

BRIDGING THE ATLANTIC

Ireland and the US

Tuesday 17th November 2020

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
BMW CENTER FOR
GERMAN AND EUROPEAN
STUDIES

EDMUND A. WALSH SCHOOL OF FOREIGN SERVICE



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BELFAST



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
Global Irish Studies

WELCOME

Global Irish Studies and the BMW Center for German and European Studies at Georgetown University, in conjunction with the Clinton Institute at University College Dublin, the William J. Clinton Leadership Institute at Queens University Belfast, the Washington Ireland Program, and the Embassy of Ireland USA, welcome you to ***Bridging the Atlantic - Ireland and the US.***

This is the second annual symposium on Ireland-US relations, following on from the very successful inaugural event in November 2019. It aims to deepen connections and understanding between academics, analysts and policymakers on either side of the Atlantic, even as it engages them in debate on the frictions within as well as the futures of transatlantic relations.

At a time of significant political and economic upheavals there is much to consider in the relations between the two nations, including how they will develop in the wake of Brexit and of the November elections in the US. This online symposium provides an opportunity to reflect on key dimensions of Ireland-US relations at this time. Three panel discussions will involve representatives of the US Congress, policymakers, scholars and journalists.

The conference is dedicated to the memory of John Hume and John Lewis, two titans of civil rights politics, whose legacies and leadership are important to both Ireland and the United States.



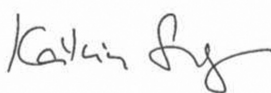
Professor C  il  n Parsons
Global Irish Studies Initiative,
Georgetown University



Dr Joanne Murphy
Academic Director of William J. Clinton Leadership Institute
Queens University Belfast



Professor Liam Kennedy
Director, UCD Clinton Institute



Professor Katrin Sieg
BMW Center for German and European Studies

PROGRAMME

Tuesday 17th November 2020

9.00 EST **WELCOME REMARKS**

- Professor Katrin Sieg (Georgetown University)
- President John J. DeGioia (Georgetown University)
- Professor Richard English (Queen's University Belfast)

9.15 EST **PANEL 1: LEADERSHIP AS BRIDGE BUILDING -
A TRIBUTE TO JOHN HUME & JOHN LEWIS**

The last year has seen the passing of two titans of civil rights politics, John Lewis and John Hume. We will consider their legacies in relation to outstanding questions of conflict transformation, racial justice and leadership in Ireland and the US. What does the future hold for the Peace Process in Ireland and what role might the US play? What is the role of Irish America in the current struggles for racial justice in the US?

Panellists:

Prof. Brendan O'Leary (University of Pennsylvania)

Dr. Eburn Joseph (author and activist)

Prof. Kevin Gaines (University of Virginia)

Prof Bonnie Weir (Yale University)

Moderator: Dr. Joanne Murphy (Queens University Belfast)

10.00 EST **PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON**

Remarks on Atlantic Relations in a New Era

10.15 EST **PANEL 2: A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP -
THE ENDURING INFLUENCE OF IRISH-AMERICA**

From Andrew Jackson to Barack Obama, 22 of America's 45 Presidents have had Irish heritage. But as US demographics and immigration flows change, what does it now mean to be Irish-American? What role does the constituency play in US politics? And what does Irish-America mean for modern Ireland and its relationship with the United States?

Panellists:

Simon Coveney, TD (Ireland's Minister for Foreign Affairs)
Chairman Richard Neal; Rep. Pete King

Moderator: Caitriona Perry (RTÉ)

10.50 EST **PANEL 3: THE FUTURE OF TRANSATLANTIC RELATIONS**

What difference will Brexit and the US elections make to relations between Ireland and the US? What are the key economic and diplomatic issues ahead?

Panellists:

Daniel Mulhall (Ambassador of Ireland to the US)
Ed Luce (Financial Times)
Prof. Katy Hayward (Queens University Belfast)
David Henig (European Centre for International Political Economy)
Dr. Thomas Wright (Brookings Institution)

Moderator: Suzanne Lynch (The Irish Times)

11.45 EST **CLOSING REMARKS**

- Professor Liam Kennedy (University College Dublin)
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MINISTER SIMON COVENEY TD

In June 2017 Minister Coveney was appointed Deputy Leader of Fine Gael and became Minister for Foreign Affairs & Trade with special responsibility for Brexit negotiations in November 2017. In 2020 he was appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Defence. He continues to lead Ireland's engagement with the European Union Brexit talks. He was elected to the European Parliament in 2004 and was a member of the EPP-ED group. He was a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee and the Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee. He was also a substitute member on the Fisheries Committee. Mr. Coveney was the author of the European Parliament's *Annual Report on Human Rights in the World* for the year 2004 and again for 2006.



AMBASSADOR DANIEL MULHALL

Ambassador Mulhall joined the Department of Foreign Affairs in 1978 and had his early diplomacy assignments in New Delhi, Brussels (European Union) and Edinburgh where he was Ireland's first Consul General (1998-2001). He served as Ireland's Ambassador to Malaysia (2001-2015) where he was also accredited to Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. From 2009-13 he was Ireland's Ambassador to Germany and then served as Ireland's Ambassador in London (2013-17) before his appointment as Ireland's Ambassador to the United States in 2017.



PRESIDENT JOHN J. DEGIOIA

John J. DeGioia is the 48th President of Georgetown University. A graduate of Georgetown, Dr. DeGioia served as a senior administrator and as a faculty member in the Department of Philosophy before becoming President on July 1, 2001. He has been presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Academia by the Sons of Italy, and the “Catholic in the Public Square Award” by *Commonweal* (2012). He was honored as a “Brave Thinker” by *The Atlantic* (2012), and as “Washingtonian of the Year” by *Washingtonian Magazine* (2008). President De Gioia has received numerous Honorary Degrees, including from Queens University, Belfast in 2009. He was elected a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2010.



RICHARD ENGLISH

Richard English is Professor of Politics at Queen’s University Belfast, where he is also Distinguished Professorial Fellow in the Senator George J. Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice. His research focuses on the politics and history of nationalism, political violence, and terrorism, with a particular focus on Ireland and Britain. His books include *Does Terrorism Work? A History* (OUP, 2016), *Modern War: A Very Short Introduction* (OUP, 2013), *Terrorism: How to Respond* (OUP, 2009), *Irish Freedom: The History of Nationalism in Ireland* (Pan Macmillan, 2006), *Armed Struggle: The History of the IRA* (Pan Macmillan, 2003), *Ernie O’Malley: IRA Intellectual* (OUP, 1998), and *Radicals and the Republic: Socialist Republicanism in the Irish Free State 1925-1937* (OUP, 1994). He is a Fellow of the British Academy, a Member of the Royal Irish Academy, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, an Honorary Fellow of Keble College Oxford, and an Honorary Professor at the University of St Andrews. In 2018 he was awarded a CBE for services to the understanding of modern day terrorism and political history. In 2019 he was awarded the Royal Irish Academy Gold Medal in the Social Sciences.



PROFESSOR KEVIN GAINES

Professor Kevin Gaines is the Julian Bond Professor of Civil Rights and Social Justice at the University of Virginia, with a joint appointment in the Corcoran Department of History and the Carter G. Woodson Institute for African American and African Studies. He is author of *Uplifting the Race: Black Leadership, Politics, and Culture During the Twentieth Century* (University of North Carolina Press, 1996) which was awarded the American Studies Association's John Hope Franklin Book Prize. His book, *American Africans in Ghana: Black Expatriates and the Civil Rights Era* (UNC Press, 2006) was a Choice Outstanding Academic Title. His current research is on the integrationist projects of African American activists, artists and intellectuals, interventions that redefined blackness and acknowledged the relationship of structural and ideological forms of racism to racial capitalism, patriarchy, and homophobia.



PROFESSOR KATY HAYWARD

Professor Katy Hayward is Reader in Sociology and Fellow at the Senator George J. Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice at Queens University Belfast. She is a Senior Fellow of the UK in a Changing Europe Initiative. A leading expert on Brexit, she has 20 years research and teaching experience on the impact of the EU on the Irish border and Peace Process. She is the author of the reports *Bordering on Brexit* and co-author (with Prof. David Phinnemore) of *UK Withdrawal (Brexit) and the Good Friday Agreement*, commissioned by the AFCO committee of the European Parliament.



DAVID HENIG

David Henig is Director of the UK Trade Policy Project at the European Centre for International Political Economy. A leading expert on the development of UK trade policy post Brexit, in 2017 he co-founded the UK Trade Forum, which brings together UK trade policy experts to debate and analyse these issues. He joined ECIPE in 2018 having worked on trade and investment issues for the UK Government for a number of years.



DR. EBUN JOSEPH

Dr. Ebum Joseph is an author and social justice activist. She is a Teaching Fellow at Trinity College Dublin and also lectures and co-ordinates the module on Black Studies at University College Dublin. She holds the position of Career Development Consultant at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and she previously worked with Business in the Community Ireland. She has a PhD in Equality Studies from UCD School of Social Justice. She is a columnist for the *Dublin Inquirer* on race and Chairperson of the African Scholars Association Ireland. She is a co-editor of the book *Challenging Perceptions of Africa in Schools: Critical Approaches to Global Justice Education* (Routledge, 2019) and author of *Racial Stratification in Ireland: A Critical Race Theory of Labour Market Inequality* (Manchester University Press, 2020).



PROFESSOR LIAM KENNEDY

Professor Liam Kennedy is the Director of the Clinton Institute at University College Dublin. His research interests and teaching experiences span the fields of American cultural and media studies, political communications and diaspora studies. He has published widely in these fields, including recent edited books on *Neoliberalism and American Literature* (2019), *Trump's America* (2020) and *Diaspora and Diplomacy* (2021), and is currently researching a monograph on the future of Irish America.



PETER T. KING

Congressman Peter T. King, a Republican, is serving his fourteenth term in the U.S. House of Representatives, being re-elected in November 2018. Rep. King is a member of the Homeland Security Committee, he served as Chairman of the Committee in 2005-2006 and again in 2011-2012, and Ranking Member of the Sub-Committee on Emergency Preparedness. He also serves on the Financial Services Committee. Rep. King is a strong supporter of the US military and has fought to bring veterans' benefits into the 21st century. He is also a strong supporter of funding to combat deadly illnesses such as breast cancer and prostate cancer. He has also received the AARP's Legislative Leadership Award for combating elder abuse and exploitation. Rep. King is co-chair of the Friends of Ireland Caucus.



ED LUCE

Edward Luce is the US national editor and columnist at the *Financial Times*. Before that he was the FT's Washington Bureau Chief. Other roles have included South Asia Bureau Chief, Capital Markets editor, and Philippines Correspondent. He was previously the speechwriter for the US Treasury Secretary, Lawrence H. Summers in the Clinton administration. He is the author of three highly acclaimed books, *The Retreat of Western Liberalism* (2017), *Time to Start Thinking: America in the Age of Descent* (2012), and *In Spite of the Gods: The Strange Rise of Modern India* (2007). He appears regularly on CNN, NPR, MSNBC's *Morning Joe*, and the BBC.



SUZANNE LYNCH

Suzanne Lynch is currently a Washington Correspondent for the *Irish Times*, Ireland's leading broadsheet newspaper. She covers White House, Capitol Hill and American politics from the US capital. Prior to her US posting, she was a Europe Correspondent for four years and led coverage of the eurozone crisis, Brexit, and the refugee crisis from Brussels. She also previously covered world events such as the UN General Assembly, the NATO summit, the World Economic Forum at Davos, and ECB governing council meetings. She began her career as a financial journalist for RTÉ/*Irish Times* and has appeared on BBC World, Sky News and RTÉ television and is also regularly contributing to radio programmes as an analyst. She holds a PhD in English from Cambridge University.



DR. JOANNE MURPHY

Joanne Murphy is a Reader in Leadership and Organisational Change & Academic Director of the William J. Clinton Leadership Institute, Queens Management School. She is also a Fellow of the Senator George J. Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice and a Senior Fellow of Northern Ireland's policy Think Tank - Pivotal. Her research explores leadership, change and organisational development in politically volatile environments, including those affected by ethno-political conflict. Her current research project is entitled *A Duty of Hope: The Anglo-Irish Division and the Work of Peace in Ireland*. It documents the activities, development and impact of the Anglo-Irish Division of the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs through the prism of peacebuilding and conflict diplomacy.



RICHIE NEAL

Congressman Richie Neal was first elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1988. Since January 2019, he serves as Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means. Under his leadership the Ways and Means Committee has worked to advance measures that support Americans' financial security, health, and wellbeing. Chairman Neal is the Dean of both the Massachusetts Delegation and the New England Congressional Delegation. He is an At-Large Whip for the House Democrats, co-chairman of the New England Congressional Caucus, where he advocates for the unique regional interests of the six New England States, and the co-chair of the Friends of Ireland Caucus. Prior to his time in Congress, Neal was a high school teacher, member of the Springfield City Council, and Mayor of Springfield.



PROFESSOR BRENDAN O'LEARY

Brendan O'Leary is an Irish political scientist, who is Lauder Professor of Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania. He was formerly a professor at the London School of Economics. He is a former political advisor to the British Labour Shadow Cabinet on Northern Ireland. He acted as an advisor to Irish, British and American government ministers and officials and the Irish-American Morrison delegation during the Northern Ireland peace process, and has appeared as an expert witness before the US Congress. He is a regular contributor to public media and debate in the US, Great Britain and Ireland and has written numerous op-eds for *The Financial Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Guardian* and *The Irish Times*. He is the author of the three volume study *A Treatise on Northern Ireland* (Oxford University Press, 2019).



C  IL  N PARSONS

C  il  n Parsons is a Professor in the Department of English in Georgetown University, where his research interests include Irish literature, global modernism, space and scale cartography, and postcolonial literature and theory. He is also Co-Director of Georgetown University's Global Irish Studies initiative, which builds on the University's long tradition of Irish and Irish-American involvement at Georgetown University. His first book *The Ordnance Survey and Modern Irish Literature* (2016) was awarded the American Conference of Irish Studies Robert Rhodes Prize.



CAITRÍONA PERRY

Award-winning broadcast journalist with RTÉ – Ireland's national public service broadcaster, she currently co-anchors of the most watched news and current affairs programme in Ireland, the *Six One News*. Previously she was the network's Washington Correspondent, reporting for television, radio and digital platforms, breaking news, on-air live reporting, in studio and on location right across the United States. She is the author of *In America: Tales from Trump Country* (2017) and *The Tribe: The Inside Story of Irish Power and Influence in US Politics* (2019).



KATRIN SIEG

Professor Sieg is Professor of German jointly affiliated with the BMW Center for German and European Studies and the German department at Georgetown University. Her research focuses on German and European culture, postcolonial and critical race studies and feminist studies. She is the author of three scholarly monographs on German and European theatre, performance, and cinema and has received several awards and grants, among them a Humboldt Fellowship.



PROFESSOR BONNIE WEIR

Professor Bonnie A. Weir is a lecturer in Political Science, Research Associate of the MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies, and founding Co-Director of the Program on Peace and Development at Yale University. Her work focuses on political violence and post-conflict politics with an empirical concentration on Northern Ireland. She is currently working on a book on the politics of armed groups as well as projects on sectarianism and minority rights. She recently wrote about the legacy of violence and division in Northern Ireland in relation to Brexit, in *Brexit and A Border Town* (*New York Review of Books*, 11 April 2019).



DR. THOMAS WRIGHT

Thomas Wright is the Director of the Center on the United States and Europe and a Senior Fellow in the Project on International Order and Strategy at the Brookings Institution. He is a contributing writer for *The Atlantic*, and a non-resident Fellow at the Lowy Institute for International policy. He is author of *All Measures Short of War: The Contest For the 21st Century and the Future of American Power* (2017). He works on great power competition, Brexit and the future of the WU, economic interdependence, Donald Trump's worldview and US foreign policy.

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