelor of Theology. Prior to 2007, all three undergraduate programmes had a significant number of modules in common.

The Reviewers recommended that BATH course should be designed to offer what best suited that particular cohort of students. The content of the BATH programme should be appropriate to their academic requirements and be cognizant of the fact that the majority were school leavers. The Bachelor in Divinity, on the otherhand, is a postgraduate degree, it requires for admission at least two years philosophical formation or another undergraduate degree. The Reviewers were of the opinion that these two distinct degree programmes should reflect the different points these students are at in their academic trajectories, notwithstanding other positive benefits of the two student groups sharing classes. Subsequently, the Undergraduate Board initiated a review of the curriculum of the Bachelor of Theology and Arts to be phased in over three years (2009-2011) beginning with the first year of the degree in 2009 and subject to an annual review.

BATH Phase 1: 2009-2010

The new curriculum was introduced to first year BATH comprised of:

- Reading and Writing Theology – 2.5 ECTS

- Christianity and World Religions – 2.5 ECTS
- Introduction to Christianity – 2.5 ECTS
- On Being Christian Together – 2.5 ECTS
- Moral Theology: An Introduction – 2.5 ECTS
- Issues in Contemporary Ethics – 2.5 ECTS
- Readings in Scripture – 2.5 ECTS
- Jewish Roots of Christian Faith – 2.5 ECTS

In addition, a first year student took two Arts subjects from the following six subject groups in NUIM amounting to 40 ECTS:

1. Philosophy (available in first year only), Biology (available in first year only), Law (available in first year only)
2. Business, Greek, History
3. English, Mathematical Studies
4. Anthropology, Nua-Ghaeilge
5. Economics, Latin
6. Sociology, Music, Spanish
7. French, Greek and Roman Civilisation, Medieval Irish and Celtic Studies, Mathematical Physics

BATH Phase 2: 2010-2011

The Undergraduate Board made no changes to the revised first year theology programme. However, the high number 2.5 ECTS modules was noted and the Board raised the question of introducing a mixture of 5 ECTS and 2.5 ECTS modules the following year for pedagogical reasons. The Reading and Writing Theology module which was 100% assessed by continuous assessment had a significant failure rate. It was decided to maintain the new modules for the coming year and monitor student feedback and examination results before reviewing the revised curriculum.

The most significant change that year was the repositioning of Theology into a new subject group in NUIM. This enabled students to combine theology with a new range of new subject choices which were a more natural fit with theology, for example, Philosophy for three years (until now only possible in first year) and Law. These new combinations were also attractive for teaching, the most significant career choice from many graduates of the Bachelor of Theology and Arts, for example, German and Geography.

The same year (2010) witnessed the introduction of a new curriculum for second year theology. The modules aimed to reflect a wider spectrum of theological fields that had a

long and strong tradition in the faculty and that were not offered to students of the Bachelor of Arts before now, for example, Pastoral Theology, Ecclesiastical History, Canon Law. Furthermore, noting the concerns of all 2.5 modules in first theology the Undergraduate Board introduced more balance between 5 and 2.5 ECTS modules. The new modules were:

- The God of Jesus Christ – 5 ECTS
- Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Dialogue – 2.5 ECTS
- Christian Discipleship – 5 ECTS
- Jesus and his God in the Gospel of Mark – 2.5 ECTS
- Prophetic Literature of the Old Testament – 5 ECTS
- The Church at Prayer – 2.5 ECTS
- History of Christianity – 2.5 ECTS
- Beginning Pastoral Theology – 2.5 ECTS
- Christian Faith and Culture – 2.5 ECTS

In second year, Bachelor of Theology and Arts students drop one of their Arts subjects. In second and third year of the BATH, theology and Arts comprise of 30 ECTS each.

BATH Phase 3: 2011-2012

In 2011, the Faculty, having noted the student and staff feedback, examination results and reflected on the appropriateness of Reading and Writing Theology module replaced it with an expanded 5 ECTS module on the popular Christianity and World Religions module. There was also significant positive feedback to the repositioning of Theology into a new subject group.

The third phase of the new curriculum was introduced to third years:

- Christian Anthropology – 5 ECTS
- The Demands of Justice – 5 ECTS
- Fundamental Moral Revisited – 2.5 ECTS
- Paul: Rabbi, Convert, Apostle and Pastor – 5 ECTS
- God and Suffering – 2.5 ECTS
- Christian Sacraments – 5 ECTS
- Law in Church, World Religions and Society – 2.5 ECTS
- Elective – 2.5 ECTS (Major Essay; Holy Land Trip; Religious Education in Secondary School; Social Ethics, Development and the Common Good). Students were also free to take a biblical language or Latin as an elective.

After completing the three year phase-in of the new curriculum, the Undergraduate Board reviewed some aspect of the course after noting feedback from students and staff. The principal amendments were made to the first year curriculum. The Undergraduate Board concluded that the course was too fragmented with 2.5 ECTS modules and amalgamated some modules into one for greater coherency and content. The two modules in moral theology were combined into one new module: Engaging Ethical Dilemmas – 5 ECTS; the two scripture modules were joined to create: Introduction to the Bible and its Worlds – 5 ECTS.

In third year of the BATH, it was agreed to give students more choice in the modules they choose, similar to subjects in the NUIM. For this reason, the number of electives in third year was expanded to two.

Bachelor of Divinity

The Bachelor in Divinity is a comprehensive theological degree which also meets the requirements of priestly formation. It is a three-year canonical degree. In accordance with the Apostolic Constitution *Sapientia Christiana* art. 72: “The curriculum of studies of a Faculty of Sacred Theology comprises: a) the first cycle, fundamentals, which lasts for five years or ten semesters, or else, when a previous two - year philosophy course is an entrance requirement, for three years. Besides a solid philosophical formation, which is a necessary propaedeutic for theological studies, the theological disciplines must be taught in such a way that what is presented is an organic exposition of the whole of Catholic doctrine, together with an introduction to theological scientific methodology.”

Since the 2007 Quality Review Report, the Faculty has structured the BD in line with 180 ECTS requirement of first cycle in the Bologna Process. This was introduced in the academic year 2011-12. Prior to this, the modules in any year of the BD exceeded 60 ECTS. The majority of students registered for the BD are preparing for ordained ministry.

The main revision undertaken by the Undergraduate Board was a comprehensive review of the content of each module by each subject department (i.e. Systematic, Moral, Scripture, etc). In response to feedback by students, the number of essays and tutorials was also reviewed. The final oral comprehensive examination was discontinued and some homiletic modules were relocated to pastoral formation. Instead of the previous requirement that Honours BD students study Greek and Hebrew, the option of doing two of three theological languages (Hebrew, Greek and Latin) was introduced. Students may also progress to advance levels of these languages instead of another elective. In addition, modules now stand alone when being assessed rather than being calculated by subject area (Systematic).

Bachelor of Theology

The main concern of the 2007 Quality Review Report was that the Bachelor of Theology was a hybrid of the BD and BATH, and was not clearly differentiated from those

programmes in terms of its aims or rationale. While the Undergraduate Board has reflected on this recommendation, this is still a work in progress.

Similar to the other two programmes, the BTh has been structured in line with 180 ECTS requirement of first cycle in the Bologna Process. The twenty credit philosophy component in first year is unique to this programme. Much of the BTh programme shares modules in common with the BD or the BATH. There have been efforts to provide modules that are specific to the BTh, such as Christian Classics in first year. However, because of the small cohort of students who register for the BTh, it is difficult to resource many BTh specific courses. BTh students take elective modules to complete the required credits in line with a more flexible and freer modular system. The BTh qualifies students to progress to second-cycle degrees of the Pontifical University here and elsewhere.

The Faculty still needs to reflect more on clarifying the rationale, programme aims and objectives for the BTh. One possibility is to open the BTh as an omnibus theological degree (similar to the omnibus Arts degree). In addition to a small number of core modules, students could choose from within the wide range of module options in the BD, BATH and Philosophy (delivered both in the Pontifical and NUIM). Another proposal is to develop a BTh *Add-On Mode*, particularly for part-time / mature students who could build up their credits over a number of years. These proposals require further consideration.

Postgraduate Awards

Design of the post-graduate curriculum is supervised by the Postgraduate Board. The aim of the general Masters in Theology is to provide an overview of the discipline of theology and to deepen the students' undergraduate study of the discipline. The more specialised programmes in Pastoral Theology, Pastoral Liturgy and Liturgical Music, are by definition both formational and theoretical focusing on particular areas of the theological enterprise. The STL, PHD and DD by definition are specialised explorations of an area in theology.

While students eventually specialise in one particular area (systematic, moral or scripture), the Faculty has continued to insist that the Masters programme be an overall theological one. Depending on the years students go through the programme some areas of theology may be omitted e.g. Patristics, Canon Law but overall all sections of theology are covered. While some students find the classical theological languages (Hebrew, Greek and Latin) difficult at the start, there is general agreement about the usefulness of studying them. The specialised Masters have a clear aim in terms of both practice and knowledge that are matched by the format and the content of their programmes. The Masters in Theology fulfils its aim of deepening the student's knowledge of the Theology not just through study but also enabling students to engage in personal work and research at a more advanced level than during their undergraduate studies. Module offerings are changed on a regular basis and are closely linked to the research interests of the Faculty member leading the module.

Admission to post-graduate studies is open to motivated and disciplined students who have attained honours standard in their under-graduate studies. The specific admission requirements for each of the post-graduate programmes are found in the Kalendarium.

Each post-graduate programme has its own unique structure and the details are outlined in the Kalendarium; however, they can be broadly summarized as follows:

- The Higher Diploma in Theological Studies is a one-year taught programme part-time. The programme aims to give a foundation in Theological Studies to students who hold a primary degree in another discipline. It is recognized by the Department of Education and Skills as entitling qualified teachers to teach up to 15 hours Religious Education per week in a voluntary secondary school. Graduates of the programme can progress into the two year MTh programme or the new One Year Masters in *Christianity, Human Rights and Society* (from September 2013).
- The STL comprises three reading courses in theology; six seminar courses listed in the Kalendarium; and a minor dissertation (25,000-30,000 words) under the direction of a member of the Faculty.
- There are two methods of obtaining an MTh:
 - Mode A involves a one-year course of full-time study and a minor thesis (25,000-30,000 words);
 - Mode B is by a major thesis only (40,000 words).
- The MPS is a two year programme. The first year is a taught programme with a practical placement experience. The second year includes one unit of CPE, seminars and dissertation.
- The Masters Degree in Liturgical Music is a joint academic and practice-based programme which qualifies holders to undertake posts as organists, cantors, or directors of music at parish or diocesan level. The programme runs over two years with course work, theoretical and practical musical training and a minor thesis.
- The DD is awarded by dissertation.
- A PhD is awarded after at least three years of study and a doctoral dissertation.

The programme of post-graduate studies at Licentiate and Masters level aims:

- To demonstrate a student's capacity for in-depth and sustained specialist guided research and writing;
- To broaden a candidate's range of theological and cultural reference;
- To perfect a student's methodological awareness and practice so as to be able to present research in a scientific and professional manner.

At the end of a successfully completed course of Licentiate or Masters studies the student will have the theological competence to teach theology at any undergraduate and post-

graduate levels up to and including Masters as part of a canonical or non-canonical degree.

The Doctoral programme aims:

- To engage a candidate in substantial and original research demonstrating originality and independence of thought;
- To produce a written work that makes a notable contribution to the theological sciences, and capable of being published in whole or in part.

Candidates who have completed their Doctorate will be leaders in the area of theological research and debate, eligible to teach in third level academic institutions, as well as being highly qualified for appointment to catechetical/pastoral roles with dioceses and religious orders.

Student Feedback

The overwhelming majority of students across undergraduate and postgraduate programmes surveyed found ('always' / 'mostly') the delivery of courses content corresponded to the learning outcomes listed in module descriptors. Similarly, students responded ('always' / 'mostly') that teaching / lecture material was appropriate for the learning outcomes of modules.

The vast majority of the postgraduate students marked their workload as manageable ('always' / 'mostly' / 'reasonable'). The undergraduate picture is more nuanced and they were also responding to a question that compared their workload to their Arts subject. The BATH cohort a significant majority found the workload manageable ('always' / 'mostly' / 'reasonable') with most comments indicating that the study of theology compares favourably to the Arts workload. Some commented on the need for a more even regulation of the workload with regard to essay deadlines rather than towards the end of the semester and examination preparation. Some students stated, however, that they found theology demanding and the readings excessive. This may reflect more on student ability.

The BTh students' responses were more mixed with three of the eight sampled indicating the workload was 'excessive'. They pointed to the weekly tutorials, the readings, and essay deadlines clashing with examination preparation. This is something the Faculty will have to examine more.

Almost all the Bachelor of Divinity students responded that their workload was 'manageable'.

Teaching

Undergraduate

All undergraduate modules are delivered by a highly qualified and committed full-time Faculty members supported by a small number of part-time staff through a combination of lectures, tutorials, seminars, assignments, class quizzes, essays and Moodle. Modules are divided into two categories:

- 5ECTS modules in addition to 24 lectures also have 3 tutorials and an essay;
- 2.5 ECTS modules have 12 lectures no tutorials.

A Student Mentor meets with students during the term to enquire how the student is engaging with the lecture material and examinations, and help students, particularly first years, resolve any difficulties that they are encountering with managing deadlines and specific learning needs. The Student Mentor reports back any urgent or serious problems to the Registrar or the relevant lecturer.

Through the Student Disability Office, confidential *Learning and Academic Needs Reports* are circulated to staff which give precise details regarding lectures, tutorials and examination requirements for students who access this service. Each Faculty member ensures that their tutors are aware of any specific academic assistance that any student in their tutorial ought to have.

Seminars and tutorials are important vehicles in effective delivery of a course. Seminars are understood as group learning led by a staff member in order to progress module learning outcomes. Tutorials are lead by postgraduates and are essentially group discussion and revision of material learned in class. Both seminars and tutorials enhance the students' understanding of the material covered in the lectures by providing them with a forum in which various difficulties and questions they encounter in the course of the lectures can be discussed and teased out. Students are encouraged to participate actively in their seminar and tutorial groups and, to facilitate such participation, students are asked, on a rota basis, to make brief presentations to the group to which they belong. To incentivise attendance and participation, tutorials constitute a small percentage of continuous assessment.

The infrastructure supports the delivery of courses with large lecture halls and smaller rooms for seminars and tutorials which more than adequately accommodate the programmes the Faculty offers. In recent years these lecture halls and rooms have been renovated with up-to-date audio-visual resources, such as power-point projectors, internet access, Wi-Fi, to ensure effective and innovative delivery of courses for those equipped to use them.

The next Faculty day in May is being dedicated to the theme of Teaching at Third Level. Dr Rose Dolan from the Education Department in NUIM and Sarah O'Regan from the Teaching and Learning Centre NUIM will be among those who will be giving inputs. The aim of the inputs is to members of the Faculty to explore new teaching methodologies

and technologies at third level. Emphasis will also be given to e-learning and resources that are already available in the University.

Postgraduate

In all postgraduate courses there is a mixture of large and small group teaching, seminar work and guided reading. There is a dedicated postgraduate room and kitchen in Dunboyne with computer and study facilities. Teaching takes place in rooms that are suitable for smaller groups. Each room is equipped with new technology and seminar rooms are well laid out. At postgraduate level students are encouraged to be responsible for their own learning and are expected to present their own reading, work and research in the various forums of seminars and courses. It is to be hoped that the various in-service training provided for staff members does lead to new teaching techniques. Of particular importance at the postgraduate level is the interaction between supervisor and student in the elaboration of the thesis and the various steps along the way of this project. Students are encouraged to keep regular contact with their supervisor.

Assessing Student Learning

Undergraduate Assessment

Students at all levels of undergraduate programmes are assessed by a combination of examination, essay and continuous assessment.

Examinations

The Faculty of Theology has sought to maintain parity with the standards of the Irish University system in grading student examinations and awarding degrees. Accordingly, it uses the following bands: Pass – 40%; Second Class Honours Grade 2 – 50-59%; Second Class Honours Grade 1 – 60-69%; First Class Honours 70% and upwards. All examinations, essays and continuous assessments are graded according to the grade scales outlined in the Kalendarium 61-62 and a revised copy for next year's Kalendarium is found in the Appendix.

The undergraduate programmes are divided into three years of study. The pass mark in Theology as a subject is 40%. The mark is the weighted average of the most recent marks of the modules that constitute the programme of study for that year in question. The pass mark in a year of study (Theology and Arts combined) is 40%. The year mark is the weighted average of the most recent marks of the subjects involved. In order to progress to the next year of study a student must achieve the pass mark and fulfil all the requirements of the modules in the current year of study as stated in the module description in the Kalendarium, and in addition obtain 40% in the module. Continuous assessment is factored into the modular result. BD Honours students must also pass examinations in two of the following languages: Biblical Greek, Hebrew or Ecclesiastical Latin.

The Faculty of Theology at its February 2013 meeting approved the possibility of a student passing by compensation in Theology under the following criteria:

- a) If they have achieved at least 35% in the failed module;
- b) If they have an average of 40% in their combined modules including the failed module;
- c) the compensation applies to one module only per academic year

This amendment was approved in light of discussions with NUIM colleagues at previous Examination Board Meetings and to ensure that students experience consistency in the marks, standards and grades in both SPCM and NUIM. A proposal that will allow third year students to 'repeat for betterment' has been referred to the Faculty by the Undergraduate Board. It is expected that this proposal will be adopted to begin from the next academic year.

Students who fail to pass a year of a programme must repeat all of the modules that they failed or suitable substitute modules. These may be repeated at the autumn examinations or repeat internally or externally in a subsequent year if the module is still on offer. Where a student repeats in the Autumn, the continuous assessment is normally carried over from the Spring / Summer module for incorporation in the final result if it is considered advantageous to the student. The Faculty may discontinue or alter modules in subsequent years. In such cases, the Registrar identifies an appropriate module to substitute for the failed module. A failed optional module can be substituted by another optional module.

Repeating students are examined on the content of the module of the current academic year. No examination papers are prepared based on content more than one year old. Lecturers will endeavor to accommodate 'external repeat' students by the provision of alternative questions where the content of the module may have altered significantly.

First semester results are provisional results. An indicative grade is given to the student at that point. Where a student fails to present for a Spring/Summer Examination in a module, a judgement of 'Absent' is recorded for that module. 'Absent' is counted as an attempt at an examination.

Essays

A lecturer has the option in a 2.5 credit module to set an essay in place of an examination for assessment (e.g. SC 237, EH 242, EH 281, PT 101, 301, 302, EL 286, 292, RC 301). Modules that are examined substantially by means of an essay or equivalent may allow (re-)submission for the Autumn exam of that essay by a deadline determined by the Registrar. The title for the repeat essay is circulated with the Summer results.

Continuous Assessment

Continuous assessment is comprised of essay, tutorial attendance and participation. It may account for up to 30% of the total mark. The percentage of continuous assessment is stated in the module descriptor. The Undergraduate Board is recommending to the Faculty that continuous assessment may account for up to 40% of the total mark.

Every five credit module requires an essay or module paper (1500 words) or equivalent. The dates for the submission of essays and other written work in each semester is posted by the Dean, after approval by the Faculty, during the first week of each semester. This essay is prepared in accordance with the Faculty's guidelines for essay presentation. The grade of the essay forms a significant part of the continuous assessment mark which, as stated above, is factored into the modular result. A student may apply for an extension of the essay submission date in which case no penalties apply.

The Faculty has essay extension request procedures in place. If an essay extension was not sought or granted or if the extension date was not honoured, the following penalties are applied. In the event that an essay is up to one week late 10% deducted from the mark awarded. If the essay is submitted up to two weeks late 20% is deducted from the mark awarded. The lecturer responsible for a particular module has, in mitigating circumstances, discretion in applying the penalties outlined above. A student is always free to approach the Registrar to discuss any difficulties in relation to making submission dates and the application of penalties.

In addition to assessment by examinations and essays, students are awarded a mark on the basis of both attendance and participation in the tutorials in Systematic Theology, Moral Theology and Sacred Scripture, which are provided as an integral part of each year of each undergraduate programme. The grade for seminar attendance and participation forms a part of the continuous assessment mark.

Members of staff are available during listed office hours to provide feedback on essays and written work. Essay marks are communicated to students together with such comments that might be useful in promoting an improvement in student learning and achievement.

The Undergraduate Board has recently recommended a standardised course evaluation questionnaire which Faculty members are encouraged, but are not required, to distribute at the end of a module in order to give students the opportunity to communicate to staff members how courses have been received. This practice, to date, has been left to the initiative of Subject Departments. There is general agreement that this practice serves a useful and formative purpose. The Faculty needs to reflect on how best to process the student feedback.

Transfer Students

Students transferring from other recognised universities or third level institutions may receive credit for work done in the other institution, in accordance with the credit value of

the work done and its relevance to the programme they wish to pursue at the Pontifical University.

Postgraduate

Each postgraduate programme has its own specific assessment:

- The STL is assessed on:
 - The Scriptum (Dissertation)
 - Examinations on the selected Areas in Theology
 - Seminar Courses
 - Oral Examination
- The DD is assessed by Public Examination which is comprised of:
 - A lecture by the candidate for a half-hour on the topic, arguments and conclusions of the dissertation
 - An hour long defence of the dissertation against objections
 - An examination for a half-hour on nine propositions chosen by the candidate and approved by the Council of the Faculty
 - A vote of the Faculty to award the DD and on the mark (which is not communicated to the candidate)
 - Publication of the dissertation, or a substantial part thereof, before the conferral of the DD.
- The MTh Mode A is assessed by course work and dissertation. Course work amounts to 60% of the final mark, the remainder being awarded for a dissertation (25,000-30,000) words.
- The MTh Mode B is assessed by dissertation only (40,000 words).
- The MPS is assessed by course work, placement (70%) and dissertation (30%).
- The PhD is assessed on the basis of the doctoral dissertation.

There is an element of external assessment of all postgraduate degrees. The external assessor is chosen for his or her competence in the area of the dissertation. He or she assesses the thesis, submits a written report and in the case of the STL, DD and PhD degrees, is a member of the board at the viva or defence.

Reports are requested from external examiners who also attend meetings of the Departments and the Faculty on their visits to Maynooth. Regular student evaluation is requested on the conclusion of a particular module. Student progress is monitored at the annual Examination Board meetings.

Both written examinations and essay requirements in the courses are clearly outlined in the Kalendarium. Feedback is provided to students and there are further possibilities of

consultation with staff members. The weighting of the courses and the thesis is also noted in the Kalendarium.

Student Feedback

BATh students expressed satisfaction about the handouts, PowerPoint bibliographies that are distributed in each course. A repeated and almost unanimous observation for a more consistent use of Moodle by staff was expressed in the feedback. While there was very positive feedback about the use of Moodle, students expect Moodle and PowerPoint to be used to some degree by all staff.

Information about modules, continuous assessment, essays, quizzes, timetables and examinations scored high (very clear / clearly). However, some BATh students felt that information about the organization of tutorials was less than clear. The tutorials and tutors were highly rated by students as an opportunity to engage more deeply with course work, allowed a safe environment to voice opinions, debate issues and prepare for examinations. Indeed, some students expressed the desire for more tutorials and that more marks be given for tutorial work in continuous assessment. BATh students also rated tutorial highly. BD students raised the issue of better communication around the organization of tutorials, they expressed high satisfaction for the tutorials themselves.

A regular feature of the feedback was the student recognition and appreciation of the quality of the teaching staff, their course content and their approachability. Students expressed consistently high levels of positive feedback of the support they receive from their teachers and single it out as one of the strengths of the theology programme. The depth and range of the programme was mentioned as well as the smaller size of classes which was identified as positive experience of learning. The sense of a learning 'community' was valued by students.

Information for Students

Kalendarium

Course outlines covering details of each programme are published by the Faculty each year and are available to staff and students in the annual Kalendarium which is published before the commencement of the academic year. In addition, each lecturer distributes a specific course outline, information and bibliography in handout form at the beginning of each module. The Kalendarium and course outlines are updated on an annual basis to ensure that they reflect accurately the actual course being taught that year.

At the beginning of the descriptor of each module in the Kalendarium the student is provided with the following information: (a) the aims and learning outcomes of a module are stated; (b) the outline of the indicative syllabus develops how these aims and learning outcomes will be achieved; (c) the time allowance for lectures and private study; (d) the forms of assessment and the allocation of the percentage of marks for formal examinations and continuous assessment.

Class Handouts

For some courses complete sets of notes summarizing the whole course, set textbooks and other required reading are included in the initial bibliography circulated to students. More complete bibliographies are made available in course. For other courses, selected extracts from relevant texts, and/or copies of articles, and/or lecturers' notes on selected topics or lectures are handed out to students at appropriate stages of the delivery of the course. The Faculty will give further reflection to how best ensure that handouts are standardised and appropriate. The requirement of hardcopy handouts is diminishing with the greater use of Moodle.

Notice Boards

The time-table and location of lectures are distributed to students and posted on all notice boards on the campus of the Pontifical University at the beginning of the semester. This information is always available to students in the Theology Office and on the updated website. Essay titles and deadlines are decided by each department and are communicated by the lecturer and posted on the notice board. In addition, staff members post their office hours for meeting students on notice boards.

Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)

The Faculty of Theology uses a VLE called Moodle, and we are currently using Moodle version 2.2. Every taught module automatically has its own Moodle space and each lecturer can choose how to use this space. Moodle spaces can also be made available for other teaching purposes or for learning support. The NUIM Teaching and Learning Centre offers help with training and support. All staff and students have automatic access to Moodle. Other e-learning resources available to the Faculty is Turnitin. The NUIM Teaching and Learning Centre is an important resource in e-learning which the Faculty is fortunately able to call on. The Faculty Day 2013 is dedicated to Teaching at Third Level and the Director of Teaching and Learning and the eLearning Development Officer will both give an input.

Essay Feedback Sheets

A standardised Essay Feedback Sheet is returned with every assessed essay. This enables staff to give feedback in a consistent manner and identify for students areas that require attention.

Student Mentor

Student Mentor meets all first year students to check-in on their progress and how well they are settling into the third level experience and especially how well they are doing in their study of theology. Students who experience difficulties in their end of semester examinations are invited to meet with the Student Mentor to identify supports and assistance. In the event that those students do not make contact with the Student Mentor, she is asked to make contact with them. The Student Mentor is introduced to students

during Orientation Week and invited to contact her at anytime if they feel they need to any guidance about learning supports or resources.

Consultation Day

On receipt of their examination results, all students are notified of the Consultation Day after both first and second semester examinations for reviewing queries they may have concerning their examination answers and results. The Consultation Days have been very well attended and receiving very positive feedback from students and staff alike.

Website

The University website is unsatisfactory. The President is currently in on-going discussion with service providers. There are a number of shortcomings and lacuna in the website compounded by the various dimensions of College identity which the current website model tries to cover inadequately. This is a matter of urgency given the website as window to the Faculty for potential students.

Theology Office e-mail and text

Since 2011 a text-alert system is in place for students regarding any unforeseen changes to timetables or important events from the Theology Office.

Student Representatives

Student Representatives attend the monthly Faculty Meeting where Student Business is a permanent item on the agenda. Students do not attend when examination business is discussed.

Course Evaluation and Appraisal

External Examiners

The Faculty appoints external examiners to Systematic Theology, Moral Theology, Sacred Scripture, Liturgy, Canon Law and Ecclesiastical History. They are appointed for a three-year term, renewable once. These external examiners follow the National Universities guidelines of examining a sample of exam papers from the higher, middle and lower range of marks. They can also be called upon to adjudicate in special or difficult cases. The external examiners are invited to attend the end of year Examination Board Meeting. Although the external examiner does not offer comments on course content, a staff member can seek the advice or comment of the external examiner. The Faculty deeply appreciates the invaluable contribution its external examiners make to course assessments by their helpful advice and observations.

Module Evaluation Sheets

The Faculty has adopted a standardised module evaluation sheet to ensure to monitor that learning aims and outcomes are being achieved, the competence of the module deliverer

and the quality of the teaching. Students are asked to identify both positive and negative aspects of the module as well as evaluating their own engagement with the module.

Student Prizes

The Faculty also awards special prizes to students who receive the highest mark in their class year or in specific disciplines. The evolution of these prizes weights them in favour of the BD students. The development of a more equitable awards system is recommended which reflects the proportion of non-clerical students.

The special prizes are:

- The Third Divinity Prize
- The Second Divinity Prize
- The First Divinity Prize
- The BATH Prize
- The Pontifical Mission Societies Prize in First Divinity
- The FitzPatrick Prize in Canon Law (Third Divinity)
- The Cunningham Prize in Canon Law (Second Divinity)
- The Biblical Greek Prize
- The Peter Kenny Prize in Ecclesiastical History (BD or BTh)
- The Archbishop McNamara Memorial Prize (Higher Diploma in Pastoral Theology)
- The Marsh Prize (Third Year BATH Dogma)
- The Daughters of Charity Prize (Diploma in Philosophy and Arts)
- The Cardinal McIntyre Prize in Homiletics

Undergraduate Board Monitoring

The Undergraduate Board monitors feedback from staff and students and examination results with the purpose of ensuring the beneficial and effective delivery of modules that are relevant to the overall programme learning aims and outcomes, as well as being engaging for students. After reviewing student and staff feedback a module can be reorganized or replaced.

CHAPTER III: GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT & ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION

The Statutes of the Pontifical University (*Section III: The Academic Community and its Government*) outline the governance of the Pontifical University, its lines of management, identifies the principal officers of the Faculty of Theology and clearly outlines their specific responsibilities with regard to the academic administration within the Faculty.

Governance

The Trustees

The Pontifical University is governed by the Trustees, a body corporate in canon and civil law (art. 7.1). The Trustees are the Trustees of the College of Maynooth, a corporate body so named in an Act of Parliament in 1845 (8 and 9 Vic., c.25) (art.1.2). The Trustees are comprised of the seventeen most senior bishops of the Irish Episcopal Conference.

The Trustees are presided over by the bishop who is first in precedence (art. 7.2). This is normally the Archbishop of Armagh. In the event that the Archbishop of Dublin is also a Cardinal and the Archbishop of Armagh does not have the same title, then the former is the bishop who is first in precedence.

The Trustees hold two ordinary meetings each year. On the written direction of the Chairperson, the Secretary can summon an extra-ordinary meeting. Nine Trustees constitute a quorum. The Trustees select from their number Visitors comprising of the four Archbishops ex officio and four other bishops elected each year. The Visitors meet about a month before the Trustees meet “to inspect all that pertains to its academic, moral and economic affairs, and report to the Trustees (art 8.2).

The Chancellor

The Chairman of the Trustees is also the Chancellor. The Chancellor represents the Holy See to the University and the University to the Holy See. It is the right and duty of the Chancellor:

- To support the mission of the University and ensure Catholic doctrine is preserved in its integrity and the Statutes implemented;
- To promote good relations between staff members and also to foster communion between the University and the local Church;
- To propose to the Congregation of Catholic Education the name of the President for confirmation and the names of academic staff for whom a *Nihil Obstat* is petitioned;
- To received the Profession of Faith of the President;

- To confer and withdraw from teachers permission to teach;
- To inform the Congregation for Catholic Education about matters of importance and submit a triennial report on the academic, moral and economic state of the University;
- To sign academic awards;
- To request from the Holy See the *Nihil obstat* for those for whom the University wishes to confer honorary doctoral degrees.

Staff Feedback

In the SWOT analysis a number of staff raised governance as an area of ‘weakness’, in that there is no active interest by the Trustees in the broader mission of the Faculty and the place of theology in Ireland of third level. A perceived ‘threat’ for the Faculty was the disengagement by Trustees who show no interest in the wider University experience and whose primary interest was limited to the clerical and seminary constituency. While some effort has been made to address this issue since the 2007 Quality Report, no progress has been achieved. A proposed solution is the creation of a Governing Authority which would oversee strategic planning and its implementation.

Management

The President

The President is appointed by the Trustees, with the confirmation of the Congregation for Catholic Education. He is appointed for a term of five years renewable once only consecutively, as the Trustees see fit. The qualities of the President are listed in article 13.4. The President has the right to convene and preside over the meetings of the Council of the Faculty (The Faculty).

The President ensures the regulations of the Holy See and the Statutes of the University are observed. Among his other duties are:

- To direct, promote and coordinate the activity of the academic community;
- To encourage, facilitate the ongoing academic and professional formation of teachers;
- To be the representative of the University;
- To supervise the administration of temporalities;
- To supervise studies and conduct of students and to impose fitting sanctions on those who may have transgressed;
- To receive, in the name of the Chancellor, the Profession of Faith and Oath of Fidelity of those who are teaching in the areas of faith and morals;

- To refer more important matters to the Chairman of the Trustees, or to him in his capacity as Chancellor;
- To send every year a statistical summary, according to the prescribed form, to the Congregation for Catholic Education.

Academic Administration

The Monthly Faculty Meeting

The Council of the Faculty consists of the President, the Dean, professors and permanent lecturers in the Faculty. Other teachers may be invited by the faculty to attend its meetings and have such rights of attendance and voting as the Council shall assign them. They cannot vote on appointments or promotions.

The Faculty of Theology meets on the first Tuesday of every month during the academic year. It also meets on other occasions to deal with examination results or other pressing business. The President presides over the Faculty meetings. A special meeting of the Faculty can be convened by the President, or in his absence the Dean (*Statutes* articles 14.2; 16.2). All fulltime teaching staff are members of the Faculty and two student representatives attend the meetings of the Faculty. The responsibilities of the Faculty are listed in article 17 of the *Statutes* to:

- Make arrangements for teaching and research in the various disciplines of the Faculty;
- Decide matters concerning studies and discipline in the Faculty, without prejudice to the authority of the Trustees;
- Admit or exclude students;
- Make provision for matters concerning examinations and the awarding of degrees and diplomas;
- Draw up Faculty regulations as necessary within such general guidelines as may be approved by the Trustees;
- Communicate to the Trustees, in the manner set out in article 33, its opinion on the merits of candidates for professorships or lecturers in the Faculty;
- Suggest candidates for honorary degree.

The President

Article 14 of the *Statutes* state that it is the right and duty of the President to direct, promote and co-ordinate the activity of the academic community (article 14.1.3). In addition, he is to encourage and facilitate the ongoing academic and professional formation of teachers (article 14.1.4).

Dean

The Faculty elects one of its members to the office of Dean of the Faculty who, having been confirmed by the Trustees, holds office for a three-year term. He is eligible for re-appointment but only for a second consecutive term (article 18). The responsibilities of the Dean are outlined in article 19 of the *Statutes*. The principal duties of the Dean are to promote and co-ordinate the activities of the Faculty, especially in matters concerning studies. In the absence of the President, the Dean convokes the Faculty and presides over its meetings. The post of Dean is unremunerated. In practical terms, the duties of the Dean include the following:

- Overseeing the day-to-day running of the Faculty in consultation with its officials, especially the Registrar, the Director of Postgraduate Studies and the staff of the Theology Office;
- Overseeing, in consultation with the members of the Academic staff, the production of the annual Kalendarium of Courses;
- Representing the Faculty, where appropriate or when no alternative provision has been made, in academic matters with other academic bodies (e.g. NUIM);
- Interviewing applicants for degree programmes of the Faculty where this is an established part of the application process (e.g. mature students, applicants from other colleges);
- Chairing of the Committee of Discipline in accordance with the practice of the College's 'Disciplinary Code for Students';
- Attending with the Registrar and Director of Postgraduate Studies, the regular meetings of the Inter-Institutional Committee of NUIM and the Faculty;
- Circulating relevant information to other members of the Faculty and / or teaching staff.

Registrar

The Trustees appoint a Registrar of the Faculty for a term determined by them. This term is currently five years. The functions of the Registrar are specified in article 20.2 of the *Statutes*. The Registrar is to:

- Promote the interests of the University and develop relations with other institutions (especially NUIM);
- Admit and exclude students in accordance with Faculty regulations;
- Organise and supervise examinations and presentation of results to the Faculty and to notify students;
- Supervise the conferring of awards;
- Co-chairs the Academic Committee with the Dean.

- Address breaches of discipline with the Dean.

Secretary

The Faculty also appoints a Secretary for a two year term to record the minutes of its meetings. The post of secretary is unremunerated.

Director of Postgraduate Studies

The tasks of the Director of Postgraduate Studies are:

- To convoke and chair the Postgraduate Board;
- To report to the Faculty of Theology on postgraduate matters;
- To compile the postgraduate section of the Kalendarium;
- To arrange the charring of doctoral defences;
- To sit on the Pastoral Theology Board, the Scholarship Committee; the Inter-institutional Committee;
- To promote postgraduate studies in Theology;
- To assist the Admissions Officer in promoting postgraduate studies in the Faculty;
- To liaise with other departments in the promotion of postgraduate events in Theology.

Director of Affiliated Programmes

The Director of Affiliated Programmes acts as a liaison between St. Patrick's College, Maynooth and other bodies, with specific regard to the provision of third level courses. To this end, and supported by the Affiliated Programmes Board, the director is a point of contact for the administration of these courses and on-going oversight of the quality of these courses.

Director of Pastoral Theology

The Director of Pastoral Theology is responsible for the teaching, planning, and administrative work of the Faculty's Pastoral Theology Department. This comprises of teaching at both undergraduate and postgraduate level, as well as the delivery of three full-time programmes: the Diploma in Pastoral Theology, the Higher Diploma in Pastoral Theology, and the Masters Degree in Theology (Specialisation in Pastoral Theology). The Director collaborates in this work with an Associate Director. In practical terms, the duties of the Director of Pastoral Theology include the following:

- Coordinating course lecturers, modules, assessments, and credit weightings
- Producing Departmental Handbooks
- Convening and charring meetings of the Pastoral Board
- Membership of the Faculty Postgraduate Board

- Preparation, allocation, and ongoing direction of students in pastoral placements
- Training and overseeing the work of a panel of Placement Supervisors
- Conducting on-site pastoral placement visits
- Organising annual Pastoral Theology Gathering Day
- Overseeing advertising and informational materials for courses
- Interviewing applicants and designing interview processes and materials
- Collating mid-year and end-of-year evaluation reports
- Facilitating student theological reflection group-work sessions
- Coordinating CPE application process and on-site visits
- Organising retreats & spiritual direction for students
- Ongoing development and review of the work of the department
- Planning departmental seminars, conferences, and opportunities for ongoing formation and training
- Teaching undergraduate and postgraduate module

Other Officials

The Faculty appoints one of its members to specific administrative responsibilities and to update the Faculty at its monthly meeting. As with the other offices of the Faculty, these administrative positions are unremunerated:

- Liaison with the Library
- Affiliated Programmes Coordinator
- Co-ordinator of Erasmus Programme
- Quality Assurance Officer

Faculty Boards

Issues and proposals that come before the Faculty and require more deliberation are delegated to one of the Boards, established by the Faculty, for more considered discussion. Recommendations are presented to the Faculty for approval. In light of the Quality Review Report of 2007 and the deliberation of the Faculty these Boards have been thoroughly revised and expanded over the past few years. Currently there are seven Faculty Boards. These are:

- The Undergraduate Board
- The Post-Graduate Board
- The Pastoral Theology Board

- The College Life Board
- The Affiliated Programmes Board
- The Sabbatical Leave Board
- The Scholarship Board

The *Undergraduate Board* looks after the business of undergraduate degrees, including the content of course modules, forms of assessment and the overall shape of the degree. The *Postgraduate Board* deals with postgraduate business including the processing of postgraduate applications and PhD proposals. The *Pastoral Theology Board* attends to the modules and structures of the Masters in Pastoral Theology including the interviewing of candidates. The *College Life Board* deals with the pastoral outreach of the Faculty and includes a representative from the Chaplaincy team who respond to the needs of students in both NUIM and the Pontifical University. The *Affiliated Programmes Board* oversees the courses offered in several institutions across Ireland that are accredited by the Pontifical University. Finally the *Scholarship Board* and *Sabbatical Leave Board*, under the chair of the President, process and decide on, respectively, scholarship applications and requests for sabbatical leave.

The Departments of the Faculty meet occasionally during the academic year. Usually meetings are in response to items that have been raised at the Faculty meetings and have been sent to the Departments for further work or comment.

Academic and Administrative Workload Distribution

The relatively small size of the Faculty and financial considerations result in academic staff assuming or being appointed to numerous administrative responsibilities in addition to teaching and research. The issue of academic and administrative workload distribution has been identified by the Faculty. Initial efforts have been made to address the issue of discrepancy and ensure an equitable workload of teaching, research and administration among staff. The concern of the Faculty is to ensure members who are otherwise engaged with administrative duties can maintain and enhance their performance in the area of teaching, research, conferences and publications.

The President, Dean and Registrar have undertaken to draw up a methodology and model of measuring workload distribution that ensures an objective, reasonable, fair and transparent distribution of work and responds to the experience, aptitude and skill of each member of the Faculty. The development of work allocation plans to be revised after agreed fixed period of time. Any such plan will be flexible enough to adapt to the rapidly changing context and needs of the Faculty and responsive to evaluation from members of the Faculty.

A factor that cannot be underestimated are the demands made on Faculty members because of the place of Maynooth in the broader mission of the Church in Ireland and in

particular the services of members of the Faculty to the Irish Episcopal Conference Committees.

The Theology Office

The Faculty is supported in discharging its responsibilities by a Senior Executive Assistant, an Administrative Officer and Executive Assistant who work flexi-time in the Theology Office, an Admissions Officer and by the Bursar and three full-time staff in the Accounts Office.

Theology Office Administrative Staff

The administrative staff in the Theology Office play a central role in the day to day administration of the Faculty. Their work encompasses a number of responsibilities which ensure the efficient administration of the courses. They also assist the Dean, the Registrar and the Secretary of the Faculty in the exercise of their offices. The administrative staff are also an important interface between the students and the Faculty.

The work of the Theology Office staff can be categorised under a number of headings:

- The registration of students, ensuring that all details are properly recorded and circulated to Records NUIM, the library, the accounts office and the staff.
- Preparing the lecture timetables and allocating lecture halls.
- Examinations (January, May and August):
 - Processing exam forms
 - Preparing exam papers
 - Arranging the exam timetables and halls
 - Collating and checking exam results
 - Preparing Exam Broadsheets for the Exam Board Meetings
 - Circulating exam information to students and NUIM
 - Responding the examination queries
 - Forwarding module codes, credits and results to International Office or Sending Institutions
 - Catering for special needs students
 - Collating, checking and circulating exam results
 - Responding to exam queries
 - Remuneration of external examiners
- Organising the Pontifical Conferring.

- Maintaining student records and responding to request for student transcripts. Collating and sending statistical returns to the HEA and the Department of Education.
- Liaising with most Arts Departments in the NUIM, the Registrar's Office, Examinations Office, International Office, Access and Records.
- Forwarding payment details of part-time staff to the Salaries Office.
- Dealing with enquiries by phone, post and e-mail.
- Registering and returning essays to students.
- Writing letters, stamping medical, grant and visa forms for students.

The full list of courses, programmes and module descriptors are published in the Kalendarium.

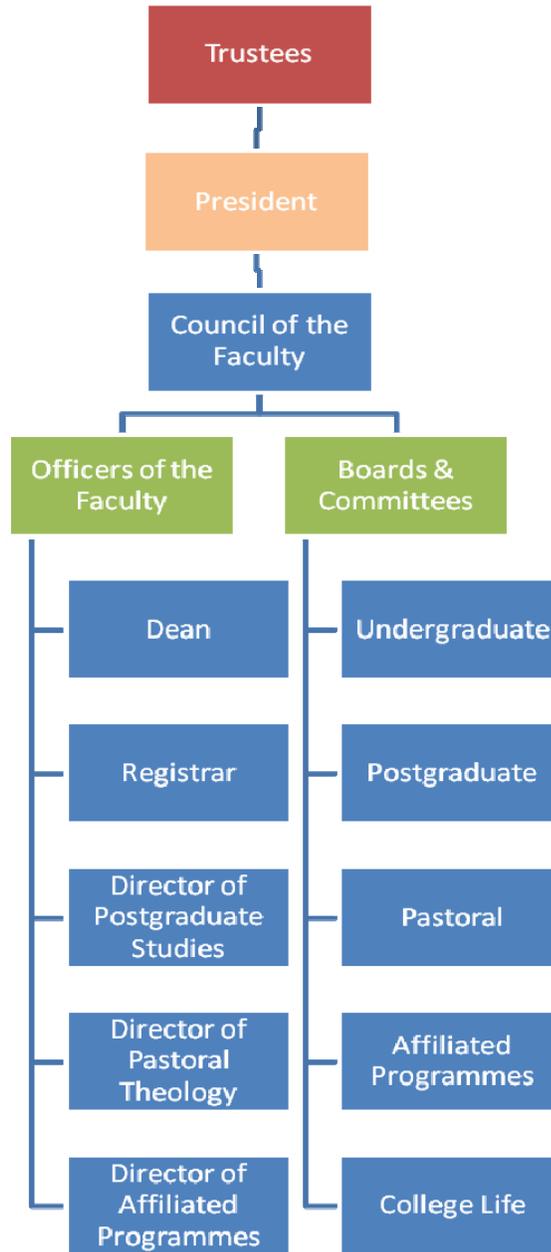
Student and Staff Feedback

All students use the Theology Office regularly for submitting and retrieving essays and feedback, queries and registration. A clear and consistent request from students in feedback was for more flexible office opening hours to facilitate students when they are on their breaks.

The Theology Office is in a period of transition due to the retirement of two long time and experience members of staff and the Office Manager is on one year leave for personal reasons. This has created some challenges for the new contract staff in dealing with the multifaceted and busy character of the office. An adequate number of staff and resources are necessary to ensure the proper functioning of the administrative unit. Staff are overwhelming positive in their feedback about the administrative staff who they find very helpful and supportive.

Due to the increased volume of administration in the Theology Office, there is a proposal that a front-desk receptionist be employed to handle student queries, transcript enquires and essay-related business. Another proposal is the creation of a lobby-area in the Theology Office to ensure student data-protection, privacy and confidentiality.

Organisational / Managerial Chart



CHAPTER IV: RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

The Faculty of Theology is committed to building on a two-century legacy of scholarship, teaching and research in theology. One of the strengths of the Faculty is the presence of the complete range of theological disciplines that can foster inter-disciplinary research and joint teaching. The Faculty's flagship publication the *Irish Theological Quarterly* is an internationally recognized peer-reviewed journal. The launch in 2011 of the postgraduate journal *Maynooth Theological Journal* is an expression of the emerging and vibrant community of young postgraduate communities. During the academic year, Maynooth is a vibrant hub of national and international conferences, symposia, public lectures and visiting scholars.

The Irish Theological Quarterly

Research and scholarship constitutes an indispensable element in the work of any university, and has been an important feature of the workings of the Faculty of Theology at St Patrick's College, Maynooth over many decades. This aspect of the Faculty's activity was given a more visible outlet in 1906 with the foundation in Maynooth of the *Irish Theological Quarterly (ITQ)*, which has been an invaluable organ for the publication of the research carried out by Faculty members.

In recent years the *ITQ* has consolidated its position as a leading peer-reviewed journal of Theology internationally and is increasingly attracting the submission of material from many of the world's leading scholars across a wide range of theological disciplines.

Since 2007, the *ITQ* has published the journal with SAGE Publications. While ensuring that editorial decisions remain in the hands of the Editorial Board, SAGE promotes the circulation of the journal and its marketing of the *ITQ* as part of large 'packages' of leading research journals to university and college libraries across the world has resulted in the continued growth of the profile of the *ITQ* most evident in markedly increased sales of the journal in electronic form and a substantial and ever-increasing number of downloads of individual *ITQ* articles.

In 2011 a sister publication of the *ITQ*, the *Maynooth Theological Journal (MTJ)* was founded as a scholarly forum for postgraduate students to share their research interests. This bi-annual journal supports students in their acquisition of the necessary skills they will need for future publication in larger journals.

Postgraduate Research

Research and scholarship also informs the Faculty's teaching at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. This is especially the case for postgraduate students who are, as an integral part of their training, introduced to the skills needed to carry out research and publish the results of their investigations (see the recent contribution of the *Maynooth Theological Journal* towards this above). Many of our postgraduate degrees are heavily

weighted towards independent primary research, with such research constituting the main requirement that postgraduates at Masters and, above all, at Doctoral level have to fulfill. However, given the demand for greater choice and flexibility among students registering for postgraduate degrees today, the Faculty is actively engaged in constructing several denominated one-year Masters degree programmes for the coming academic year and a part-time Doctoral degree option.

Conferences, Public Lectures and Visiting Scholars (2007-13)

The Faculty takes very seriously the value, for both students and staff, of hearing world-renowned scholars deliver lectures or participate in workshops or symposia. For some students, these experiences can be life-changing, and can inspire them to pursue particular avenues of theological research, occasionally on the basis of a single lecture. Even if not quite life-changing, these events can function as master-classes in best practice, and furthermore can allow both students and staff to feel they are part of a much larger global discipline.

There are a number of such events that have become regular features of the academic calendar at Maynooth.

The Michael Devlin Lecture

The annual Michael Devlin Lecture has continued to draw distinguished international academics from a variety of disciplines and academic institutions.

Over recent years the Devlin Lecture has been delivered by the following scholars:

- 2008: Prof. Miroslav Volf, Director of the Yale Centre for Faith and Culture.
- 2009: Prof. Judith Lieu, Lady Margaret's Professor of Divinity, University of Cambridge.
- 2010: Dr Patrick Riordan SJ, Heythrop College, University of London.
- 2011: Prof. Richard Kearney, Charles Seelig Professor of Philosophy, Boston College.
- 2012: Prof. Julia Kristeva, University of Paris Diderot.
- 2013: Marilynne Robinson, the Pulitzer-prize-winning American novelist and essayist has agreed to deliver this year's Devlin Lecture (3 October 2013).

In recent years the Michael Devlin Lecture has normally been incorporated into a wider symposium and which has attracted large numbers of attendees. It has been customary for the Devlin Lecture papers to be subsequently published in the *Irish Theological Quarterly*.

The Monsignor Patrick J. Corish Lecture

Established in the late 1990s, this is an annual lecture in honour of a former Professor of Ecclesiastical History at the College, Monsignor Patrick J. Corish, who was the doyen of Irish ecclesiastical historians and only this year passed away at the age of ninety-two years. After an initial series of lectures by Prof. Eamon Duffy of University of Cambridge, Prof. Owen Dudley Edwards, University of Edinburgh and Prof. Roy Foster, University of Oxford, there were a number of fallow years (when the Chair of Ecclesiastical History was vacant). However, the series was revived in 2011 and the following scholars have delivered the lecture in recent years:

- 2011: Prof. Euan Cameron, Union Theological Seminary, New York City.
- 2012: Prof. Caroline Walker Bynum, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton.
- 2013: Dr Morwenna Ludlow, University of Exeter.

The Annual Cardinal Newman / Maynooth Lecture

This annual lecture series, dedicated to exploring the thought of John Henry Newman in an inter-disciplinary context, is jointly organized by the Faculty of Theology and the Department of Education, National University of Ireland, Maynooth, and An Foras Feasa (Institute for Research in Irish Historical and Cultural Traditions), National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

The speakers and theme are chosen on a rota basis over a three-year cycle and the format lends itself to a real conversation across the disciplines. The lecture is customarily followed by a Response from a distinguished invited speaker.

Over recent years the following scholars have delivered the Newman Lecture:

- 2009: Dr Sheridan Gilley, Durham University. Response by Dr Garrett Fitzgerald, Chancellor National University of Ireland and former Taoiseach.
- 2010: Prof. Áine Hyland (former Professor of Education and Vice-President, UCC). Response by Prof. Tom Collins, Interim President, National University of Ireland, Maynooth.
- 2011: Prof. Eamon Duffy, University of Cambridge. Response by Prof. Vincent Comerford, emeritus professor of History, National University of Ireland, Maynooth.
- 2012: Rev. Dr. Benjamin J. King, University of the South, Sewanee. Response by Dr Janet E. Rutherford, Maynooth Patristic Symposium.
- 2013: Dr Terrence Merrigan, KUL (Leuven) has agreed to deliver this year's lecture in October.

Conferences and Symposia organized by the Faculty

The Faculty of Theology considers the organization of scholarly conferences and symposia to be an integral part of the academic experience at Maynooth. These provide an opportunity to share research, collaborate with scholars from other institutions and often to publish papers within volumes of proceedings. They are also an opportunity for students to experience 'new voices' and also to provide encouragement that will perhaps inspire them to be research-active in the future.

Among the conferences / symposia organized by Faculty members over recent years are the following:

- 2010: *Calvin and Loyola* Conference: examining the parallel lives and thought of John Calvin and Ignatius of Loyola (co-hosted by Msgr. Hugh Connolly, St Patrick's College, Maynooth and Very Rev. Dr Trevor Morrow, former Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland). The conference proceedings were subsequently edited by Rev. Brendan McConvery and published by Veritas.
- 2010: *Caritas in Veritate* Conference (examining Pope Benedict XVI's encyclical from the perspective of Theology, Economics and Development). Speakers included Prof. Rowena Pecchinino, Professor of Economics, National University of Ireland, Maynooth, Dr Pdraig Corkery, SPCM Dr Michael Shortall, SPCM and Mr Justice Kilcullen, Trócaire.
- 2011: *Text, Targum and Testament: a Conference in honour of Martin McNamara MSC*. Invited speakers included Philip Alexander FBA, Professor of Post-Biblical Jewish literature, University of Manchester, Robert Gordon FBA, Professor of Hebrew, University of Cambridge and Dr Jonathan Kearney, Occasional Lecturer in Jewish and Islamic Studies, St Patrick's College, Maynooth.
- 2012: *Getting to Zero: Faith and Justice Perspectives on the Global AIDS Pandemic* (in conjunction with Trócaire). Speakers included Fr Enda McDonagh and HIV/Development specialists Ann Smith, Ann Nolan, Noreen McGrath Gumbo and Lucy Ghati.
- 2012: *Ireland, Empire and Christian Civilisation: the Catholic Historical Society of Ireland Centenary Conference* (jointly organized with the Department of History, National University of Ireland, Maynooth).
- 2012 *50th International Eucharistic Congress 2012 Theology Symposium* This was a three-day multi-lingual International Conference of Theologians exploring areas surrounding the theme of the Eucharistic Congress: Communion with Christ and One Another and attracted nearly four hundred participants. In addition to large keynote addresses by some of the world's leading theologians, there were also smaller parallel sessions and workshops, including an Emerging Scholars session. Simultaneous translation was provided for the keynote addresses. The Symposium had a strong ecumenical flavour, with contributions from the main Christian denominations. The proceedings of the Symposium are in press and will be published in the next few weeks.

- 2012: *Association of Catholic Education (ACE) Ireland: Symposium on Catholic Education* (organized in conjunction with the Advisory Board, officers and friends of Notre Dame University).
- 2012: *Pugin at Maynooth: a One-Day Celebration of A.W.N. Pugin Bi-Centenary* (jointly organized with National University of Ireland, Maynooth).
- 2012: *Eighth International Maynooth Patristic Conference: The Beauty of the Presence of God in the Fathers of the Church*. These papers will, as is customary, eventually be published as proceedings in the series by Four Courts Press.
- 2012: *Remembering Heinrich Bewerunge (1862-1923): Perspectives on 150 Years of Irish Church Music* (jointly organized with the Department of Music, National University of Ireland, Maynooth). Bewerunge was one of the College's most renowned holders of the Chair of Music.
- 2012: Afternoon Conference to celebrate Dr Carmel McCarthy's publication, *The Psalms: Human Voices of Prayer and Suffering*.

Visiting International Scholars

Each year the Faculty invites international scholars to deliver week-long elective courses to undergraduate students of SPCM. Individual departments are afforded the opportunity to invite scholars from their respective fields on a rota basis. While resident in the College, these international scholars are also invited to deliver a post-graduate / staff Seminar or Master Class.

In the period since our previous Quality Review (2007), the following scholars (in alphabetical order) have delivered these elective modules:

- Prof. James Conn (Professor of Canon Law, Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome)
- Prof. Carol J. Dempsey (Professor of Biblical Studies, University of Portland, Oregon)
- Prof. Margaret Lavin (University of St Michael's College, Toronto)
- Dr Elena Martin (Department of Theology and Religion, Durham University)
- Prof. Frank J. Matera (Professor of New Testament, Catholic University of America)
- Dr Michael McCabe (School of Theology, Tangaza College, Nairobi, Kenya)
- Dr Ann Marie Mealey (Theology and Religious Studies, Leeds Trinity University)
- Prof. Gerald O'Collins, St Mary's University College, Twickenham.
- Prof. Grace Davie (University of Exeter) has agreed to deliver an elective in the next academic year.

Occasional Lectures

In addition to the more formal visits of scholars to deliver elective modules, the Faculty frequently host occasional lectures by international scholars. These lectures might coincide, for instance, with a scholar's visit to Maynooth as External Examiner for a doctoral thesis. Among those who have been invited to deliver papers in recent years are the following (in alphabetical order):

- Prof. John Baldovin (Professor of Historical and Liturgical Theology, Boston College)
- Prof. Raphael Gallagher (Professor of Moral Theology, Alphonsianum University, Rome)
- Prof. Richard M. Gula (Professor of Moral Theology, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley)
- Prof. Robin Jensen (Professor of the History of Christian Art and Worship, Vanderbilt University)
- Prof. Brian Johnstone (Professor of Moral Theology / Ethics, Catholic University of America)
- Prof. David Luscombe (emeritus, University of Sheffield) – co-sponsored with the Department of Philosophy, National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

Scripture Research Seminar

The Scripture Research Seminar is a staff and postgraduate seminar, organized by the Scripture staff that meets once a month during the academic year. It is designed to provide a forum for Faculty members, postgraduate students, and invited guests to share their current research and receive constructive criticism. Established in 2010, this initiative has, as can be seen from the list of contributions during the current academic year, managed to establish itself a sustained dimension of the academic life of those interested in biblical research within the Faculty.

Scripture Research Seminar: Schedule for 2012-13:

- October: Dr Jeremy Corley: *The Ten Commandments—Ethical Principles for Changing Historical Contexts*
- November: Prodromos Xenakis *The Dynamics of Bread in the Gospel of Matthew*
- November*: Prof Liam Walsh OP *The Christian Prayer of the Psalms*
- Prof Séamus O'Connell *Lectio Divina and the OT: Perils and Profits*
- December: Jonathan Burroughs *More than God's Spirit—the Holy Spirit and Baptism according to Matthew*

- January: Thomas Dunne *Not So Disjointed—Faith (Pistis) and the Narrative Unity of Luke 17:1–10*
- February: John Paul Leslie “*In Those Days*”—*The Chronicler’s ReMaking of Time*
- March: Catherine Punch *The Leader as Disciple—a Redaction-Critical Reading of Luke 22:24–30*
- April: Prof Séamus O’Connell *Creating the Cross—the Spirit and Stauromorphosis in Mark*
- May: Dr Jonathan Kearney *Search Well in the Torah—The Karaites and Their Contribution to the Study of Scripture* and Brendan Lyons *The Self as Sacrifice—Exploring the Motif of Sacrifice in the Letters of Anthony the Great*

* The special meeting of the Seminar on November 21 marked the publication of Prof Carmel McCarthy’s *The Psalms: Human Voices of Prayer and Suffering* (Dublin: Dominican Publications, 2012).

In the coming years, the Seminar hopes further to deepen the research dimension in the life of Faculty and establish research synergies among them, to raise the level of corporate engagement among the postgraduate students, and to address the challenge of publishing the significant research that is taking place.

Maynooth Patristic Symposium

One of the many fruitful initiatives undertaken by members of the Faculty over the past number of decades has been the establishment of the Maynooth Patristic Symposium. This interdisciplinary and ecumenical body has functioned as a research association, holding regular meetings for scholars based all over Ireland and abroad who are invited to read and share their research findings in a sympathetic, critical yet convivial environment. The Maynooth Patristic Symposium has also organized several international patristic conferences, which have been held at Maynooth and Queen’s University, Belfast. The proceedings of a number of these conferences have already been published by Four Courts Press as part of a series, and to critical acclaim. The success of this venture has enhanced the Faculty’s reputation in the academic community both in Ireland and abroad. The Symposium also now has its own Facebook site, which keeps its members and the wider academic community informed of its activities.

Maynooth Outreach

Maynooth has in fact a long tradition of contact with, and outreach to, students and universities in Ireland and abroad. Many postgraduate students come from Africa and the United States, attracted by the quality of Maynooth’s established reputation for distinction in teaching at postgraduate level.

Given the College's historical position in Irish Catholic life, the members of the Faculty of Theology are often called to serve in many capacities: advisors and consultants to official Church bodies in Ireland, Rome and elsewhere; commentators on theological questions which are the focus of national or international debate and serving on ecumenical and inter-religious bodies (see Staff Publications and Research in Appendix V). Many members of the Faculty provide courses and workshops in their own area of expertise at local, parish and diocesan level throughout the country. Past and present members of the Faculty have also been appointed by the Pope to the International Theological Commission.

In recent months, the Faculty has engaged in outreach to students and staff in secondary schools. Recognizing a need for resources among teachers and students of Religious Education in Ireland, the Faculty organized a Support Day for Students of Religious Education in November 2012 to assist students in their preparation for the Leaving Certificate Examinations 2013. The Resource Day was extremely well attended and was deemed to be hugely helpful, from the response filed by students and teachers on feedback forms. The Faculty hopes to continue to offer these Resource Days on an annual basis.

The National Centre for Liturgy

The National Centre for Liturgy was founded to promote liturgical formation in the light of Vatican II. It was established in 1973 when the late Mgr. Sean Swayne was appointed National Secretary for Liturgy. Mount St. Anne's, Portarlinton, Co. Laois was its first home. In 1978 the Centre moved to Carlow College and remained there until 1996. The National Centre for Liturgy has been based at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth since 1996.

The National Centre for Liturgy houses the National Secretariat for Liturgy which works on behalf of the Episcopal Conference and the Irish Episcopal Commission for Liturgy and co-ordinates the work of the various consultative agencies on liturgy, church music, sacred art and architecture and the Irish language in the Liturgy.

The Secretariat publishes a quarterly bulletin *New Liturgy*.

The National Centre for Liturgy has been engaged in the work of liturgical formation since 1973. At the Centre, students study liturgy and its related subjects at Diploma, Higher Diploma, and Master's level. Some graduates have continued to study liturgy at Doctorate level.

The Faculty approves its courses, providing a comprehensive training in liturgy and a leadership role in pastoral work and ministry. The awards are granted by the Faculty of Theology, Maynooth. The National Centre for Liturgy has attracted students from Ireland and up to thirty other countries.

An invaluable resource of the Centre is its library. The library is made up of 17,500 volumes and it receives 35 specialized liturgical periodicals. The nucleus of the library is that of Mgr. Seán Swayne and a number of notable donations have enlarged it with important liturgical holdings, e.g. a complete set of the publications of the Henry Bradshaw Society.

Irish Centre for Faith and Culture

The Irish Centre for Faith and Culture was established by the Irish Episcopal Conference in December 1997 following a request from Cardinal Paul Poupard (President of Pontifical Council for Culture) to respond to the challenge of faith meeting contemporary culture.

The Centre was founded not in view of a short-term response to current trends but in order to become a feature in the life of the Catholic Church in Ireland. The Centre strives to make a long-term contribution towards serious reflection on the Irish Church's adaptation to the changing cultural conditions of life and to forge links with similar Catholic Centres, in particular within Europe, with a view to filtering a wider experience and parallel reflection into the Irish context.

It has hosted a number of important symposia over recent years, attracting a host of distinguished international scholars and which have attracted large audiences.

Details of these symposia are found below:

- *2008: Otherness in our Midst: Culture, Migration, and Religious Identity: The Place of the Immigrant in the Irish Religious Landscape. Speakers included Prof. Miroslav Volf (Yale); Dr Martin Mansergh, Minister of State at the Department of Finance and Junior Minister for the Arts; Bishop Donal Limerick (Limerick); Pastor Anthony Joseph (Senior Pastor and President of Hope and Glory Ministries); Prof. Michael Conway (Maynooth).*
- *2009: Hints of Glory: Transcendence and the Arts – Encountering the Beyond in Postmodernity. Speakers included Prof Ben Quash (Kings College, London); Patrick Hederman OSB (Abbot, Glenstal); Selina Cartmell (Theatre Director); John F. Deane (Poet); Padraig Daly (Poet); Prof. Michael Conway (Maynooth).*
- *2011: Visiting the Divine: Religious Practice in a Post Secular World. Speakers included Prof. Richard Kearney (Boston College); Prof. Grace Davie (Exeter); Prof. Patricia Casey (University College Dublin); Prof. Michael Conway (Maynooth).*
- *2012: The Wounded Body: Human Vulnerability and Disability in a Finite World. Speakers included Prof. Julia Kristeva (Paris Diderot), Dr Wayne Morris (Chester), Mr Tim Kearney (L'Arche Community); Prof. Michael Conway (Maynooth).*

Staff Feedback

Among the weaknesses of the Faculty, identified by staff in the SWOT survey and staff questionnaires, is the lack of incentives to engage in research and publication. Many members of staff carry demanding administrative responsibilities, as well as heavy teaching workloads, reducing the time they have to dedicate to research and publication. The absence of a clear policy, guidelines and structures regarding expectations around research and publication needs to be addressed. Following the last Review, procedures and policies around sabbatical leaves have been improved with a number of staff availing of a semester or year-long sabbatical. This increased uptake by Faculty should translate into increased productivity in research and publications.

CHAPTER V: RESOURCES, SERVICES AND FINANCE

By reason of its shared history and heritage, Maynooth is a complex educational unit. The Faculty of Theology and the National University of Ireland Maynooth, while being two independent entities share a common campus, library resources and student support services and other facilities. The College contributes to funding these, however, NUIM contributes significantly more because of its size. Theology and NUIM students have equal access to these resources, services and facilities. The wide range and quality of resources, services and facilities are added value for students of theology. Financially, the two institutions are autonomous. NUIM are reimbursed for delivering the Humanities component of the Bachelor of Arts and Theology and the Philosophy component of the Bachelor in Theology.

Academic Resources and Supports

Libraries

Since the establishment of the National University of Ireland, Maynooth in 1997, the library facilities are shared by St Patrick's College and the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, as agreed between the Governing Authority of NUIM, and the Trustees of St Patrick's College, Maynooth. There are two libraries on the College campus, the Russell Library and the John Paul II Library. The National Centre for Liturgy that is also located at Maynooth, houses a specialized library in liturgical book and periodicals. The combined resources of these three libraries make them valuable research centres for Faculty members, students and outside researchers in the theological disciplines.

The Russell Library

The Russell Library, running the length of the south cloister of St Mary's Square, was the main library until 1984 and is now a research library. It contains a valuable collection of sixty *incunabula*, or fifteenth century books, from the earliest presses of France, Germany and Italy; over twelve thousand pamphlets mostly from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries; a bible collection that spans eight centuries; and a rich collection of maps and manuscripts.

In addition to its own Biblical material, the Russell Library contains the Bible collection of the National Bible Society in Ireland, containing over 2,000 volumes in 587 languages, which was deposited on permanent loan in Maynooth in 1986. This makes it a valuable ecumenical resource for the study of the Bible in Ireland.

The John Paul II Library

The John Paul II Library has over 869,000 books/eBooks and more than 47,000 electronic journals. The theology book collection is around 25,000 titles. September 2012 saw the completion of NUIM's new library extension. The 6,200 sqm extension adds over 10,000 sqm of library space. The new library has a range of benefits including a 216%

increase in seating capacity, a 130% increase in book capacity and a more than 280% increase in computer availability. Other features include a range of study space types, a special collections facility, a dedicated postgraduate and researcher's room and a purpose built exhibitions area.

The Library holds a wide range of theology periodicals:

- Current subscriptions: 93
- *Irish Theological Quarterly* exchange titles: 94
- *The Furrow* exchange titles: 8
- Non current, non-subscription and non exchange titles: 359
- Titles of interest to Theology but not shelved with the Theology periodicals collection: 190
- Continuations: active – 35 titles

Currently, 295 Theology Theses are shelved in the library. Presently, 119 titles in the Undergraduate Reserve Collection are shelved on level 1 at the Circulation Desk.

Electronic Resources include:

- Exam papers database: Theology Faculty papers from 1999 onwards. Diploma and postgraduate papers are not available for 1999-2004.
- Theology electronic journals: 335 titles. This includes 49 titles from the print collection above.

There are 175 library databases, including:

- Theology specific databases: Catholic periodical and literature index, ATLA Religion, Elenchus Bibliographicus, Library of Latin Texts, Papal Encyclicals Online, Patrologia Latina, Philosopher's Index, Routledge Encyclopaedia of Philosophy and International Philosophical Bibliography. Other databases of interest: Academic Search Complete, Arts & Humanities Citation Index, ECO Electronic Collections Online, JSTOR, Dissertations & theses abstracts, Index to Theses, Oxford Reference Online: premium collection, Project MUSE and WorldCat.

E-Books of interest to Theology:

- Early English Books Online (EEBO), ebrary Academic Complete, Medieval and Early Modern Sources Online, EBSCO eBook and Eighteenth Century Collections Online (ECCO)

WEB Resources:

- Access library subject resources: theology; key websites: 13 sites are listed.

The Library WEB OPAC catalogue and all electronic resources are available 24 hours on campus or off campus to registered students and staff. From time to time databases will be available on trial. These are accessible only on campus.

Access to the John Paul II Library requires current student/staff campus MyCard. Undergraduate students, postgraduate students and academic staff can borrow books on Standard Loan, Week Loan, Day Loan and 3 hour loan. Week and Day Loan titles are not renewable. For postgraduate students and academic staff the ALCID card gives reading facilities in other academic libraries in Ireland. An Inter Library Loan service is available for material not held by the Library.

Laptops with Microsoft Office are available for 3 hour loan within the library. Wireless Internet access for users with their personal laptop is available. Photocopying and printing services provided by campus MyCard payment facility.

The Library Budget for the Faculty of Theology 2011-2012 was €40,000: Book Fund - €19,248; Continuations - €2,539; Subscriptions - €18,213.

Student and Staff Feedback

There is universal welcome for the new Library extension and for the Library service as a whole.. While most students use the Library there are a number of students who indicated that they visit it infrequently. Many of its services are now on-line. A number of students request that staff place more copies of core course texts in the Library or in the reserved section. The increasing availability of ebook and Kindle is helping to address this issue.

Students suggested that more photocopiers, printers, computers, etc be located in St Patrick's College specifically for the use of theology students. Computers and printers are principally located in the North Campus and the Library. The high price of photocopying and printing was the subject of much comment, but it is important to clarify that these prices are not within the remit of the Faculty. In their questionnaires, staff indicated that they 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed' that the Library services provided were suited to the needs of the academic community.

Computer Facilities Provided to the Faculty of Theology

Public Access Computer Rooms (PACRS) with networked PCs running Windows XP Professional Service Pack two, standard Office Programmes, Web browsing, e-mail client and specific packages requested by academic departments. All computers have access to networked colour and black & white laser printers. Almost all areas of the College and NUIM are covered by Wi-Fi.

All registered students (NUIM and SPCM) are provided with a logon username, password and email account at registration.

Computing Assistants are provided in the PACRS to assist students with any basic difficulties. Email and telephone support is available during office hours from the Computer Centre Helpdesk.

The Computer Centre provides the European Computer Driving Licence Program (ECDL) to all registered students (NUIM and SPCM). This service is provided at cost price.

Student Resources and Supports

The students of the Pontifical University benefit from all the same student services and academic resources of their fellow students in NUIM. In addition to supporting the educational mission of the University, students can avail of a range of clearly defined services to enable them to achieve their personal and academic potential. Student Services comprises eight Departments. For ease of reference, the services are clustered into four areas as shown at the end of this page - *Student Life* (Sports and Student Activities), *Academic Journey* (Career Development), *Campus Living* (Creche and Residence Office) and *Student Wellbeing* (Chaplaincy, Counselling and Medical Centre).

Admissions: HEAR / DARE / Mature

The Faculty of Theology has a fulltime Admissions Officer whose is actively involved in recruiting students school visits, Open Days and College Fairs. The majority of students apply through the CAO system. Since 2011, the Faculty of Theology has participated in the HEAR (Higher Education Access Route) and DARE (Disability Access Route to Education) schemes. In 2011, four students accepted a place on the HEAR scheme; in 2012, seven students accepted a place. No student applied for the DARE scheme in 2011 and one was accepted in 2012. NUIM Student Services cater for those students post-entry.

The Higher Education Access Route (HEAR) is a third level admissions scheme for school leavers from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds. HEAR has been established by a number of Higher Education Institutions based on clear evidence that socio-economic disadvantage has a negative impact on educational achievement at school and progression to higher education. School leavers who provide satisfactory evidence relating to their socio-economic circumstances and meet the Irish Leaving Certificate matriculation / minimum entry and subject requirements are eligible to compete for a quota of places allocated to applicants on a reduced points basis.

The Disability Access Route to Education (DARE) is a supplementary admissions scheme for school leavers with disabilities. DARE has been set up by a number of colleges and universities as clear evidence shows that disability can have a negative impact on how well a student does at school and whether they go on to college. School leavers who meet the eligibility criteria compete for a quota of places allocated to applicants on a reduced points basis. All applicants must meet the Irish Leaving Certificate (or equivalent) matriculation / minimum entry and subject requirements.

The Theology of Faculty actively recruits and welcomes mature applicants. It appreciates that many people might have left school early, or not achieved their full potential in education due to financial, social or family circumstances. The Faculty believes that the particular contribution of mature students to the academic and social environment of the College is a valuable and beneficial asset. A number of mature applicants are interviewed and accepted each year. The number of mature acceptances varies from year to year.

Disability Office

The Disability Office is a valued resource for the Faculty of Theology. The Disability Office provides academic and personal assistance to undergraduate and postgraduate students at St Patrick's College, in order to support our students with a disability through periods of challenge and change. It raises awareness and understanding of disability issues with students and staff, working to remove barriers to learning so students with a disability can participate fully in all aspects of university life.

In order to ensure that students are supported as effectively as possible the Faculty of Theology identifies a lecturer as an Academic Advisor. The Academic Advisor is available to work individually within their subject areas to support students with academic and subject-specific issues/difficulties as needed. The Academic Advisor ensures that a student with specific learning needs doesn't need to necessarily talk with all of the members of the Faculty about the issue as he offers a coordinated point of access and support.

The Disability Office assesses a student and forwards a Learning and Academic Needs Report of the student to the Theology Office. This confidential report is circulated to the relevant teaching staff in order to ensure the student receives the necessary learning supports and concessions in relation to essays and examinations.

The Disability Office offers dyslexia screening to students who have not previously been assessed but are experiencing difficulties that may be related to a learning disability. The screening is NOT diagnostic. This means that it does not diagnose dyslexia; only a full educational psychological report can make a formal diagnosis of dyslexia. The purpose of dyslexia screening is to look at indicators of a possible dyslexic profile to assist the student in making a more informed decision if the student wants to go forward for a full educational psychological assessment.

Other supports are Student+ and Technology+. Student+ which is a unique and innovative module that blends learning strategies with educational technology. Students learn about academic principles, study skills, writing techniques, using technology in learning, exam techniques, different learning styles and more. Students who complete Student+ become more confident and effective learners, manage their workloads well, succeed in assessments and feel comfortable in the University learning environment. Technology+ is an innovative module that introduces students to the latest educational technology and show them how to integrate it into their learning.

Student Mentor Service

As first year in third level can be a difficult time of adjustment for students, particularly in relation to managing and balancing their studies, essay deadlines and examinations due to pressures and demands outside university life. In 2009 the Faculty appointed a Student Mentor to meet with first year students in particular, although not exclusively, to assist them with issues of transition to third level education and to resolve any difficulties students were having with their courses and assignments. The Faculty's intention in creating this position was provide a support person for students to help them to identify the necessary supports and to enable them to achieve their potential, and also consequently to improve student retention figures.

The student Mentor makes an appointment to meet all first year theology students during the academic year and any student identified by teaching or tutorial staff as struggling or absent for a number of classes or failing assignments or and examination. The Student Mentor has been a huge success. A number of students have expressed their appreciation for the support the Student Mentor has provided them.

Medical Centre / Counselling

The student centre provides on-campus medical and nursing care to currently registered students of the National University of Ireland, Maynooth and St. Patrick's College, Maynooth. The service is envisaged as an addition to the student's own family doctor or specialist medical service. It operates within resource constraints so certain service limitations apply. Students are encouraged and expected to continue to attend their own general practitioner, especially if locally based. There is also a fulltime Counselor whose services are available to students of NUIM and St Patrick's College.

Chaplaincy

The Chaplaincy is also shared by students of St Patrick's College and NUIM. Students are able to avail of opportunities for Prayer, Liturgy, Spiritual Direction, Retreats, membership of Pastoral Groups and courses for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers through the Chaplaincy.

Other services available to students of both academic institutions include: Computer Centre, Language Centre, sports facilities, Career Development Office, Residence Office, Students Union, International Office, and Crèche. All services are heavily involved in the *Induction Programme* in the week prior to the beginning of term. The Faculty of Theology sets aside a specific time to assist student orientation to university life. 'Careers' service is used more in the final year of studies although it engages with the students from the beginning.

Although Security and the Safety Office are not Student Services, they work very closely with the Student Services Group, particularly at times of crisis such as a student death or injury, or concern about a missing student.

Student and Staff Feedback

Students describe the work of Student Services, in particular the Chaplaincy team, as “excellent”. Some students who required the assistance of the Disability or Access services also mentioned them positively in feedback. The mid-morning coffee break and the lunchtime dining facilities in Pugin Hall and the Student Common Room in Loftus are greatly appreciated as they give students an opportunity to meet each other and to meet with staff in an informal environment. However, a number of students have suggested that the facilities of the Student Common Room in Loftus Halls be upgraded and that it should be used as a study area. Guidelines regarding the use of the Common Room will be drawn up in consultation with students.

Staff indicated ‘agree’ or ‘strongly agree’ that the services provided are suited to the needs of the Faculty; some responses disagree about the computerization of facilities and lecture rooms. While the latter are spacious and warm, the furnishings are dated and tired. All the lecture rooms are fitted with PowerPoint projectors and connected to the internet. All the lecture areas have Wi-Fi cover.

Finance

The Finance Council

The finances of the Faculty of Theology are managed by the Financial Council of St. Patrick’s College which reports on a regular basis to the Trustees. Its accounts are audited annually by Baker Tilly Mooney Moore, Chartered Certified Accountants. The Financial Statements are submitted to the Department of Education and Science annually to obtain Core Funding. The financial year operates from October to September and budgets are prepared in accordance with the yearly budget agreed with the Trustees.

Summary of Funding Sources and Allocation

The finances of the Faculty of Theology are provided in large part from student fees. Annual recurrent funding, amounting to approximately two sevenths of the overall income, is received from a grant from the Department of Education and Science. Unfortunately the funding has been in recent years decreasing annually by about 3% in respect of undergraduates.

The Faculty does not receive annual capital funding. Expenditure on capital works is met by recurrent funds of the Seminary. Large installations (i.e. AV units in the Loftus Theology Halls) are provided through the Seminary Maintenance and Refurbishment funds.

Typically the income of the Faculty can be broken down as set out in the table hereunder. This example uses the income as per the budget for 2011/2012:

Income	€'000	%
Undergraduate Tuition Fees incl. Student Service Charge	717	32.1
BD/Seminarian Fees	311	13.9
Postgraduate Tuition Fees	551	24.7
Core funding	635	28.4
Other Income	0	0
Affiliation and Other Fees	19	.09
Total	2,233	100

Research Funding

The Faculty of Theology receives no external research funding. Occasionally, individual staff members have received grants. There is no internal research funding within the Faculty's budget. However, a private fund, based on a private endowment and managed by staff, is available to staff.

Staff Feedback

Future funding, or the serious cutbacks in government funding at third level will have significantly adverse impact for the future of current programmes. The reduction of undergraduate grants combined with the declining student numbers will pose serious financial pressures in the short term. Unless some formula is found to arrest the sudden and dramatic downturn in first-year applicants, more serious questions of sustainability of certain programmes will arise. The abolition of grants at postgraduate level has resulted in the Faculty introducing a one-year Masters to facilitate many of its own graduates who could not afford a two years Masters and were relocating to other third level providers for this reason. Most of the teaching staff surveyed identified this issue of future funding as a threat

CHAPTER VI: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS – ERASMUS

From its foundation in 1795 St Patrick’s College, Maynooth, has had an international profile. Some of the original teaching staff were French professors who had previously taught at the Sorbonne. Over the years, many postgraduate students from North America, Africa and Asia have studied at Maynooth, and continue to do so, and Maynooth has been the source of three of the great international missionary movements of recent Irish history.

Bi-lateral Agreements

The Faculty has bi-lateral agreements with other international third level institutions: St John's University, New York; St Mary's College, Notre Dame; Angers, France. The students who come from these universities are fee-paying occasional students who study at the Faculty for one semester or for one full academic year. Staff feedback recommends that we explore the possibility of developing further bi-lateral agreements especially with other Pontifical Universities outside Ireland with the same ethos, e.g. the Association of Pontifical Universities.

Erasmus Programme

Latterly, and specifically within the context of the developing European Union, the Theology Faculty’s profile in terms of international student and staff exchanges has continued to grow and expand since the Faculty first became involved in 1993 with the then Erasmus programme. Originally there were links with institutions in France (Paris), Spain (Salamanca), Germany (Frankfurt am Main), Portugal (Lisbon), and Austria (Innsbruck). Over the past twenty years, those links have expanded to include bilateral agreements with other institutions throughout Europe.

In the last 5 years we have developed new agreements with the following universities: University of Munich, Germany; University of Ljubljana, Slovenia; Pontifical University of John Paul II, Cracow, Poland; University of Malta.

	Country	University	Bilateral Agreement	Up-to-date Agreement
1	Belgium	Catholic University of Leuven (KUL)	2011-2014	Yes
2	Czech Republic	University of South Bohemia	2012-2013	No (on the way)
3	Czech Republic	University of Palacky, Olomouc	2012-2013	No
4	Czech Republic	Univerzita Karlova	2008-2009	No – not since 2008-09
5	Finland	University of Helsinki	2010-2014	Yes
6	France	Institut Catholique de Paris	2013-2014	Yes

7	Germany	Universität Augsburg	2013-2014	Yes
8	Germany	Phil-Theol Hochschule Sankt Georgen, Frankfurt am Main	2010-2013	No
9	Germany	Universität Freiburg im Breisgau	2013-2014	Yes
10	Germany	Universität Regensburg	2013-2014	Yes
11	Germany	Eberhard Karls Universität of Tübingen	2013-2014	Yes
12	Germany	Ludwig-Maximilians Universität München	2013-2014	Yes
13	Malta	University of Malta	2013-2014	Yes
14	Poland	Pontifical University of John Paul II, Cracow	2011-2014	Yes
15	Portugal	Universidade Católica Portuguesa	2010-2013	No
16	Slovenia	University of Ljubljana	2013-2014	Yes
17	Spain	Universidad Pontificia de Salamanca	2013-2014	Yes
18	Switzerland	Université de Friberg	2013-2014	Yes

Student Mobility

Recent years have witnessed a modest up-take by Maynooth students studying in continental institutions in the Erasmus Programme. Maynooth students have studied at the *Institut Catholique de Paris*, Salamanca, Tübingen and Leuven. In the current academic year 2012/2013, three Maynooth students are studying abroad under the *Erasmus* scheme: two students are in the Catholic University of Leuven and one is studying in *Universidad Pontificia de Salamanca*.

In 2009, the Admissions Officer travelled to the *Institut Catholique de Paris*. The objection of this visit was to raise the profile of the Pontifical University and to observe the administrative procedures in relation to Erasmus exchange.

The inflow of students, however, from partner institutions to Maynooth has always outmatched the outward flow. There are some obvious reasons for this. One is the lack of co-ordination in semester times between various countries, making it difficult for students to go abroad for one semester only. Second, the fact that many of our students have two subjects as undergraduates means that it is often difficult to find institutions abroad that will cater simultaneously for both subjects that are being studied by Maynooth students. And finally, there is the increasing dominance of English as the language of choice in the international community, which makes study in an English-speaking environment

immensely more attractive to non-English speakers than study abroad would be to Irish students.

One of the recommendations in the previous Quality Review was the creation of a BATH and a BTh (International Mode) Degree which would be a four-year course and include the obligation to spend a full year abroad in one of the Faculty's partner institutions. It is hoped that these degree programmes will appeal especially to BATH students who take theology along with either French or Spanish as their degree subjects. This proposal is still in progress.

At the postgraduate level, the problem is not as acute, as all candidates for the Licentiate in Divinity (STL) and the Doctoral Degree in Divinity (DD) are required to have an appropriate knowledge of two modern languages, while students registered for the Doctoral Degree (PhD) are required to have a good working knowledge of at least one modern continental European language. In such circumstances, it is more realistic to expect students to wish to do some of their postgraduate research abroad.

The Faculty's international character is institutionally guaranteed by the College's connection with the Holy See, which granted the Charter of a Pontifical University to the College in 1895. As the Holy See is a signatory to the Bologna Declaration (in September 2003, at the Berlin summit), the Faculty of Theology automatically pursues the objectives entrusted to the Bologna Follow-Up Group (BFUG). We are collaborating especially with our partner institution in Tübingen in advancing the aims of the Bologna Declaration.

Accepting the Bologna Declaration means, concretely, that the Faculty aims to be in a position to issue its students with a Diploma Supplement (DS). This document, to be attached to the degree certificate, will indicate the student's academic history according to the new European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). The principles of the ECTS have already been fully implemented by SPCM. All students participating in Erasmus exchanges, incoming and outgoing, receive ECTS credit for work completed. The Diploma Supplement has been identified as a project which requires urgent attention and it has been prioritized as a project for the coming academic year.

As SPCM is a relatively small College, the administration of the Erasmus scheme has so far not necessitated the establishment of a specific International Office. The day-to-day administration of the scheme is carried out, under the supervision of the Registrar who also acts as the Erasmus co-ordinator with the Admissions Officer. Since many foreign students come to Maynooth and wish to take some courses in the Faculty of Theology and others in NUIM, there is already much co-operation and collaboration between both institutions on the Maynooth campus, to their mutual advantage.

Monitoring and Audit Visit 2010

Under the LLP Erasmus Programme, the National Agency (NA) is required to conduct a number of on-site visits in order to monitor the implementation of the Erasmus programme and to support beneficiaries in the form of counselling and advice. The

Pontifical University, St. Patrick's College, Maynooth was selected as one of the institutions for a Monitoring and Audit visit in 2010. The Monitoring and Audit team were very satisfied with the Erasmus programme and recommended that the possibility of seminarians also participating in student exchanges with other similar institutions.

CHAPTER VII: QUALITY ASSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS

There are three significant components in the quality assurance process for St Patrick's College:

- Faculty structures for on-going quality assurance;
- Consultation with the Quality Promotion Office NUIM Maynooth;
- Congregation for Catholic Education and AVEPRO (Holy See Agency for the Evaluation and Promotion of Quality in Ecclesiastical Universities and Faculties).

Faculty Quality Assurance Structures

These include:

- The Quality Review Coordinator;
- Quality Review is as a permanent item of business on the agenda of the monthly Faculty Meeting;
- The on-going review of curriculum and programmes by the Undergraduate Board and Postgraduate Board as recommended by the Quality Review Report 2007;
- Quality Assurance is a significant dimension of the annual Faculty Day (see below);
- The development of a suite of policies and procedures to ensure transparency, consistency, best practice and highest standards in relation to all areas of academic life which are published in the Kalendarium;
- Bi-annual joint-meeting between the senior management of NUIM and St Patrick's College to review and discuss inter-institutional co-operation and the promotion of common objectives; and
- The Quality Peer Review and the Quality Review Report 2012-2013.

Faculty Days

Each year the Faculty avails of an off-site day when it reflects on the challenges and opportunities of providing degrees in Theology in a rapidly changing cultural, economic and educational environment. Over the past number of years these Faculty days were held in Clane (Dec 2007), Athlone (June 2008), Maynooth (May 2009), Dunboyne (May 2011) and Lucan (May 2012).

These occasions provided the Faculty with an opportunity to engage with a range of issues including:

- Monitor and measure the implementation of the recommendations of the Quality Review Report 2007;

- Review curriculum / programme content, delivery and assessment; evaluate current procedures, develops strategic plans and targets for the Faculty and academic courses;
- Develop new undergraduate and postgraduate programmes;
- Reflect on the future shape of theological education in Ireland;
- Offer on-going professional in-service to staff from NUIM colleagues to share their experiences and expertise on, for example, postgraduate supervision, library information systems and the ACCESS programme which caters for students with specific needs.

This year's Faculty day will take place next May and the focus of the day is Teaching and Assessment at Third Level. This will be facilitated by Rose Dolon, Department of Education, NUIM and Lisa O'Regan, Teaching and Learning Centre, NUIM.

Sabbatical Leave

The Faculty of Theology encourages Sabbatical Leave for the purpose of research and study and considers it to be of fundamental importance to academic life. Such leave contributes to ongoing staff development by providing individuals uninterrupted periods for research and for updating their theoretical knowledge and methodological expertise, while also contributing to the achievement of the Faculty's objectives to encourage increased research and publication among Faculty members. It also supports the Faculty's mission to heighten its international reputation for teaching and research; fosters and strengthens links and collaborations with other theological faculties and universities abroad; and is an implementation of one of the recommendations of the 2007 Quality Review Report.

Staff members have availed, either for a semester or a full academic year, of the sabbatical leave facilities provided by the Faculty. The formation of a Sabbatical Leave Board, in response to the recommendations of the first Quality Review Report, has made the process of applying for sabbatical leave easier and more transparent. In the last five years the following staff have availed of sabbatical leave to advance their research and publications:

- Breandán Leahy (one academic year)
- Martin Henry (one academic year)
- Michael Conway (one academic year)
- Michael Shortall (one semester)
- Pádraig Corkery (one semester)
- Brendan McConvery (one semester)
- Bríd Liston (one semester)
- Salvador Ryan (one semester)

- Séamus O’Connell (one semester)
- Oliver Treanor (two semesters)

Training Resources available to Staff through the NUIM

Staff members have, on their own initiative, pursued some of the many training courses provided by the NUIM to enhance the quality of their teaching and engagement with students. Staff participated in courses on Moodle, PowerPoint, Library Resources and Teaching and Learning.

Policies and Procedures

The Faculty of Theology is continually engaged developing, improving and updating its policies and procedures to ensure, as far as is possible, transparency, best practice, and consistency in the delivery and assessment of programmes and also in to ensure a respectful and safe environment for students and staff. There are policies in relation to Dignity at Work/Study, behaviour, plagiarism, use of internet, etc. There are clearly outlined procedures for the Discussion, Checking and Appeal of Examination Results, addressing student bullying, breaches of discipline by students or staff. These policies and procedures are published in the Kalendarium and are accessible also on the website. Over the past number of years students have, though in small numbers, availed of these procedures to highlight their concerns.

Students with particular needs, for example dyslexia, are granted all the concessions recommended by the Disability Office of the NUIM. All information about, and requests from, students coming from the Disability Office are treated in complete confidence.

Implementation of the 2007 Quality Review

The recommendations contained in the Quality Review Report included; the development of a Strategic plan; the development of clearer structures for the BATH and BTh programmes; the need to develop policies on Staff recruitment and career structures; the need to develop synergies with NUIM in the area of administration rather than developing expensive parallel structures; an overview of the College’s academic and administrative structures, including the role of the Trustees.

To-date considerable progress has been made in implementing the recommendations of the Quality Review Report. Such progress includes:

- All three undergraduate programmes have been revised and restructured. This involved a complete re-imagining of the three undergraduate courses both in terms of content, delivery and assessment. As a result of this revision the BATH programme is, with one or two exceptions, no longer sharing modules with the BD programme;

- A Sabbatical Leave Board has been set up to oversee and coordinate the granting of sabbatical leave;
- The Mission statement of the Faculty of Theology is now clearly displayed on notice boards and on the College web site;
- The Faculty ‘identity’ has been further strengthened by improved signage around the campus;
- All academic programmes offered by the Faculty were successfully presented to the NQAI for approval;
- There has been considerable improvement to the teaching support structures in Loftus Hall by the provision of new computers;
- There has been ongoing discussion with the NUIM on academic and administrative co operation. Student records and exam results will be processed by the NUIM from the beginning of the next academic year;
- Some progress has been made in developing a strategic plan. The appointment of a full time officer of the Faculty to lead strategic planning has not materialized despite such a position been offered by the President;
- In an effort to promote the Faculty and its courses the Faculty engaged with the Leaving Certificate constituency by providing a REvision Day for Leaving Certificate students taking RE as an examination subject. In the coming academic year [28th September and 12th October 2013] there will be two resource days – one for students and one for teachers of RE. The publication of a resource – RE notes – has been accepted, in principle, by the Faculty and is a work in progress;
- Though officers of the College met with a representative of the College Trustees soon after the Quality Review Report, to explore questions relating to Governance raised in the Report, there has been no progress in the conversation;
- The Faculty Boards have been revised in light of the Quality Review Report.

Quality Promotion Office NUIM Maynooth

In 2007, the Faculty of Theology at St Patrick’s College took the initiative of undertaking a quality review, adopting the Quality Review Guidelines used by the Quality Promotion Office at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. The core elements of that process include a formal self-evaluation process, a peer group assessment and a published report. This process corresponds to the guidelines set out at a national level in *A Framework for Quality in Irish Universities*, Second Edition 2007. Three external assessors / peer group reviewers from other universities which had faculties of theology were invited to examine every aspect of the courses, research, services and structures of the Faculty. The Quality Review Report containing the assessment and recommendations of the external reviewers was published and is currently available on the College website: www.maynoothcollege.ie.

Ongoing Quality Assurance is monitored by the member of the Faculty whose responsibility is to co-ordinate the implementation of the recommendations of the Peer Reviewers and any recommendations arising from the annual Faculty Day which dedicates a portion of its agenda to Quality Review. The Faculty is committed to undertaking a quality assurance process every five years, following the template of the Irish University Quality Board (IUQB).

In all future quality review processes, the Faculty of Theology's Quality Committee will undertake to seek the guidance of the Quality Promotion Office at NUIM to ensure the courses meet the same specifications as NUIM courses. The NUIM Quality Promotion Office works under the aegis of the Irish University Quality Board (IUQB) which is a full member of the European Association for Quality Assurance (ENQA) in Higher Education.

Congregation for Catholic Education and AVEPRO

The teaching of ecclesiastical degrees in Faculties of Theology is also subject to the principles and norms of the Apostolic Constitution *Sapientia Christiana* and the Apostolic Exhortation *Pastores Dabo Vobis*. The Holy See, through the Congregation for Catholic Education, oversees the implementation of these principles and norms.

The entry requirements to the canonical awards conform to the requirements established by the Holy See. The Congregation for Catholic Education, which is a department of the Holy See responsible for governing and coordinating Higher Education within the Church, established an Agency, AVEPRO (Agency for the Evaluation and Promotion of Quality in Ecclesiastical Universities and Faculties) in September 2007. AVEPRO is intended to reinforce concern for quality through the implementation of new instruments and procedures. These instruments and procedures are well adapted to present-day requirements in that they meet the need embodied by the Bologna Process in Europe to progress towards unified standards.

AVEPRO works in full autonomy in compliance with standards of the EHEA (European Higher Education Area, c.f. Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Education Area). AVEPRO works in close harmony with the Congregation. A representative of the Congregation is a member by right of the Board of Directors. AVEPRO is currently an associate of ENQA (European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education).

In accordance with the norms regulating Quality Assurance Agencies within the European Area of Higher Education, the Agency for Ecclesiastical Faculties, though under the supreme authority of the Holy See, is autonomous in the development of its quality assurance processes and will not be influenced by interested parties, by the institutions themselves or by the ecclesiastical authorities responsible for them.

St Patrick's College has formally sought the assistance of AVEPRO with regard to the second cycle (in the Irish system) quality review process which it intends to begin in the 2012-13 academic year. The Agency will assist in the definition and development of procedures for internal and external evaluation of quality. It will also draft and publish guidelines on evaluation both for institutions and visiting teams. Such evaluations will be carried out through peer reviews, the peer reviewers will be selected and prepared by the Agency. The Agency will also oversee the publication of the Report and the implementation of recommendations.

Staff Feedback

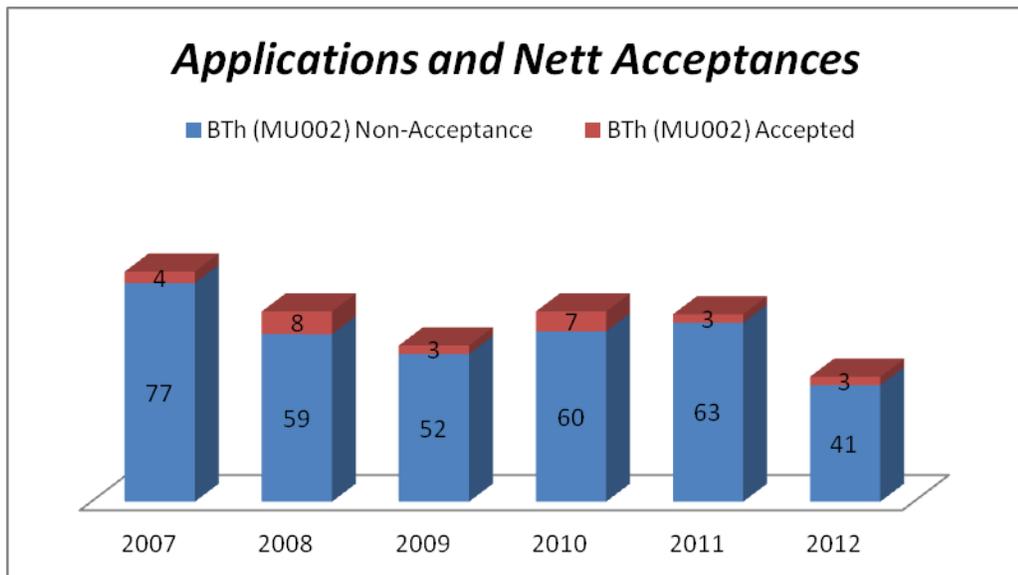
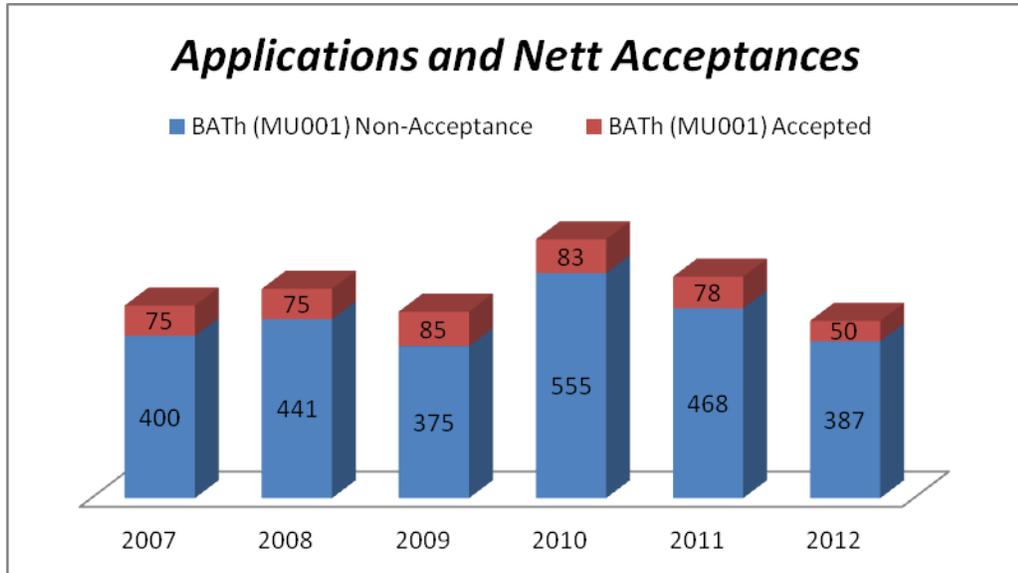
There is a need to include ongoing training and development as an integral part of the life of the Faculty. This should feature as a central element in the Faculty's Strategic Plan.

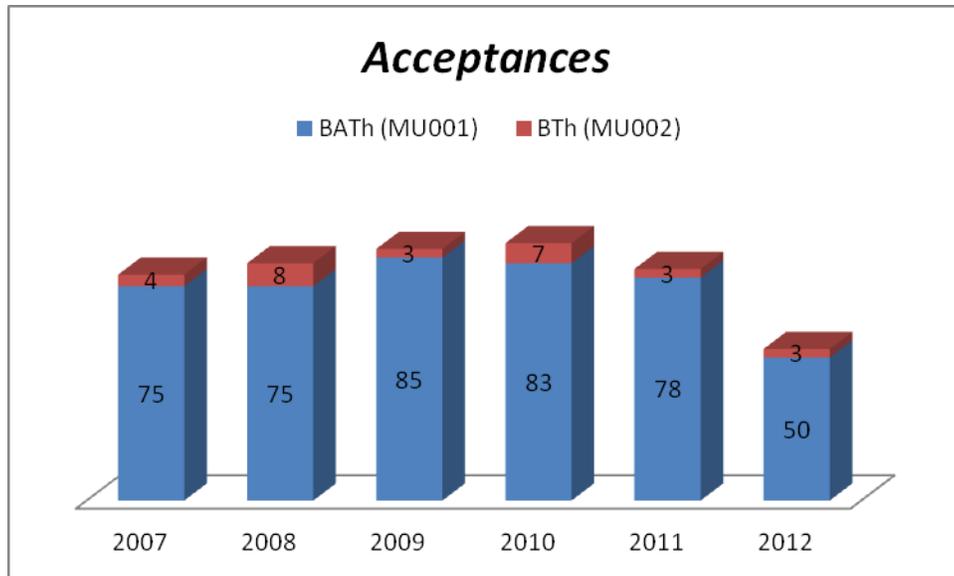
CHAPTER VIII: STUDENT STATISTICS 2007-2012

	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Post-Graduate	89	82	86	77	75	68
Masters Qualifier	1	1	1	1	1	1
Higher Diploma in Theological Studies	8	23	20	25	32	32
Higher Diploma in Pastoral Studies (Theology)	2	3	8	6	4	15
Diploma in Pastoral Studies (Theology)	3	2	1	4	2	5
Higher Diploma in Pastoral Liturgy	5	1	0	2	1	0
Diploma in Pastoral Liturgy	0	1	3	2	2	3
Postgrad. Dip. In Christian Comm. & Development	11	12	12	11	0	0
3 rd Year B.D.	11	6	11	11	11	6
2 nd Year B.D.	4	8	10	10	7	14
1 st Year B.D.	9	11	11	10	20	11
3 rd Year B.A.Th	45	46	51	38	48	50
2 nd Year B.A.Th	43	52	52	54	58	52
1 st Year B.A.Th	86	80	81	91	79	58
3 rd Year B.Th	5	6	2	3	3	3
2 nd Year B.Th	7	4	4	5	1	7
1 st Year B.Th	5	5	4	7	3	3
Occasional Students*	30	26	18	23	11	17
Certificate in Christian Studies	-	-	-	14	12	9
Diploma in Biblical & Theological Studies	-	-	-	-	54	37
Diploma in Diaconate Studies	-	-	-	-	30	0
Diploma in Counselling (Marriage & Relationship)	-	-	-	-	103	79
Diploma in Catholic Education (ACE)	-	-	-	-	-	7
Total	364	369	375	394	557	477

Student Numbers 2007-2012

Applications and Net Acceptances 2007-2012





These figures relate to the number of **applications** for our courses. The numbers in brackets relate to those who actually **accepted** places.

Applications and Net Acceptances / First, Second and Third Preferences 2012 entry				
	Total	First Pref.	Second Pref.	Third Pref.
BATH	437 (50 accepted)	46 (23 accepted)	65 (11 accepted)	82 (4 accepted)
BTh	44 (3 accepted)	7 (3 accepted)	6 (0 accepted)	8 (0 accepted)
Total	481 (53 accepted)	53 (26 accepted)	71 (11 accepted)	90 (4 accepted)

Applications and Net Acceptances / First, Second and Third Preferences 2010 entry				
	Total	First Pref.	Second Pref.	Third Pref.
BATh	638 (83 accepted)	70 (31 accepted)	113 (18 accepted)	73 (7 accepted)
BTh	67 (7 accepted)	5 (2 accepted)	17 (2 accepted)	8 (3 accepted)
Total	705 (90 accepted)	75 (33 accepted)	130 (20 accepted)	81 (10 accepted)

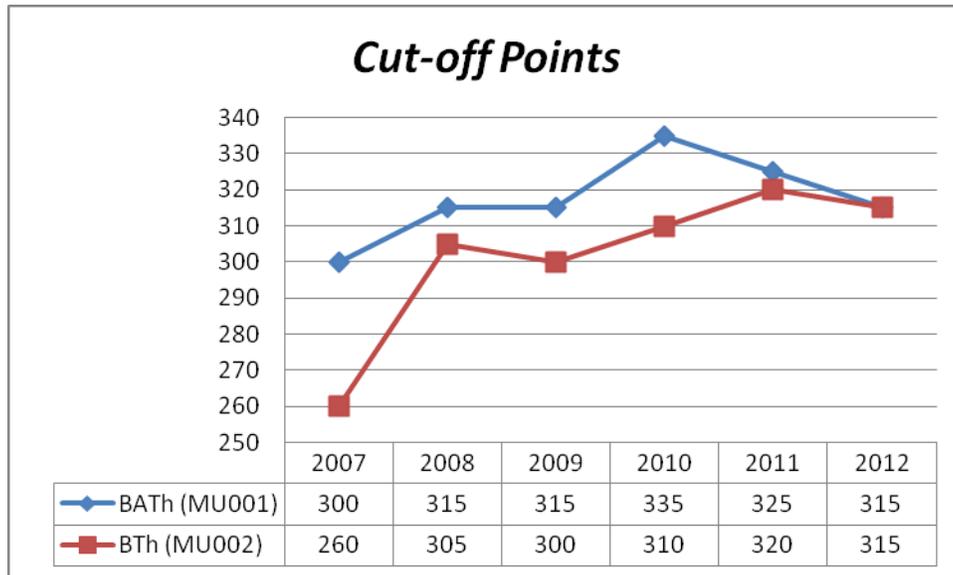
Applications and Net Acceptances / First, Second and Third Preferences 2011 entry				
	Total	First Pref.	Second Pref.	Third Pref.
BATh	546 (78 accepted)	53 (21 accepted)	115 (24 accepted)	77 (11 accepted)
BTh	66 (3 accepted)	5 (2 accepted)	8 (0 accepted)	11 (1 accepted)
Total	612 (81 accepted)	58 (23 accepted)	123 (24 accepted)	88 (12 accepted)

Applications and Net Acceptances / First, Second and Third Preferences 2009 entry				
	Total	First Pref.	Second Pref.	Third Pref.
BATh	460 (85 accepted)	77 (38 accepted)	87 (15 accepted)	70 (12 accepted)
BTh	55 (3 accepted)	8 (1 accepted)	18 (1 accepted)	4 (0 accepted)
Total	515 (88 accepted)	85 (39 accepted)	105 (16 accepted)	74 (12 accepted)

Applications and Net Acceptances / First, second and Third Preferences 2008 entry				
	Total	First Pref.	Second Pref.	Third Pref.
BATh	516 (75 accepted)	67 (27 accepted)	99 (16 accepted)	79 (10 accepted)
BTh	67 (8 accepted)	10 (6 accepted)	10 (0 accepted)	5 (0 accepted)
Total	583 (83 accepted)	77 (33 accepted)	109 (16 accepted)	84 (10 accepted)

Applications and Net Acceptances / First, second and Third Preferences 2007 entry				
	Total	First Pref.	Second Pref.	Third Pref.
BATh	475 (75 accepted)	60 (34 accepted)	103 (22 accepted)	63 (5 accepted)
BTh	81 (4 accepted)	9 (0 accepted)	15 (3 accepted)	10 (1 accepted)
Total	556 (79 accepted)	69 (34 accepted)	118 (25 accepted)	73 (6 accepted)

Cut-Off Points 2007-2012



	BATH (MU001)	BTh (MU002)
2007	300	260
2008	315	305
2009	315	300
2010	335	310
2011	325	320
2012	315	315

BATh Student Retention Rate Sample Survey

2004-2007; 2006-2009; 2008-2011; 2009-2012

Year of Entry	Number of Students Entering Programme	Number / Percentage of Students Completing Programme	Number / Percentage of Students Completing One Year After Grad	Number / Percentage of Students Completing Two Years After Grad	Number / Percentage Of Students Not Completing	Total Number / Percentage of Students Completing
2004	88 (100%) (2004)	52 (59.1%) (2007)	10 (11.4%) (2008)	4 (4.5%) (2009)	22 (25%)	66 (75%)
2006	73 (100%) (2006)	33 (45.2%) (2009)	8 (11%) (2010)	3 (4.1%) (2011)	29 (39.7%)	44 (60.2%)
2008	68 (100%) (2008)	33 (48.5%) (2011)	3 (4.4%) (2012)	N/A	32 (47.1%)	36 (52.9%)
2009	81 (100%) (2009)	40 (49.3%) (2012)	1 (1.2%) Repeating (2013)	N/A (2014)	41 (51.7%) currently	40 (49.3%) currently

BTh Student Retention Rate Sample Survey

2004-2007; 2006-2009; 2008-2011

Year of Entry	Number of Students Entering Programme	Number / Percentage of Students Completing Programme	Number / Percentage of Students Completing One Year After Grad	Number / Percentage of Students Completing Two Years After Grad	Number / Percentage Of Students Not Completing	Total Number / Percentage of Students Completing
2004	4 (100%) (2004)	4 (100%) (2007)	N/A	N/A	0 (0%)	4 (100%)
2006	8 (100%) (2006)	5 (62.5 %) (2009)	1 (12.5%) (2010)	N/A	2 (25 %) (2011)	6 (75%)
2008	5 (100%) (2008)	3 (60%) (2011)	0 (0%) (2012)	1* (2013)	1 (20%)	4 (80%)

*Exceptional Student who is expected to complete; already accepted for PhD programme at the University of Aberdeen.

Observations

1. 2011-2012 student applications and acceptances dropped significantly in one year. This may be attributed to a decline in the number of students applying for Humanities across the board, and theology in particular.
2. The projections for next year is that this drop in student applications and acceptances will continue.
3. The student retention rate is also a cause of concern. This figure may be explained by the following reasons:
 - a. The number of students who register for first year theology had identified Arts in NUIM as their first preference on their CAO application form; theology at SPCM was their second or even third choice. Failing to gain the necessary entry points into NUIM, these students take their second preference offer of Theology at St Patrick's College, Maynooth. If they successfully complete their first year examinations, many of these students apply to NUIM for an inter-institutional transfer. The numbers applying for this in recent years has been in the region of 10-15.
 - b. The relatively low CAO entry points attract a sizeable number of academically weaker students. Consequently, a large number of the students find Theology more difficult and, in some aspects, more confessional than they expected. This accounts for the high failure rate in the summer examinations at the end of first-year. Many students who fail the examinations drop out at this stage. The drop out rate in second and third year is very small.
4. After successfully raising the entry points gradually over a few years, these points may have to lowered again in order to keep student numbers stable. This has a negative impact on the student profile.

CHAPTER IX: FACULTY STRATEGY PROPOSALS 2013-2018

The Faculty of Theology at St Patrick's College Maynooth is nationally and internationally recognised for the quality and value of its contribution to theological learning, scholarship and research since 1795. Since the admission of lay students in 1966, the Faculty's student and staff profiles have changed considerably. The teaching programmes delivered by the Faculty have become more diverse in order to respond to the academic and career paths of its graduates within society and the Church. In recent years the Faculty has to face a number of converging challenges: reduced funding, declining student numbers and the changing landscape of third level education with greater emphasis on economic and technological dividends. Notwithstanding these, the Faculty has endeavored to maintain its commitment to a mission over two-centuries old of teaching, scholarship and research in the field of Theology. The highly qualified, motivated and dedicated teaching staff of the Faculty of Theology is confident and convinced about the value that theological learning and reflection has to contribute to the future of its students, graduates, society and Church in Ireland and further afield.

Deep public funding cuts in education compounded with strong career incentives for students to migrate from Humanities, and particularly from theology, to more scientific and technological disciplines, pose significant challenges and questions for the Faculty as it plans for its future and to secure its place in the third level landscape. The changing and diversifying student profile in recent years requires the Faculty to review the effectiveness of our current modes of teaching and learning, to ensure each and every one of our students, with their diverse backgrounds, abilities, goals and aspirations, benefits fully from their education experience in Maynooth.

The global village and cyber technology has opened up new possibilities of links with other theological faculties and Catholic universities around Ireland and abroad through the network of Catholic universities and faculties. The future of theological teaching and scholarship which has to respond to rapidly changing vocational skills and qualification that cannot be provided in isolation but jointly or in partnership with other similar institutions from anywhere in the world.

In order to continue to be an attractive and desirable place to study, teach and research theology, and make a valuable contribution to society and the mission of the Church, the Faculty of Theology must strive to meet best practice, standards and procedures at national and international level in relation to third level education. It is also necessary for the Faculty to recognise, appreciate and be faithful to what is best and distinctive in its own noble academic tradition and identity.

One of the strengths of the Faculty of Theology has been the range of the fundamental theological disciplines it provides: systematic, moral, scripture, canon law, ecclesiastical history, pastoral, sacred music, theological languages. A further strength is the access the majority of the registered students of the Faculty have to the wide range of disciplines in the Humanities and Social Sciences taught and assessed by NUI Maynooth.

Recent years have also seen an increase in the number of post-graduate students, particularly in the Masters and Higher Diploma programmes. This development has witnessed the emergence of a young, vibrant and creative community of lay theologians. How the Faculty will sustain this welcome and necessary community into the future requires resourcing and needs innovative reflection.

Many of the recommendations of the previous Quality Review and the Peer Reviewer's Report have been fully or partially implemented. These have been identified in the section *Implementation of University Processes and Policies*. Some recommendations are still a work in progress or have not proved feasible. There are challenges ahead in sustaining some of the positive trends since the last Quality Review: specifically, increasing the number of students choosing Theology and Arts as their first preference and also the move to raise CAO entry points.

Inter-Institutional and International Links

The Faculty of Theology will work to deepen existing collaborations and open new links with other third level institutions in order to widen the availability of theology or specific theological disciplines to meet increasingly diverse academic, professional and vocational requirements. Also, greater flexibility in delivery of programmes will be necessary in response to new student profiles: such as part-time, evening, summer programmes, etc.

- The Faculty of Theology already enjoys very close links with the NUIM through the joint delivery of the BATH. Over the next five years the Faculty will strive to deepen that collaboration at undergraduate, postgraduate and administrative levels.
 - At undergraduate level: to make theology available as a subject in first arts; modules of theology available as an elective in certain subject combinations (e.g. English, Sociology, Philosophy, Anthropology, Law, Economics, etc); Joint recognition degree recognition for the BATH.
 - At postgraduate level: to explore new postgraduate inter-disciplinary programmes: e.g. philosophy, ecclesiastical history, economics and ethics, music and liturgy, canon and civil law, scripture and English literature.
 - Academic Administration: SPCM student records to be maintained on the NUIM (ITS) student record system facilitating a common / more integrated registration, timetabling, examinations, administrative systems / processes to avoid current duplication of records and manual data inputting.
 - Validating and co-delivery of a Certificate in Catholic Education with Froebel College of Education, a primary school teachers training college, which has relocated to NUIM.
- An increasing number of Dioceses (Catholic and Anglican) and other international education providers have approached the Faculty in recent years with the aim of developing new certificate, diploma and higher diploma awards

- (e.g. Diploma in Diaconate Studies, Certificate in Theological Studies, etc) for ministries requiring a specific set of professional and vocational skills and training.
- The Faculty is currently working with the University of Notre Dame (USA) to validate and co-deliver a Diploma in Catholic Education (ACE Programme). The Faculty will also explore the possibility of validating and co-delivering other certificates with Notre Dame, such as the ECHO programme, that is, a Certificate in Parish Catechetics.
 - Villanova University (USA) has invited the Faculty to explore the possibility of co-delivering certificates in pastoral leadership through innovative Webinars.
 - As a result of several on-going enquires about the possibility of studying canon law at Maynooth, the Faculty will explore with the Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium) the possibility of co-operating in the delivery of postgraduate courses in canon law in Maynooth.
 - A Higher Diploma in Catholic Hospital Chaplaincy will be explored with the Association of Clinical Pastoral Educators.
- In the era of globalization and the easy movement of people and information, the Faculty of Theology will explore new links with the global network of Pontifical and Catholic Universities and Colleges. Over the next five years the Faculty will work to build its profile in this network. In this regard, a meeting of the European Pontifical and Catholic Universities will take place in Maynooth in 2014. It will also work to build meaningful, sustainable and mutually beneficial relationships with Colleges and Universities within that network.

Staff Development and Recruitment

In order to maintain its reputation as a centre of theological formation, the Faculty will strive to create an attractive and dynamic environment to teach theology, research and publish.

- The Faculty will further develop strategies and flexible working arrangements specifically related to promoting academic publications by Faculty members.
- The Faculty will prioritise on-going staff development and training to sustain standards of academic excellence across its programmes, and to ensure that students are exposed to the best in contemporary theological scholarship in an outstanding learning environment.
- As already mentioned above, a young and vibrant community of lay theologians has emerged in Ireland in recent years, many of whom are graduates of this Faculty of Theology. The challenge the Faculty faces is to recognize their presence in its composition and find means to support the entry of suitably qualified lay theologians into academia here and beyond.

Student Recruitment and Retention

After a number of years of positive student intake, the number of students entering the main academic programme, the BATH, is significantly down. Early indications are that this negative trend is set to continue for the coming year and poses a serious concern and challenge to the Faculty. In addition, after making some progress to advance the strategic aim of raising the CAO entry points, the Faculty has to reduce them again with the consequences this has for the student profile.

- The Faculty will engage with second level students taking religion as an examination subject for Leaving Certificate. The REvision Open Days provide resources for teachers and students with the aim: firstly, to heighten theology as an attractive academic discipline for career and vocational pathways; and secondly, to raise the profile of the Faculty of Theology as a student friendly location of study. To this end, the Faculty has organized two Open Days in October 2013 hoping to build on the success of its pilot Open Day this year.
- The Faculty will creatively look at how it interacts with schools, Career Guidance Counsellors, University / College Fairs Days and with school leavers in both jurisdictions of the island.
- The Faculty will develop strategies to actively advertise and create greater awareness of its academic programmes in view of the current employment situation in Ireland where many people have taken early retirement because of government incentives. This provides a particular opportunity to provide further education for people already have significant academic formation and bring with them a varied and mature life experience.
- Greater out-reach to a new constituency of potential learners through the internet.

Internal Organisation

The Faculty of Theology needs to address certain deficiencies in its internal structures with regard to management and planning for the future.

- The lack of proactive engagement by the Trustees in the wider and future mission of the Faculty needs to be addressed. As recommended by the previous Quality Review Report, this would foresee the creation of a Governing Body to plan lines of development and for senior management to implement these plans.
- The development of policies and procedures to ensure a more equitable distribution of workload across the Faculty.
- Standardise the meetings, communication, recommendations and proposals of the Faculty Committees in their feedback to the Council of the Faculty.

- The appointment of a Strategic Planning Officer and a Policy Development Officer in the Faculty as has been previously recommended.
- Address the root issues influencing student retention figures and develop the resources and structures that will enable an increasing number of students to complete their programmes.

Postgraduate Development

The Faculty of Theology is the only fully staffed Faculty that offers a complete range of theological disciplines in these Isles and with its university and canonical status is therefore uniquely positioned to offer a sustainable and attractive postgraduate programme.

- In response to the government's abolition of postgraduate grants and the widespread competition from other third level sectors, the Faculty is currently developing a one-year taught Masters in Theology to be launched in the coming academic year.
- The Faculty will reconfigure the existing suite of Masters which respond to emerging social and cultural trends and new professional demands.

CHAPTER X: STAFF RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

Record of the academic activities of the members of the Faculty of Theology in alphabetical order over the past five years in the following areas:

1. Publications (Books, Articles, Conference Papers, Book Reviews)
2. Service to Academic and Other Communities: Internal and External (Faculty Committees, Boards, Professional Bodies, Consultancy, Ecclesial and Civil Communities)
3. Professional Memberships

Jeremy Corley

Publications

BOOKS

- *Sirach*. New Collegeville Bible Commentary. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 2013.
- Co-editor (with Renate Egger-Wenzel), *Emotions from Ben Sira to Paul*. DCLY 2011. Berlin: de Gruyter, 2012.
- Co-editor (with Harm van Grol), *Rewriting Biblical History: Essays on Chronicles and Ben Sira in Honor of Pancratius C. Beentjes*. DCLS 7. Berlin: de Gruyter, 2011.

ARTICLES

- “Tracing Wisdom From Sirach to the Gospels,” in: *Weisheit als Lebensgrundlage: Festschrift Friedrich Reiterer*, ed. R. Egger-Wenzel, K. Schöpflin, and J. F. Diehl. DCLS 15. Berlin: de Gruyter, 2013.
- “Sirach’s Hymn to Logos (Sir 37:16-18) in Light of Hebrew and Greek Thought,” in *Sophia – Paideia: Sapienza e educazione (Sir 1,27): Miscellanea di studi offerti in onore del prof. Don Mario Cimosà*, ed. Gillian Bonney and Rafael Vicent. Rome: LAS, 2012. Pp. 237-55.
- “Emotional Transformation in the Book of Baruch,” in *Emotions from Ben Sira to Paul*, ed. R. Egger-Wenzel and J. Corley. DCLY 2011. Berlin: de Gruyter, 2012. Pp. 225-51.
- “Imitation of Septuagintal Narrative and Greek Historiography in the Portrait of Holofernes,” in *A Pious Seductress: Studies in the Book of Judith*, ed. Géza G. Xeravits. DCLS 14. Berlin: de Gruyter, 2012. Pp. 22-54.
- “Similes and Sound Patterns as Rhetorical Tools in Two Hebrew Wisdom Books,” in *Verborgene lezers: Over tekst en communicatie in het Oude Testament [= Hidden Readers: Text and Communication in the Old Testament]*, ed. A. L. H. M. van Wieringen. Theologische Perspectieven Supplement Series 2. Bergambacht: 2VM, 2011. Pp. 93-128.
- “An Alternative Hebrew Form of Ben Sira: The Anthological Manuscript C,” in *The Texts and Versions of the Book of Ben Sira: Transmission and Interpretation*, ed. Jan Joosten and Jean-Sébastien Rey. JSJ Sup 150. Leiden: Brill, 2011. Pp. 3-22.
- “Canonical Assimilation in Ben Sira’s Portrayal of Joshua and Samuel,” in *Rewriting Biblical History: Essays on Chronicles and Ben Sira in Honor of Pancratius C. Beentjes*, ed. J. Corley and H. van Grol. DCLS 7. Berlin: de Gruyter, 2011. Pp. 57-77.
- “Joshua as a Warrior in Hebrew Ben Sira 46:1-10,” in *Visions of Peace and Tales of War*, ed. P. C. Beentjes and J. Liesen. DCLY 2010. Berlin: de Gruyter, 2010. Pp. 207-48.
- “Sirach,” in *Oxford Bibliographies Online: Biblical Studies*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2010.

Book Reviews

- Book reviews have appeared in *Biblica*, *The Catholic Biblical Quarterly*, *The Furrow*, *The Irish Theological Quarterly*, *The Journal for the Study of Judaism*, *The Journal of Theological Studies*, *Scripture Bulletin*, *Society for Old Testament Study Book List* (= *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament special issue*)

Conference Papers

- Irish Biblical Association autumn lecture, Dublin, November 2012: “Tracing Wisdom From Sirach to the Gospels.”
- AGAT Annual Conference, Paderborn, September 2012: “Gesellschaft, Weisheit und Religion bei Jesus Sirach und in der ersten isokrateischen Rede.”
- Catholic Biblical Association of America Annual Meeting, Notre Dame University, Indiana, July 2012: “The Use of the Septuagint in the Book of Judith.”
- Catholic Biblical Association of America Annual Meeting, Assumption College, Worcester, Massachusetts, August 2011: “Emotional Transformation in the Book of Baruch.”
- London International SBL meeting, July 2011: “The Portrait of Samuel in Hebrew Ben Sira 46:13-20.”
- Palermo ISDCL Conference on Family and Kinship in Deuterocanonical and Cognate Literature, June 2011: “Respect and Care for Parents in Sirach 3:1-16.”
- Tilburg University, Utrecht, Old Testament conference, June 2011: “Similes and Sound Patterns as Rhetorical Tools in Two Hebrew Wisdom Books.”
- Catholic Biblical Association of America Annual Meeting, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, August 2010: “The Portrait of Samuel in Hebrew Ben Sira.”

Service to the Academic and Wider Community

Roles/Committee within St Patrick’s College:

- 2011—present: member, Postgraduate Board

External Examiner

- 2012: External examiner in Milltown Institute, Dublin (D.D.)

Professional Memberships

- Member of Society of Biblical Literature, USA.
- Member of Society for Old Testament Study, UK.
- Member of Catholic Biblical Association of America.
- Member of Catholic Biblical Association of Great Britain.
- Member of Irish Biblical Association.
- Vice-President of International Society for the Study of Deuterocanonical and Cognate Literature.
- 2012—present: Member of Editorial Board of *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*.
- 2010—present: Co-chair (with V. T. Skemp/G. Miller) of Deuterocanonical

Studies Continuing Seminar of Catholic Biblical Association of America.

- 2008—present: Member of Advisory Board for *Estudios Bíblicos*.
- 2008—present: Member of Advisory Board for *Biblische Notizen*.

Michael A Conway

Publications

Articles

- ‘The Chaste Morning of the Infinite: Secularization between the Social Sciences and Theology,’ in *The Taylor Effect: Responding to a Secular Age*, ed. Ian Leask et al, London: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2010.
- ‘Maurice Blondel and Ressourcement’ in *Ressourcement: A Movement for Renewal in Twentieth-Century Catholic Theology*, eds., Gabriel Flynn and Paul Murray, London: Oxford Univ., 2011.
- ‘Mathematics and the Mind of God’ in ‘*Having Life in His Name*’ eds., Brendan Leahy and Seamus O’Connell, (Dublin: Veritas, 2011).
- ‘With Mind and Heart: Maurice Blondel and the Mystic Life’ in ed., Louise Nelstrop, *Mystical Theology: Eruptions from France* (Ashgate), forthcoming.
- ‘As if my Eye were still Growing’: Living Disability’ *Irish Theological Quarterly* 3 (2013), forthcoming.

Service to the Academic and Wider Community

Roles/Committees within St. Patrick’s College

- Editor of *Irish Theological Quarterly*
- Member of Faculty of Theology Postgraduate Board (2006 – present)
- Member of the Faculty of Theology Pastoral Board (2011 – present)

External examiner

- External Examiner for the BA in Liberal Arts at St. Mary’s University College, Queen’s University Belfast (2010 - present)
- External Examiner for Theology at Carlow College (2011 – present)
- Invited as an External Examiner (Ph.D) at the School of Religions, Theology, and Ecumenics, Trinity College Dublin (2012)
- External Examiner for *BA in Irish Studies and Religious Studies* at the Mater Dei Institute of Education, Dublin City University (2006-10)

Pádraig Corkery

Publications

Books

- *Bioethics and the Catholic Moral tradition*, Veritas, 2010

Articles

- ‘Discovering the Gospel of Life: The Role of Scripture in Moral reflection’ in *Having Life in His Name*, Brendan Leahy & Seamus O’Connell [editors], Veritas, 2011
- ‘Christian Discipleship and Catholic Social Doctrine’ in *Deacons: Ministers of Christ and of God’s Mysteries*, Gearoid Dullea [editor], Veritas, 2010
- ‘Organ Donation and the virtue of solidarity’, Intercom, February, 2009
- ‘Science needs Ethics’, Irish Times, December, 2009

Book Reviews

- Reviews have been published in *The Furrow*, *Irish Theological Quarterly* and *Doctrine and Life*.

Conference Papers

- *The Ethics of Life: Bioethical Challenges and Possibilities* delivered at the Milltown Institute Series of Public Lectures, March 2013.

Service to the Academic and Wider Community

Roles/Committees within St. Patrick’s College

- Dean of the Faculty
- Head of the Department of Moral Theology
- Chair of Undergraduate Board
- Chair of Strategic Planning Board
- Member of Postgraduate Board
- Member of Scholarship Board
- Member of Sabbatical Board
- Member of Inter –Institutional Board [PU & NUIM].

Roles/Committees with other institutions

- External Examiner at Milltown Institute of Theology for their BD and STL programmes
- Acted as external examiner for PhDs in Theology in Mater Dei and Milltown Institute of Theology
- Lecturer in the BA programme run by Mater Dei Institute of Education in Dromantine
- Member of the National Training Authority for the Permanent Diaconate

Professional Memberships

- Member of Irish Association of Teachers of Moral theology

Giovanna Feeley

Publications

Articles

- “Handling the Word,” in *Treasures of Irish Christianity Volume II: A People of the Word*, eds., Salvador Ryan and Brendan Leahy. Dublin: Veritas Publications, 2013.
- “*Sursum Corda*: Lifting Hearts and Voices,” *Intercom* Volume 43, No. 5 (2013).
- “Drawing Water Joyfully,” *Intercom* Volume 40, No. 4 (2010).
- “Summer School of the Irish Church Music Association,” *New Liturgy* (October 2010).
- “*Then Sings My Soul*: Perspectives on Parish Liturgical Music,” *The Furrow* Volume 59, No. 3 (2009).

Conference Papers

- Participated in, and gave a short presentation of liturgical music, at *Text, Targum and Testament*: Conference in honour of Martin McNamara MSC, hosted by St Patrick’s College, Maynooth, 17 November 2011.
- Presented “Chant and the New Translation of the Roman Missal,” at *The Mystery of Faith*: Annual Summer School of the Irish Church Music Association (ICMA), Maynooth College, 5 July 2011.
- Participated in, and gave a short presentation on “Music of Early Irish Saints,” at *Clonfert 1111-2011*: Conference hosted jointly by the Clonfert Research Project and the Heritage Council of Ireland, Clonfert Diocesan Centre, 15 May 2011.
- Presented “Six Songs of Encounter: An Illustrated Discussion,” at *Visiting the Divine: Religious Practice in a Post Secular World*: Annual Symposium of the Irish Centre for Faith and Culture, Maynooth College, 3 March 2011.
- Presented “The Presider and the New Translation of the Roman Missal: Pastoral and Liturgical Considerations,” at Biennial Conference of the Diocese of Meath, Trim Castle Hotel, 11 October 2010.
- Presented “Music in Liturgical Offices for Irish Saints: Sung Examples,” at *Irish Saints and the Liturgy*: 45th Consecutive Roscrea Conference, Mount St Joseph’s Abbey, Roscrea, 30 October-1 November 2009.
- Participated in, and gave a short presentation on “The Nature of Praise,” at *The Early Irish Church and the Intellectual Tradition*: Conference jointly hosted by the Maynooth Medieval and Renaissance Forum in association with the Irish Philosophical Society, Clonmacnoise, 12-13 October 2008.
- Presented “Workers in the Vineyard: Employing Lay People in Ministry,” at Biennial Conference of the Diocese of Meath, Johnstown House Hotel, Enfield, 1 September 2008.
- Participated in, and gave various workshop presentations, at consecutive Annual Summer Schools of the Irish Church Music Association (ICMA): 7-11 July 2008, 6-10 July 2009, 5-9 July 2010, 4-8 July 2011, 2-6 July 2012.

Service to the Academic and Wider Community

Roles/Committees within St. Patrick's College

- Acting Director of Pastoral Theology
- Convenor of Pastoral Board
- Member of Postgraduate Board
- Member of Strategic Planning Committee
- Member of Formation Forum
- Member of Undergraduate Board, 2010-2011
- Director of *Schola Gregoriana*, Maynooth, 2007-2010

Roles/Committees with other institutions

- Invited lecturer, St Patrick's College, Thurles, 2008-2010
- Council Member and Public Relations Officer of the Irish Church Music Association
- Member of the National Council for Liturgy of the Irish Bishops Conference
- Member of Meath Diocesan Liturgy Commission
- Advisory member of Archdiocese of Dublin Formation Team for the pastoral formation of candidates for permanent diaconate
- Pastoral and liturgical formation of lay ministers and parish teams in Archdiocese of Dublin, and Dioceses of Meath, Kildare & Leighlin, and Clogher
- Coordinator of Training for ordained and lay ministers in preparation for music of the New Translation of the Roman Missal, Diocese of Meath, 2010-2012
- Member of Diocese of Meath Commission for Pastoral Renewal and Adult Faith Development, 2007-2010
- Ongoing collaboration with Dr Ann Buckley, Trinity College Dublin, on research into the manuscripts and performance practice of music for early Irish saints.

Professional Memberships

- Member of the British & Irish Association for Practical Theology (BIAPT)
- Founding Member of the NETWORK of Lay Pastoral Workers in Ireland
- Associate Member of the Irish Association of Counsellors and Psychotherapists (IACP)
- Member of Theological Action Research Network (TARN), Heythrop College, London
- Public Relations Officer of the Irish Church Music Association. (ICMA).

Martin Henry

Publications

Articles

- ‘Change,’ *Doctrine & Life*, vol. 60, No. 2, February 2010, 38-40
- ‘Living with Betrayal’, *New Blackfriars*, Vol. 91, No. 1034, July 2010, 439-444
- ‘Kościół w ruinie?’, *ZNAK*, 665 (10) 2010, 110-12 (tr. Marzena Zdanowska)
- ‘How Bright is the Light of the World?’, *Doctrine & Life*, Vol. 61, No. 3, March 2011, 30-32
- ‘The Point of the Parables’, *Doctrine & Life*, Vol. 61, No. 9, November 2011, 30-41
- ‘Two Approaches to Scepticism’, in Brendan Leahy and Séamus O’Connell (eds.), *Having Life in His Name* (Dublin: Veritas, 2011), 149-163
- ‘The Gospel Parables’, *Doctrine & Life*, Vol. 61, No. 10, December, 2011, 27-35
- ‘Ecumenism in Germany’, *Doctrine & Life*, Vol. 62, No. 1, January, 2012, 9-18
- ‘Is Religion a Help or a Hindrance in Finding God?’, *Doctrine & Life*, Vol. 62, No. 2, February, 2012, 30-32
- ‘Between Traditionalism and Tradition’, *Doctrine & Life*, Vol. 62, No. 5, May/June, 2012, 26-34
- ‘Franz Overbeck’s Understanding of the Origins of Theology in the Patristic Period’, in Janet E. Rutherford & David Woods (eds.), *The Mystery of Christ in the Fathers of the Church. Essays in Honour of D. Vincent Twomey SVD* (Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2012), 207-235
- ‘Memory and Nostalgia: The Feast of Corpus Christi’, in Salvador Ryan & Brendan Leahy (eds.), *Treasures of Irish Christianity* (Dublin: Veritas, 2012), 211-213
- ‘Katedra kłamstwa: Kryzys katolicyzmu w Irlandii’, *ZNAK*, October (10) 2012, 10-15 (tr. Mateusz Urban)
- ‘Engaging with the World’, *Doctrine & Life*, Vol. 62, No. 9, November, 2012, 32-40
- Many articles published in *The Irish Times*, *The Irish News*, *The Irish Catholic* and *The Catholic Times*.

Book Reviews

- Reviews published in the *Irish Theological Quarterly*

Service to the Academic and Wider Community

Roles/Committee within St Patrick’s College:

- Secretary of the Maynooth Scholastic Trust

Brendan Leahy

Publications

Books

- *Treasures of Irish Christianity II: A People of the Word*, Dublin: Veritas, 2013 (*forthcoming*) with Salvador Ryan [editors].
- *The Human Voyage of Self-Discovery. Essays in honour of Brendan Purcell*, Dublin: Veritas, 2013 (*forthcoming*) with David Walsh [editors].
- *Year of Faith: Stations of the Cross* London: CTS, 2013.
- *Treasures of Irish Christianity: People and Places, Images and Texts*, Dublin: Veritas, 2012 with Salvador Ryan [editors].
- *His Mass and Ours: Living Eucharistically*, New York: New City, 2012.
- *Believe in Love: The Life, Ministry and Teachings of John Paul II*, Dublin: Veritas, 2011 and New York: New City, 2011.
- *New Ecclesial Movements and Communities: History, Significance, Issues*, New York: New City Press, 2011
- *Having Life in his Name: Living, Thinking and Communicating the Christian Life of Faith*, Dublin: Veritas, 2011 with Séamus O'Connell (editors.)
- *Priests Today: Reflections on Identity, Life and Ministry*, New York: New City, 2010 with Michael Mulvey (editors.)

Articles

- "A Community of Communities Together for Europe," in Brendan Leahy and Salvador Ryan, *Treasures of Irish Christianity: People and Places, Images and Texts*, Dublin: Veritas, 2012, pp. 251-253
- "The Year of Faith" *Furrow* 63 (2012): 543-548.
- "Charisms Old and New: New Ecclesial Movements and Communities" *Horizon* 37 (2012/4): 15-20
- "What do the Popes say about Vocation?" *Horizons* 13, (2012): 17-24.
- "El Magistero de los Papas en los mensajes anuales para la Jornada Mundial de Oración por las Vocaciones," *Seminarios* L V II (2012): 41-52.
- "Communities of Life and Dialogue in the Catholic Church," *Dharma World*, 39 (2012/July-Sept): 4-7
- "Foreword" in 50th International Eucharistic Congress 2012, *Proceedings of the International Symposium of Theology: The Ecclesiology of Communion Fifty Years after the Opening of Vatican II*. Dublin: Veritas, 2012, pp. 18-25.
- "Mutual Love: locus of the Trinity in Augustine's *De trinitate*," in Janet E. Rutherford and David Woods, *The Mystery of Christ in the Fathers of the Church*, Dublin: Four Courts, 2012, pp. 66-77.
- "The Role of Canon Law in the Ecumenical Venture: a Roman Catholic Perspective," *Ecclesiastical Law Journal* 13 (2011): 15-25.
- "Mystery, Communion and Mission": A Summary Formula for Evangelisation,' in Brendan Leahy and Séamus O'Connell, *Having Life in his Name: Living*,

- Thinking and Communicating the Christian Life of Faith*, Dublin: Veritas, 2011, pp. 271-288.
- “Among the most Catechised but among the least Evangelised? Religious Education in Ireland,” *Revista Ecumenica Sibiu* 2 (2010/3): 123-138.
 - “Moving towards a New Stage in Ecumenism,” *Doctrine and Life* 61 (2011): 3-9.
 - “What are they saying about *Mary, Grace and Hope in Christ?*” *Irish Theological Quarterly* 75 (2010): 45-55.
 - “The Winter of Ecumenism - A response to Michael Hurley's proposal of a Practical Ecumenics,” *Furrow* 61 (2010): 37-40.
 - “A Spirituality of Communion: Spirituality for the Diocesan Priest,” *Spirituality* 16 (2010/1): 27-33.
 - “Hiding behind the works’: the Holy Spirit in the Trinitarian, Rhythm of Human Fulfilment in the Theology of Irenaeus,” in Vincent Twomey and Janet E. Rutherford, *The Holy Spirit in the Fathers of the Church: The Proceedings of the Seventh International Patristic Conference, Maynooth, 2008*, Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2010, pp. 11-31.
 - “Priests and Ecclesial Movements,” in Gearóid Dullea (ed.), *On Shepherding: Reflections on the Priesthood*, Dublin: Columba Press, 2010, pp. 17-29.
 - “Ecclesiology in the light of Vatican II’s Trinitarian Anthropology,” *Sophia* 1 (2009): 171-182.
 - “St Paul and the Spirituality of Communion” *The Pastoral Review* 5, (2009/4): 16-21
 - “Where is Ecumenism at Today?” *The Furrow* 60 (2009/7): 25-31.
 - “What the Family, Icon of the Trinity, has to offer the Church and Humanity”, in Consilium Conferentiarum Episcoporum Europae, *The Family: A Good for Humanity, Atti del I Forum Europeo Cattolico-Ortodosso, Trento, Italia, 11-14 dicembre, 2008*, Bologna: EDB, 2009, 161-174.

Book Reviews

- Book reviews have been published in *The Furrow* and *The Irish Theological Quarterly*.

Conferences Papers

- “The Dialogue of Life in a New Stage of Ecumenism” (June 11, 2012) and ‘ “Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Gospel” (Mark 16:15) - New movements for the New Evangelisation,’ (June 13, 2012) at the International Eucharistic Congress, Dublin 2012
- “The Catholic Church and Mission Today “ at the Salvation Army International College for Officers and Centre for Spiritual Life Development. Conversation between the Catholic Church and the Salvation Army (May, 2012).
- “La Via dell’unità per religiosi oggi”, Vercelli, Italy. Seminar organised by the “Figlie di S. Eusebio” Congregation. (March, 3-4, 2012.)
- “The Signs of the Times and New Movements.” *America Magazine Office*. Podcast Interview. (December, 21, 2011.)

- “New Movements in the Church Today,” Washington DC., USA. Archdiocesan Pastoral Center. (December 5, 2011.)
- ““I have chosen you”: Priests for our time. The Magisterium of the Popes through the Annual Messages for the Annual Day of Prayer for Vocations.’ Conference marking the 70th Anniversary of the Establishment of the “Pontificia Opera per le vocazioni sacerdotali” Rome, November 3-5, 2011.
- *The Church’s Social Teaching*, St. Mary’s University College, Twickenham, London. Association of Catholic Theology of Great Britain, , September, 5-8, 2011.
- “Aspects of the Catholic Church’s teaching on Sanctification.” The Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, Rome (May 24-27, 2011).
- “Aspects of the Catholic Church’s teaching on Salvation.” The Salvation Army International College for Officers and Centre for Spiritual Life Development, Conversation between the Catholic Church and the Salvation Army (11-14 March, 2010). Paper:
- Dromontine, Newry. Theology Conference organised by the Society of African Missionaries (5 July, 2010). Two papers on the life and ministry of priests today.
- *The Role of Canon Law as an Instrument of Ecumenism*. 11th Colloquium of Anglican and Roman Catholic Canonists, (24-27 April, 2010).
- “The Marian Priesthood and ministry today”, Ciudadela El Dimante, Acatzingo, Pue, Mexico. (6-8 April 2010).
- New Dehli, India. Post-graduate seminar organised by Prof. Ashok Vohra of the Philosophy Department of the University of Dehli (8 September, 2009). Paper: “Philosophy in Dialogue: Journeying in a living space where the sciences meet.”
- “Education and Living with Values.” Inter-Religious Seminar organised by the Bharitya Vidya Bhavan, Mumbai, India. (12 September 2009).
- Paper: “Art, Culture and Faith.” International Conference: “Culture, Religion, Philosophy and Literature revisited”, Mumbai, India (7-10 September, 2009).
- “The Crucified Christ and the Ecclesiology of Communion.” Seminar organised by the “Figlie di S. Eusebio” Congregation, Vercelli, Italy (30 October-1 November 2009).
- “Quale volto di Chiesa per il contesto odierno?” International Theology Seminar organised by the Sophia University Institute and the Focolare Priests Movement, Ariccia (RM), Italy “Il ministero dei presbiteri nella Chiesa popolo di Dio” (6-8 November, 2009).

Service to the Academic and Wider Community

Roles/Committees with St. Patrick’s College

- Co-Ordinator of the Higher Diploma in Theological Studies
- Member of the Postgraduate Board

Roles/Committees with other institutions

- Member of the Teaching Council of Ireland (2010-2011)
- Visiting Professor of the Sophia University Institute, Loppiano, Florence.

- Member of Irish Bishops' Conference Advisory Committee on Ecumenism
- Secretary of the Advisory Committee on Ecumenism of the Bishops' Conference (until 2011).
- Member of Three Faiths Forum
- Secretary of Dublin Inter-Religious Council
- Chairman of Dublin Advisory Committee on Ecumenism
- Member of Irish Bishops' Conference Department of Education and Formation
- Secretary of Irish Bishops' Conference Theology Commission
- Censor in the Archdiocese of Dublin
- Member of the Focolare Movement's International Study Centre
- Member of the Catholic Church – Salvation Army Conversation promoted by the Pontifical Council for Christian Unity
- Member of Editorial Committee of the *Umanità Nuova* cultural review.
- Member of the Irish Inter-Church Meeting
- Co-chair of the Theology Forum of the Irish Inter-Church Meeting
- Member of the Dublin Council of Churches

External Examiner

- Extern Examiner at St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra (till 2011)
- Extern PhD Thesis Supervisor at All Hallows College and at the Irish School of Ecumenics

Professional Memberships

- Member of the Irish Theological Association
- Member of Association of Catholic Theology of Great Britain
- Member of the Italian Theology Association
- Visiting Professor of the Sophia University Institute, Loppiano, Florence.
- Member of the International Study Centre of the Focolare Movement.
- On the Advisory Committee of *Nuova Umanità rivista bimestrale di cultura* (Rome) and
- *Studia Theologica Transsylvaniensia* (Alba Iulia, Romania) until 2012
- Associate Member of Pontifical Theology Academy

Declan Marmion

Publications

Books

- *An Introduction to the Trinity*, with R. Van Nieuwenhove, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2011).
- Coordinating Series Editor (with N. Hintersteiner and G. Thiessen) of “Studies in Theology, Society and Culture” with Peter Lang from 2009 - present. Seven volumes already published in this series.
- Ed. with Brendan Leahy et al., *Questions of Faith* (Dublin: Veritas), Forthcoming 2013.

Articles

- “Some Aspects of the Theological Legacy of Karl Rahner,” in Pádraic Conway & Fáinche Ryan, eds., *Karl Rahner: Theologian for the Twenty-first Century*, (Oxford: Peter Lang, 2010), 3-22.
- “Trinity and Tradition: Revisiting the Trinitarian Tradition East and West,” at the Louvain Encounters in Systematic Theology, “Tradition and the Normativity of History” (LEST VIII – October 26-29, 2011). Forthcoming in *The Shaping of Tradition*, edited by Colby Dickinson, Lieven Boeve and Terrence Merrigan. *Annua Nuntia Lovaniensia* 70. (Leuven: Peeters Press, 2013), 267-81.
- “Participating in God: Reflections on Rublev’s Trinity,” *Spirituality* 18 (July/August 2012): 218-21.
- “Response to Daniel Madigan’s ‘God’s Word to the World: Jesus and The Qur’an, Incarnation and Recitation’ in “*Godhead here in Hiding*”: *Incarnation and the History of Human Suffering*, eds., Terrence Merrigan & Frederik Glorieux, *Bibliotheca Ephemeridum Theologicarum Lovaniensium CCXXXIV* (Leuven/Paris/ Walpole, MA: Peeters, 2012), 173-78.
- “Abbot Columba Marmion” in *Treasures of Irish Christianity*, Vol. 2, eds. B. Leahy & S. Ryan, Forthcoming 2013.
- “Transcendental Thomisms.” Chapter in the *Oxford Handbook of Catholic Theology*, ed. L. Ayres, et al. OUP. Forthcoming.

Book Reviews

- Reviews have been published in *The Furrow* and *The Irish Theological Quarterly*.

Conference Papers

- “Some Recent Trends in Trinitarian Theology from a Western Perspective,” Lecture delivered at a conference on “The Trinity East and West,” at the East-West Theological Forum, EWHA Women’s University, Seoul, South Korea, 6-9 April, 2011.

Service to the Academic and Wider Community

Roles/Committees within St. Patrick’s College

- Undergraduate Committee.

- Quality Review Board
- Acting Head of Department.
- Post-graduate thesis supervision (MA, STL, PhD).
- Theology Faculty Board.
- Academic Referee for Irish Theological Quarterly & Theological Studies

External examiner

- External Examiner of doctoral thesis at the Faculty of Theology, University of Leuven, Belgium (June 2010).
- External Examiner of undergraduate programmes in theology/religious studies at Mater Dei Institute of Education, Dublin (2011 -).
- Doctoral Supervision at All Hallows College, Dublin 2011-present.

Professional Memberships

- Member of International Editorial Board, Irish Theological Quarterly (2007-2010).
- Member of European Society for Catholic Theology,
- Member of the Irish Theological Association and
- Member of the Karl Rahner Society (USA).

Michael Mullaney

Publications

- “Laity and Ministry in the Church as Communion”, *The 50th International Eucharistic Congress: Proceedings of the International Theology Symposium* Veritas Press: Dublin 2013

Conference Papers

- *The Vindication of the Rights of Clergy in the Church* – 18 October 2011 – Tuam Diocesan In-Service (Westport)
- *Penal Trials and Administrative Processes* – 19 April 2012 – Diocesan and Religious Safeguarding Delegates (Maynooth)
- *Laity and Ministry in the Church as Communion: Canonical Perspectives* – 7 June 2012 – Eucharistic Congress: Theology Symposium (Maynooth)

Service to the Academic and Wider Community

Roles/Committees within St. Patrick’s College

- Registrar of the Pontifical University
- Vice-President of St Patrick’s College Maynooth
- Undergraduate Board
- Erasmus Co-ordinator
- Quality Assurance / Review
- Secretary of the Inter-Institution (SPCM-NUIM) Committee
- Affiliated Programmes (until 2012)
- Pastoral Board
- Scholarship Committee
- Sabbatical Board
- College Life Committee
- Secretary of the College Finance Council
- Secretary of the Seminary Council
- College Pensions Board
- Treasurer of Maynooth Union

Roles/Committees with other institutions

- National Case Management Board (Canon Lawyer)
- National Marriage Appeals Court (Presiding Judge)
- Presiding Judge in a number of Canonical and Administrative Penal Cases
- Canonical Consultor to the Irish Episcopal Conference and a number of Religious Orders
- Secretary of the Cashel and Emly Council of Priests

Professional Memberships

- Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland

Séamus O'Connell

Publications

Articles

- “Martin McNamara: Biblical Scholar.” *Scripture in Church* 165 (Jan-Mar 2012): 124–7.
- “The Word is Very Near to You’ (Deut 30:14): The Word that Makes Alive in Moses and Paul” in Brendan Leahy and Séamus O'Connell (eds), *Having Life in his Name* (Dublin: Veritas, 2011), 213–25.
- “*Lectio Divina*: The Challenge in the Academic Setting” in Bernard Treacy, alii (eds), *Reading Scripture for Living the Christian Life*, [Doctrines and Life 59 (2009)], 32–46.
- “Let the Reader Understand: Recent Writing on Mark.” *The Furrow* 60 (2009): 111–119.
- “Identity, Collective Beliefs, and the Allocation of Resources.” *The Economic and Social Review* 39 (2008): 39–54. □Co-author with Thomas D. Jeitschko (Michigan State University) and Rowena A. Pecchenino (NUIM).

Pastoral Publications

- “But Him They Did NOT See! (Luke 24:24)” *Intercom* 43 (April 2013): 25.
- “Rediscovering Our Catholicism: the Wood and the Trees.” *The Furrow* 63 (Nov 2012): 555–560.
- “NOT Black Riding Hood: *Lectio Divina* and Biblical Discourse.” *Intercom* 42 (Sept 2012): 12–13.
- “Mark's Gospel and Recovery for Battered Believers.” *Intercom* 42 (February 2012): 18–19.
- “Mind the Gap: *Lectio Divina* and Contemporary Approaches to Reading.” *Intercom* 41 (Sept 2011): 27.
- “Walking Towards God: On Practicing *Lectio Divina* (3).” *Intercom* 39/4 (May 2009): 26–27.
- “Walking Towards God: On Practicing *Lectio Divina* (2).” *Intercom* 39/3 (April 2009): 28–29.
- “Walking Towards God: On Practicing *Lectio Divina*.” *Intercom* 39/2 (March 2009): 26–27.
- “The Menu is not the Meal: the Scriptures as Food for our Lives.” *The Furrow* 59 (2008): 92–98.

Conference Papers

- “The Bread in the Boat (Mark 8:14): Memory, Insight and Communion in the Gospel of Mark.” Paper presented at the International Theology Symposium, Maynooth, June 7, 2012 and at the Spring Meeting of the Irish Biblical Association, TCD, April 25, 2012.
- “The Preexistent Son—Text and Contexts: The Thesis of Simon Gathercole in a Narrative-Critical Perspective.” Paper presented at the CBA Continuing Seminar

on the Synoptic Gospels, CBA International Meeting 2012, University of Notre Dame, 29 July 2012.

- “What Happened to God? God in Ruth in the Light of Mark.” Paper presented at the CBA Continuing Seminar on Divinity in the Old Testament, CBA International Meeting 2011, Assumption College, Worcester, Mass. 8 August 2011
- “Into the Desert: the Dynamics of Exclusion in the Gospel of Mark.” Plenary Paper presented at the International Meeting of the CBA, Fordham University, New York, August 3, 2008.

Book Reviews

- Book Reviewer for *Journal of New Testament Studies*, *The Furrow*, *Intercom*.

Service to the Academic and Wider Community

Roles/Committees within St. Patrick’s College

- Member: Undergraduate Programme Board (2011–present)

Roles/Committees with other institutions

- Member: Irish Episcopal Committee for Theology (1999–present)
- Representative of the Irish Episcopal Conference for the Catholic Biblical Federation (2011–present).
- Chair, Committee on Scripture Use, National Bible Society of Ireland (1996–present)
- Member, Consultative Committee for the Study of Near Eastern Religions, Royal Irish Academy (2005–2009)
- Convenor, Workgroup on Theology in Higher Education (2005–2009)

External Examiner

- All Hallows College, Dublin (2011–present)

Professional Memberships

- Irish Biblical Association (1987–present) [President 2002–2005]
- Chair, IBA Publications Committee (2009–present)
- Co-chair with Dr Brigid Curtin-Frein (University of Scranton) of the Continuing Seminar on the Synoptic Gospels at the CBA International Meeting (2009–present)
- Catholic Biblical Association of America (1996–present)
- Member: CBA Program Committee (2009–present)
- Society of Biblical Literature (2006–present)
- British New Testament Society (2004–present)

Kevin O’Gorman

Publications

Books

- *Saving Sport – Sport, Spirituality and Society*, Dublin: Columba Press, 2010
- *Stations of the Cross*, Dublin: Veritas, 2012
- *A Little Book of Advent Reflections*, Dublin: Columba Press, 2012

Articles

- ‘The Right of the Christian Faithful to Spirituality in Canon 214’, in *Having Life in His Name*, eds. Brendan Leahy and Séamus O’Connell, Dublin: Veritas, 2011
- ‘Matthew’s Two Ways’, *Scripture in Church*, 41(Jan-March 2011):121-127
- ‘Professionalism in Ministry’, *The Furrow*, 62(January 2011): 53-57
- ‘This is the Word of the Lord’, *The Furrow*, 62(March 2011): 162-170
- ‘Mark’s Paschal Morality’, *Scripture in Church*, 42(Jan-March 2012): 117-123
- ‘God’s Truth is Life: Patrick Kavanagh’s *The Great Hunger*’, in *Treasures of Irish Christianity – People and Places, Images and Texts*, eds. Salvador Ryan and Brendan Leahy, Dublin: Veritas, 2012,
- ‘Greed, Gospel and Common Good’, *Doctrine & Life*, 63(January 2013)

Service to the Academic and Wider Community

Role/Committee with other institutions

- *Bioethics Consultative Group of the Irish Episcopal Conference* 2011-
- *Chaplain to Maynooth Mission Outreach*

Noel O’Sullivan

Publications

Books

- *Christ and Creation : Christology as the key to interpreting the theology of creation in the works of Henri de Lubac* (Oxford: Peter Lang, 2009)

Articles

- ‘Henri de Lubac’s *Surnaturel*,’ *Irish Theological Quarterly* Volume 72, N° 1, 3-31.
- ‘The Priesthood and the Eucharist,’ in Dullea, Gearoid (Ed.), *On Shepherding: Reflections on the Priesthood* (Dublin: Columba Press, 2010), 42-53.
- ‘The Catholic Church in France,’ *The Furrow* (April, 2007), 191-200.
- ‘The Eucharist in the Parish,’ *The Furrow* (January, 2010), 41-51.

Service to the Academic and Wider Community

Roles/Committees within St. Patrick’s College

- Affiliated Colleges Committee

Roles/Committees with other institutions

- The Inter-Church Theology Forum
- Diocesan Director of the Permanent Diaconate in diocese of Cork and Ross

Professional Memberships

- Director of Social Services in diocese of Cork and Ross
- Theological Advisor to the Cork Marriage Counselling Centre

Salvador Ryan

Publications

Books

- *Devotional Cultures of European Christianity, 1790-1960* (co-editor with Henning Laugerud). Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2012.
- *Treasures of Irish Christianity: People and Places, Images and Texts* (co-editor with Brendan Leahy). Dublin: Veritas, 2012.

Articles

- “‘No milkless cow’”: the Cross of Christ in medieval Irish literature’, in Peter Clarke and Charlotte Methuen (eds), *The Church and Literature: Studies in Church History* 48. Abingdon: Boydell Press, 2012.
- ‘Reconstructing Irish Catholic origins after the Reformation’, in Simon Ditchfield, Kate van Liere and Howard Louthan (eds), *Sacred History: Uses of the Christian Past in the Renaissance World*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012.
- ‘Blood piety and the Eucharist in late medieval Ireland’ in Salvador Ryan and Brendan Leahy (eds), *Treasures of Irish Christianity: People and Places, Images and Texts*. Dublin: Veritas
- ‘Some reflections on theology and popular piety: a fruitful or fraught relationship’, *The Heythrop Journal* 53 (2012).
- “‘I, too, am a Christian’”: early martyrs and their lives in the late medieval and early modern Irish manuscript tradition’, in Peter Clarke and Tony Claydon (eds), *Saints and Sanctity: Studies in Church History* 47. Abingdon: Boydell Press, 2011.
- ‘Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556): Christian soldier or “Soul-aider”?’ in Brendan McConvery (ed.), *Living in Union with Christ in Today’s World: the Witness of John Calvin and Ignatius Loyola*. Dublin: Veritas Publications, 2011.
- “‘Reaping a rich harvest of humanity’”: images of redemption in Irish bardic religious poetry’, in Brendan Leahy and Séamus O’Connell (eds), *Having Life in His Name: Living, Thinking and Communicating the Christian Life of Faith*. Dublin: Veritas Publications, 2011.
- ‘Florilegium of faith: religious verse in the Book of the O’Conor Don’ in Pádraig Ó Macháin (ed.), *The book of the O’Conor Don: essays on an Irish manuscript*. Dublin: Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, 2010.
- Many articles published in *Reality*, *Irish Catholic* and *Intercom*

Book Reviews

- Author of many reviews in *Intercom*, *The Sixteenth Century Journal*, *The Catholic Historical Review*, *The Irish Theological Quarterly*, *The Furrow*, *The Journal of Ecclesiastical History*, *Milltown Studies*, *The Medieval Review* and *Doctrine and Life*

Conference Papers

Ireland

- November 2012: ‘From Jerusalem to Holycross: sacred relics and their thefts’, **Tipperary People and Places Lecture Series**, Thurles, County Tipperary.
- June 2012: ‘*Merita Missae*: the Eucharist and the lived reality of Irish Christians in the late medieval and early modern periods’, **50th International Eucharistic Congress 2012 Theology Symposium**, St Patrick’s College, Maynooth, County Kildare.
- May 2012: ‘The Franciscans and the devotional landscape of late medieval Gaelic Ireland’, **Kilkenny Archaeological Society Symposium on the Franciscans in Kilkenny**, Rothe House, Kilkenny.
- April 2012: ‘Liturgy in late medieval Gaelic culture’, **Language, Literature and Liturgy in Reformation-era Britain and Ireland**, Assembly Buildings, Presbyterian Church of Ireland, Belfast.
- March 2012: ‘Host of Miracles: the Eucharist in the devotional worlds of late medieval and early modern Ireland’, Guest Lecturer, **The Glenstal Lenten Series, Glenstal Abbey, County Limerick**
- March 2012: ‘Holding up a lamp to the sun’: The construction of a history of Irish-papal relations in John Lynch’s *Cambrensis Eversus* (1662), **Research Seminar, School of History, University College Cork**.
- November 2011: ‘Seeing the Sacred: the religious image and the late medieval Irish devotional world’ and ‘Making the Arma Christi speak: text and image in late medieval Ireland’, both papers presented at **Roscrea autumn conference, Mount St Joseph Abbey, Roscrea, County Tipperary**.
- October 2011: ‘Bardic religious verse and the devotional landscape of late medieval Gaelic Ireland’, **Thomond Historical and Archaeological Society, Mary Immaculate College, Limerick**.
- August 2011: ‘A gentle doe from the best of the herd: the many faces of Mary in Irish bardic religious verse’, **14th International Congress of Celtic Studies, National University of Ireland, Maynooth**.
- October 2010: ‘Ignatius of Loyola: Christian soldier or “soul-aider”?’’, **Calvin and Loyola Conference, St Patrick’s College, Maynooth**.
- August 2010: ““Reaching speedily the castle of God”: popular expressions of faith and belief in late medieval Gaelic Ireland’, **Merriman Summer School, Ennis County Clare**.
- March 2010: ‘The legacy of the early medieval Christ on the Cross: the case of Irish bardic religious poetry, c.1200-c.1600’, **International Conference *Croch Saithir*: envisioning Christ on the Cross in the early medieval West**, University College, Cork.
- February 2010: ‘*Lex Orandi, Lex Credendi, Lex Vivendi*: what is the relationship between theology and popular belief?’’, **Newman Institute, Ballina, County Mayo**

United Kingdom

- September 2012: “Sucked from the breath of the Romish Fathers”: constructing a history of Irish papal relations in John Lynch’s *Cambrensis Eversus* (1662)’, **Reformation Studies Colloquium, St Chad’s College, University of Durham.**
- July 2011: “Holding up a lamp to the sun”: Hiberno-Papal Relations and the Construction of Irish Orthodoxy’ in John Lynch’s *Cambrensis Eversus* (1662)’, **Ecclesiastical History Society, 50th Summer Conference, Christ Church, Oxford.**
- July 2010: ‘No milkless cow: the Cross of Christ in medieval Irish literature’, **Ecclesiastical History Society, 49th Summer Conference, University of St Andrews (invited keynote speaker)**
- June 2010: ‘National history, Political history and Sacred history’, **Historia Sacra: Visions of Christian Origins in the Renaissance World, Warburg Institute and University of Notre Dame, London Centre.**

Norway

- June 2010: “The old tune that Patrick played”: claiming continuity while promoting change in Ireland’s Catholic Reformation’, **Religious belief and practices in the Danish-Norwegian United monarchy from the Reformation to the age of Enlightenment, University of Oslo.**

Sweden

- November 2012: “A gentle doe from the best of the herd”: the Virgin Mary as Intercessor in the late medieval Gaelic Irish tradition’, **Words and Matter: the Virgin Mary in late medieval parish life – a Marcus Wallenberg Symposium, University of Umeå.**

United States

- March 2012: ‘Medieval blood piety and the Ó Cobhthaigh school of bardic poets in sixteenth-century Ireland’, **Medieval Academy of America, University of St Louis.**

Media Presentations

- October 2012: Introduced the Treasures of Irish Christianity volume on the Book Review section of **“Talking History”, Newstalk Radio.**
- August 2012: Contributor and interviewee for TV documentary series “Pobal ag gúí” (‘A people at prayer’), on the subject of popular piety and the wider religious culture of 1950s Ireland. This series, by Esras Films, will air over the coming months on **TG4.**
- June 2012: Interviewed on the morning news magazine programme on *Raidió na Gaeltachta* (Ireland’s national Irish-language station), on the subject of the International Eucharistic Congress.
- December 2011: Featured on two episodes of documentary series entitled ‘Scéalta Átha Cliath’ (Dublin Stories) for the Irish language TV station, **TG4.** The first concerned the reformed alcoholic and ascetic, Dubliner Matt Talbot, and the

- second on the history of the relics of St Valentine which are claimed to be held by the Carmelites in White Friar Street Church, Dublin.
- November 2011: Panelist on the life and legacy of Augustine of Hippo, “*Talking History*”, *Newstalk Radio*.
 - July 2011: Panelist on the history of the Camino and the shrine of St James, Santiago de Compostela. “*Talking History*”, *Newstalk Radio*.

Service to the Academic and Wider Community

Roles/Committees within St. Patrick’s College

- Secretary, Faculty of Theology
- Strategic Planning Committee
- Affiliated Programmes Board
- College Life Committee
- Secretary and Member of Editorial Board, *Irish Theological Quarterly*

Roles/Committees with other institutions

- Comhairle um an Liotúirge na n-Easpag: Coiste Comhairleach um an Liotúirge i nGaeilge (Irish Episcopal Conference: Committee for the Use of Irish in the Liturgy)
- Research Ethics Committee, Institute of Technology, Carlow
- Lecturer in Church History, St Patrick’s College, Thurles
- Tutor, Priory Institute Tallaght

External Examiner

- External Examiner (History: Undergraduate and Postgraduate), Carlow College

Professional Memberships

- Treasurer Catholic Historical Society of Ireland and its peer-reviewed journal *Archivium Hibernicum*
- Member of the Advisory Board, *Journal of Baroque Studies* (to be launched in 2013)
- Member of the European Network on the Instruments of Devotion (ENID)
- Member of Ecclesiastical History Society
- Member of the Forum for Medieval and Renaissance Studies Ireland

Michael Shortall

Publications.

Books

- *Human Rights and Moral Reasoning. A Comparative Investigation by way of three theorists and their respective traditions of enquiry: John Finnis, Ronald Dworkin and Jürgen Habermas.* Rome: Gregorian and Biblical Press, 2009.

Articles

- ‘Conversations on Catholic Third-Level Education.’, *The Furrow* 63 (2012): 67-76.

Book Reviews

- Reviews have been published in *The Irish Theological Quarterly*.

Conference Papers

- ‘Caritas in Veritate and the Current Economic Crisis: An Overview.’ Paper presented to the Irish Theological Association Conference: Theological Reflections on Justice in a Time of Economic Crisis, Mater Dei Institute, Dublin (2009).
- ‘Theology After Artane.’ Paper presented at Interface Conference: Being a Young Theologian in the World Today, St. Patrick’s College, Maynooth (2009).
- ‘*Caritas in Veritate* from a theological perspective.’ Paper presented at a conference on Caritas in Veritate associated with the Annual Michael Devlin Lecture, St. Patrick’s College, Maynooth (2010).
- ‘The Political, the Logic of Gift and *Caritas in Veritate*.’ Seminar Paper delivered as the St. Cuthbert’s Visiting Research Fellow, the Centre for Catholic Studies, Durham, UK (2012).

Service to the Academic and Wider Community

Roles/Committees within St. Patrick’s College

- Director of Affiliated Programmes, including Convenor of the Affiliated Programmes Board
- Member of the Strategic Planning Committee
- Member of Quality Assurance Committee
- Member of Undergraduate Board (2011-2012)
- Member of College Life Board (2006-2012)
- Chaplain to Diploma in Catholic Education

Roles/Committees with other institutions

- Secretary to the Bioethics Consultative Group of the Irish Episcopal Conference.
- Advisory Capacity to CURA
- Dublin Diocesan Advisory Board on Ecumenism

External Examiner

- External Examiner to the Department of Moral Theology, Mater Dei Institute of Education

Professional Memberships

- Member of the Organising Committee of the Irish Theological Association
- Member of the Association of Teachers of Moral Theology

Liam Tracey

Publications

Books

- When the reform becomes prayer. Reflections on eucharistical language in the Missal of Paul VI (Forthcoming:Dublin 2014).
- The Impact of Nostra Aetate on Roman Catholic Worship (Forthcoming:New York 2014).

Articles

- “‘Ardens sed Virens - Burning but Flourishing.’ Open to the Spirit of Christ who rejuvenates the Church,” in Brendan Mc Convery (editor), *Living in Union with Christ in Today’s World. The Witness of John Calvin & Ignatius Loyola* (Dublin: Veritas, 2011) 127-142.
- ‘The Affirmation of Jewish Covenantal Vitality and the Church’s Liturgical Life,’ in Philip A. Cunningham et al (editors), *Christ Jesus and the Jewish People Today. New Explorations of theological Interrelationships* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2011) 268-86. (Translated into Italian 2012).
- ‘Word and Sacrament,’ in Juliette Day – Ben Gordon Taylor, *The Alcuin Guide to the Study of Liturgy and Worship* (Forthcoming:London: SPCK, 2013).

Book Reviews

- Reviews have been published in the *Irish Theological Quarterly*

Conferences

- *The Contribution of James McKinnon to Liturgical Studies*, The Advent Project: Ten Years On. Early Medieval Chant and Ritual in Rome, St. Patrick’s College, Maynooth – School of Music, UCD – UCD Humanities Institute of Ireland, October 2010 (Joint Convenor with Dr. Frank Lawrence, UCD).
- ‘*Ardens sed Virens| Burning but Flourishing.*’ *Open to the Spirit of Christ who rejuvenates the Church*, Calvin and Loyola Conference, St. Patrick’s College, Maynooth – Union Theological College, Belfast, October 2010.
- *The Liturgy Constitution 50 years on*, Seminar on Vatican II, Cabra Dominican Sisters, June 2012.
- *When the Reform becomes Prayer: Reflections on the Missal of Paul VI* Societas Liturgica Wuzerburg August 2013.

Service to the Academic and Wider Community

Roles/Committees within St. Patrick’s College

- Chair Post Graduate Board.
- Member Pastoral Theology Board
- Scholarships Committee
- Sabbatical Committee
- Quality Assurance Group

- Review Editor, *Irish Theological Quarterly*
- Liturgy Committee for the symposium preceding the IEC
- College Liturgy Committee.

Roles/Committees with other institutions

- Member of the Council for Liturgy of the Irish Bishops Conference and a number of its working groups. Member of the Liturgy Committee for the IEC 2012.

External examiner

- External Examiner for the MA in Christian Liturgy at Sarum College, Salisbury (validated by the University of Winchester).

Professional Memberships

- *Societas Liturgica*, Irish Biblical Association. Patristic Symposium, Maynooth

Oliver Treanor

Publications

Books

“Mary’s Song of Praise”, *Magnificat. International English Version* (May, 2013).

- *Eucharist: Source and Centre of the Sacramental Life*, (Forthcoming) Veritas, 2013

Articles

- “Mary as the Sacramental Matrix of Ecclesial Personhood in Christ”, in Brendan Leahy and Seamus O’Connell, ed., *Having Life in His Name. Living, Thinking and Communicating the Christian Life of Faith*. Dublin: Veritas Publications, 2011, 91-120.
- “The Eucharist and the Apostolicity of Communion”, in The International Eucharistic Congress Committee, *Acts of the Eucharistic Congress, Dublin, 2012*. Dublin: Veritas Publications, 2013.
- “Apostolicity and the Eucharist”. *Communio* 39 (Winter 2012).
- “Eucharist”; “Purgatory”, in Brendan Leahy, ed. *The Year of Faith*. Dublin: Veritas Publications, Spring 2013.

Conferences

- “Body of Christ from the Body of Christ”, address to Congress Preparation Audience, Iona Conference Centre, Dublin, February 15th. 2012.
- “Eucharist as Fullness of Communion in Christ”, paper to Mary Immaculate College Theology Conference, Limerick, March 10th. 2012.
- “The Eucharist and the Apostolicity of Communion”, paper delivered at the International Theology Symposium of the Eucharistic Congress, Maynooth, June 7th. 2012.
- “Eucharist and Church: One Communion in the Triune Body of Christ”, paper delivered at the 5th. International Fota Conference on Liturgy, Cork, July 7th. 2012.

Service to the Academic and Wider Community

Roles/Committees within St. Patrick’s College

- Member of College Life Board Committee (formerly the Pastoral Committee).
- Faculty Disability Officer

Roles/Committees with other institutions

- Member of the Irish Episcopal Conference’s Council for Clergy and Permanent Diaconate
- Adviser to the Down and Connor Vocations Committee on the academic formation of candidates for priesthood.

