



2nd Limerick Conference in Irish-German Studies

DAAD Seminar for former
scholarship holders from Ireland

Ireland and Germany 50 years on

Constitutions • Experiences of Division and Unification
Germany, Ireland, and the European Union • The Celtic
Tiger – an Irish Wirtschaftswunder? • Multiculturalism?
The Role of Women in Comparative Perspective • Recent
Developments in 3rd Level Education • Cultural and
Academic Connections • The Future of Irish-German
Cultural Relations

University of Limerick
2–4 September 1999

Centre for Irish-German Studies & Centre for European
Studies at the University of Limerick in co-operation with
the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

**Centre for
Irish-German
Studies**



DAAD

THE CONFERENCE

On Easter Monday 1949 Ireland was officially declared a Republic. In Germany, only weeks later, on 24 May, the Basic Law (Grundgesetz) came into effect and established the Federal Republic of Germany. On 7 October of the same year the German Democratic Republic was founded.

The conference is to mark the semi-centenary of these events. Its aim is to compare and contrast the respective experiences, continuities and discontinuities in Ireland and Germany in a number of crucial areas over the intervening 50 years. Lectures by leading Irish and German experts will be followed by what will no doubt be lively and stimulating audience-generated discussions.

We gratefully acknowledge the help and financial support we received from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the joint organizer of the conference, and the European Commission as well as financial support for the cultural events by the following sponsors: Holmes O'Malley Sexton, Kostal Ireland, Sifa Ltd., Teles Ireland Ltd, Bank of Ireland and the German Embassy in Dublin.

The Organizing Committee

THURSDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER

3 pm Opening of Photographic Exhibition
Photographs by Annamarie Michel,
Derek Speirs, Eoin Stephenson

Address by His Excellency Hartmut Hillgenberg,
German Ambassador to Ireland
Wine Reception
>Location: Foundation Building, Bourn Vincent Gallery

4 pm Welcoming Address by Roger Downer,
President, University of Limerick

Welcoming Address by Christian Bode,
Secretary General, German Academic Exchange Service

Opening Address by Miriam Hederman-O'Brien,
Chancellor, University of Limerick

SESSION 1 CONSTITUTIONS

4.30 pm ¶ Chair: His Excellency Hartmut Hillgenberg,
German Ambassador to Ireland

Mrs Justice Susan Denham, The Supreme Court, Dublin
Thomas Oppermann,
Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen
John Coakley, University College Dublin

7 pm RECEPTION
>Location: Plassey House

8.30 pm CULTURAL PROGRAMME
The Hibernia String Trio

>Locations Unless otherwise stated all events are taking place
in the Jean Monnet Theatre.

FRIDAY, 3 SEPTEMBER

SESSION 2 EXPERIENCES OF DIVISION AND UNIFICATION

9 am ¶ Chair: Nicholas Rees, University of Limerick

Wolf Wagner, Fachhochschule Erfurt
Richard Sinnott, University College Dublin

10.30 am Coffee

SESSION 3 IRELAND, GERMANY AND THE EUROPEAN UNION

11 am ¶ Chair: Carl Lankowski, American Institute for
Contemporary German Studies, Washington DC

Garret Fitzgerald, Dublin
Willie Paterson, Institute for German Studies,
University of Birmingham

12.30 pm Lunch

SESSION 4 THE CELTIC TIGER –
AN IRISH WIRTSCHAFTSWUNDER ?

2 pm ¶ Chair: Nigel Reeves, Aston University, Birmingham

Werner Abelshausen, Universität Bielefeld
James Wrynn, Dublin Institute of Technology

3.30 pm Coffee

>Locations Unless otherwise stated all events are taking place
in the Jean Monnet Theatre.

SESSION 5 MULTICULTURALISM ?

4 pm ¶ Chair: Marion Caspers-Merk, MdB

Sen. Brendan Ryan
Adil Öyan, "Immi-Grün – Bündnis der neuen
InländerInnen"

5.30 pm MEETING
of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
>Location: Foundation Building, Room FG-048

8 pm CONFERENCE DINNER
Address by His Excellency Noel Fahey, Irish Ambassador
to Germany
>Location: Castletroy Park Hotel

10 pm CEILI at the Castletroy Park Hotel. All Welcome.

SATURDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER

SESSION 6 THE ROLE OF WOMEN
IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

9 am ¶ Chair: Pat O'Connor, University of Limerick

Ursula Müller, Centre for Interdisciplinary Women's
Research, Universität Bielefeld
Ailbhe Smyth, University College Dublin

10.30 am Coffee

>Locations Unless otherwise stated all events are taking place
in the Jean Monnet Theatre.

SESSION 7 RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN 3RD LEVEL EDUCATION

11 am ¶ Chair: Ina Grieb, Vizepräsidentin,
Carl-von-Ossietzky-Universität Oldenburg

Áine Hyland, University College Cork

Josef Lange, Association of Universities and other
Higher Education Institutions in Germany (HRK)

12.30 pm Lunch

SESSION 8 CULTURAL AND ACADEMIC CONNECTIONS

2 pm ¶ Chair: Marc Serge Rivière, University of Limerick

Arndt Wigger, Bergische Universität-GH Wuppertal

Emer O'Sullivan, Johann-Wolfgang-Goethe Universität
Frankfurt and Dietmar Rösler, Justus-Liebig Universität,
Gießen

3.30 pm Coffee

SESSION 9 THE FUTURE OF IRISH-GERMAN CULTURAL
RELATIONS – A ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

4 pm ¶ Chair: Erich Thies, German Conference of Ministers of
Culture and Education (KMK)

Patricia Conlan, University of Limerick

Hugh Ridley, Association of
Third-Level Teachers of German in Ireland

Reinhard Schmidt-Supprian, Goethe Institut, Dublin

Denis Staunton, The Irish Times

And other speakers.

5.30 pm Conference ends.

LIST OF SPEAKERS

Prof. Dr. Werner ABELSHAUSER is Professor of Economic History at the University of Bielefeld • Dr. Christian BODE is Secretary General of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) • Marion CASPERS-MERK is a Member of the German Bundestag and Chair of the German-Irish Parliamentary Group of the Bundestag • John COAKLEY is Lecturer in Politics at University College Dublin • Dr. Patricia CONLAN is a former DAAD scholarship holder and Lecturer in European Law at the University of Limerick • Mrs Justice Susan DENHAM is a Supreme Court judge • Dr Roger DOWNER is President of the University of Limerick • Dr Garret FITZGERALD is a former Taoiseach and Foreign Minister • Jürgen GOTTSCHALK is President of the German-Irish Society in Würzburg • Ina GRIEB is Vice President of the University of Oldenburg • Dr Miriam HEDERMAN-O'BRIEN is Chancellor of the University of Limerick • His Excellency Prof. Dr. Hartmut HILGEBERG is Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Ireland • Prof Áine HYLAND is Professor of Education at University College Cork • Dr. Josef LANGE is Secretary General of the Association of Universities and other Higher Education Institutions in Germany (Hochschulrektorenkonferenz - HRK) • Dr Carl LANKOWSKI is Research Director of the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies, Washington, DC • Prof. Dr. Ursula MÜLLER is Director of the Centre for Interdisciplinary Women's Research at the University of Bielefeld • Prof Pat O'CONNOR is Professor of Sociology at the University of Limerick • Adil Öyan is a member of the national executive of "ImmiGrün – Bündnis der neuen InländerInnen" • Prof. Dr. Dr. Thomas OPPERMANN is emeritus Professor of Constitutional, International and EU Law at the University of Tübingen • Dr. Emer O'SULLIVAN is Privatdozentin at the Institute for Children's Literature Research of the University of Frankfurt am Main • Prof Willie PATERSON, OBE is Director of the Institute for German Studies, University of Birmingham • Prof Nicholas REES is Jean Monnet Professor and Head of the Dept. of Government and Society at the University of Limerick • Prof Nigel REEVES, OBE is Pro-Vice Chancellor for external relations of Aston University, Birmingham • Prof Hugh RIDLEY is Professor of German at University College Dublin and Joint Chair of the Association of Third-Level Teachers of German in Ireland • Prof M. Serge RIVIÈRE is Head of the Dept. of Languages & Cultural Studies at the University of Limerick • Prof. Dr. Dietmar RÖSLER is Professor of German as a Foreign Language at the University of Gießen • Sen. Brendan RYAN is a member of the Labour Party and a Seanad member on the National University of Ireland panel Reinhard SCHMIDT-SUPPRIAN is Director of the Goethe Institut, Dublin • Dr Richard SINNOTT is Senior Lecturer in Politics and Director of the Centre for European Economic and Public Affairs at University College Dublin • Ailbhe SMYTH is Director of the Women's Education, Research and Resource Centre (WERRC) at University College Dublin • Denis STAUNTON is correspondent of *The Irish Times* in Germany • Prof. Dr. Erich THIES is General Secretary of the German Conference of Ministers of Culture and Education (KMK) • Prof. Dr. Wolf WAGNER is Prorektor and Professor of Social Science at the Fachhochschule Erfurt • Dr. Arndt WIGGER is Lecturer in Linguistics at the University of Wuppertal and Founding Director of the Centre for the Study of Celtic Cultures at Königswinter • James WRYNN is Senior Lecturer in Business Policy at the Dublin Institute of Technology.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Dr Joachim FISCHER • Dr Gisela HOLFTER • Dr Marieke KRAJENBRINK
Dr Joachim LERCHENMUELLER • Prof Edward MOXON-BROWNE