

# CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR IRISH STUDIES ANNUAL MEETING 2025

## Borders, Boundaries and Frontiers in Irish Studies Draft Schedule

Wednesday, June 11 (York University)

Registration at 9am with breakfast items at Founders College Assembly Hall (FC 152)

10.30am – 12pm (Panels 1 and 2)

### **Panel 1: Our Final End: The Novel and Statehood in 1930s Irish Free State (FC 106)**

Chair: Anna Teekell

**Keelan Harkin**, Concordia University

**Kayla Fanning**, Concordia University

**Bandhuli Chattopadhyay**, Université Laval and Université de Strasbourg, 'Home(land) in Crisis: Bordering and Othering in Rosamond Jacob's *The Troubled House* (1938)'

### **Panel 2: Form and Subjectivity in Irish Poetry (FC 108)**

Chair: Michael A. Moir Jr.

**Dean Farrell**, Concordia University, 'Micheál MacLiammóir and the prose poem in Irish'

**Ellen Orchard**, Trinity College Dublin, "on the safe side of the border / before the border was changed": Reading Boundaries in Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin's Poetry about Ireland's Mother and Baby Homes'

**Sarah Upton**, University of Cambridge, 'The Ecology of the Edge: Salvage and Collaboration in Sinéad Morrissey and Stephen Sexton's Recent Poetry'

12.15-1.15pm Archives of Ontario tour, including an exhibit of documents relating to the Irish Famine immigration of 1847 <https://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/index.aspx>

Lunch at various York Lanes outlets: see <https://www.yorklanesmall.com/>

### **2-3pm Professionalization Workshop (FC 106)**

3-3.30pm coffee break

3.30-5pm (Panels 3 and 4)

### **Panel 3: Ceist na Teangan i Léann na hÉireann - The Language Issue in Irish Studies (FC 106)**

Organizer and Moderator: **Dean Farrell**, Concordia University

Participants: **Natasha Sumner**, Harvard University

**Connor McCabe**, University College Dublin

**Pa Sheehan**, University of Toronto

**Giselle González García**, Concordia University  
**Lily MacLean**, Independent Researcher

**Panel 4: Visualizing History in the Irish Diaspora (FC 108)**

Chair: Liam Mason

**Emily Mark-FitzGerald**, University College Dublin, 'Seeing hunger: transmedial visual cultures in Ireland and the Diaspora'

**Jessica Poulin**, Historica Canada, 'St. Patrick's Church: Analyzing Community and Change Through Art'

**Caroline O'Brien**, Toronto Metropolitan University, 'Pulling Threads: Transforming Diasporic Understanding Through Exploring Ancestral Pathways'

5.30-8pm: Official conference welcome (Private Dining Room, Schulich School of Business)

**KEYNOTE 1: Garrett Carr**, Queen's University Belfast, Walking Ireland's Border

Followed by a reception and entertainment

**Thursday, June 12**

Morning sessions at York University

Registration at 9am with breakfast items at Founders College Assembly Hall (FC 152)

9.30-11am (Panels 5 and 6)

**Panel 5: Material Cultures of National and Regional Identity (FC 106)**

Chair: Emily Mark-FitzGerald

**Ann Alcorn**, University College Cork, 'Shaping the Irish Revival: Exploring Evelyn Gleeson's nationalist ethos and international outlook'

**Aisling Reid**, Queen's University Belfast, 'Border Brushstrokes: The Ulster Arts Club and the Post-Partition Nation'

**Panel 6: Irish Fiction in European Contexts (FC 108)**

Chair: Keelan Harkin

**Robert Brazeau**, University of Alberta, 'Of Bays, Borders, Bards, and Boundaries: The Hydro-politics of Joyce's "Telemachus"'

**Brad Kent**, Université Laval, 'James Joyce, Brinsley MacNamara, Lennox Robinson, and the International Dialectic of Censorship'

**Aileen Ruane**, Grove City College, 'Irishness in Michel Déon's *Un taxi mauve*: narrating boundaries, borders, and frontiers via translation'

11-11.15am coffee break

11.15am-12.45pm (Panels 7 and 8)

**Panel 7: Borders, Political Moments and Linguistic Transitions in Ireland and Irish Canada (FC 106)**

Chair: Pa Sheehan

**Liam Mason**, St. Mary's University, 'A dTeanga Dúchais I gCeanada: An Analysis of the Haligonians who Reported Irish as Their Mother Tongue in the 1901 Canadian Census'

**William Jenkins**, York University, 'The Limits to Daniel O'Connell's Repeal movement in Canada West'

**Kieran Bonner**, St Jerome's University in the University of Waterloo, '1916 and the Border: The Fraught Issue of Irish Nationalism'

**Panel 8: Popular Fiction and the Monstrous (FC 108)**

Chair: Michele Holmgren

**Michael A. Moir, Jr.**, Georgia Southwestern State University, 'White Worms, Black Servants, and Anglo-Saxon Disgust: Abjection and the Weird in Bram Stoker's *The Lair of the White Worm*'

**Meaghan Landrigan-Buttle**, Concordia University, "'He's a Tramp, but They Love Him": Using Irish History to Blur the Boundaries Between Good and Evil Men in Popular Romance Novels'

**Aran Ward Sell**, University of Notre Dame, 'Deranged Prophets' Songs: The contemporary Irish novelist as soothsayer of disaster'

(Travel 40 minutes via TTC subway to Museum station;  
lunch either on York campus or nearby St Michael's College)

St Michael's College, University of Toronto (Carr Hall)

2.30-4pm (Panels 9 and 10)

**Panel 9: Exiles and Outsiders in Irish and Celtic Literatures (CR404)**

Chair: Aileen Ruane

**Tim Morrissey**, New York University, *Flaitheas gan Talún* // Sovereignty without Land: Nationhood, Dislocation, and the Dirigible in Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill's poetic suite *Immram*.

**Mikhailova Polina**, Russian State University for the Humanities, "TERRA PROMISSA?: "OTHER LAND" IN MEDIEVAL IRISH "SCÉLA CANO MEIC GARTNÁIN"" (presented remotely)

**Geraldine Rossiter**, Southern New Hampshire University, 'Missing Her Own Country: Cosmopolitanism in Irish Women's Writing'

**Panel 10: Women's Sexuality in the Irish Diaspora (CR405)**

Chair: William Jenkins

**Jane McGaughey**, Concordia University, 'The Body of Mary Boyd: Sex, Scandal, and Medical Experimentation in Victorian Canada'

**Ariel Pinol**, Université Laval, 'Leaving Home and Living Free: The Irish Lesbian Experience in Ladies and Gentlemen by Emma Donoghue and Celebrated Virgins by Katie Elin-Salt'  
**Áine O'Flynn**, University of Galway, 'The Contribution of Irish Bodies to Medical Science in Nineteenth-Century Nova Scotia'

Coffee break

4.15-5.15pm

**KEYNOTE 2: Anna Teekell**, Christopher Newport University, Magical Thinking and the Irish Border: Politics, Fiction, and the Work of Magical Realism (Fr Madden Hall)

5.30-6.15pm Book launch of Garrett Carr, *The Boy from The Sea* (Fr Madden Hall)

6.30pm Conference Dinner at Charbonnel Lounge, St Michael's College

Irish Heritage Month awards presentation

Welcome remarks by His Excellency, Ambassador John Concannon

After-dinner remarks by Professor David Wilson, editor of the Canadian Dictionary of Biography and Professor, Celtic Studies and History, University of Toronto

### **Friday, June 13**

St Michael's College, University of Toronto (Fr Madden Hall, Carr Hall)

9.30-11am (Panel 11)

#### **Panel 11: Ireland and Canada: Political Cross-currents**

Chair: David Wilson

**Dónal Gill**, Concordia University, 'Imagined Solidarities: The Boer War and Anti-Imperialist Nationalism in *Ulysses*'

**Nathalie Sebbane**, University of Sorbonne Nouvelle, 'Exploring Boundaries across Borders: A Comparative Study of Residential Child Abuse in Ireland and Canada'

**Shane Lynn**, McMaster University, 'How boundaries shaped radical Irish nationalism in Montreal: the case of the South African War'

11-11.15am Late morning coffee break

11.15am-12.30pm

**KEYNOTE 3: Cormac Moore**, *The Irish News*, 'The Root of All Evil': The Irish Boundary Commission

Lunch at Canada Room, Brennan Hall

2-3.15pm Irish Immigrant Labour and the Building of Toronto and Ontario after World War 2, a presentation co-sponsored by the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 793

Coffee break

3.45-5.15pm (Panel 12)

**Panel 12: Diasporic Frontiers**

Chair: Jane McGaughey

**Giselle González García**, Concordia University, 'A Digital History of the Irish in Cuba: Recruitment Schemes, Restrictions of Mobility, and 'Free' Labour, 1818-1868'

**Michele Holmgren**, Mount Royal University, 'Irish Literature on the Canadian Frontier: W.F. Butler and Red Cloud: The Solitary Sioux'

5.30-6.30pm CAIS AGM

**Saturday, June 14**

Optional Field Excursion to Ireland Park and Corleck Building, Eireann Quay (site of the arrivals of refugees from the Great Irish Famine in 1847 (**We will meet at 11am at the clock tower outside the entrance to Union Station on Front Street West**)

<https://www.canadairrelandfoundation.com/explore/ireland-park/>

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