

ANNUAL REPORT
for the year ending 16 March 1999

INTRODUCTION

This report sets out the main activities of the Royal Irish Academy during the year ending 16 March 1999. It makes impressive reading; even those who are familiar with the Academy may still be surprised at the range and complexity of its operation and at the number of people involved in its many programmes.

An important aspect of the Academy is its representational role: through the various National Committees, we are affiliated to the corresponding International Unions, at whose annual assemblies we are represented; we are also actively involved in the work of the European Science Foundation (ESF), and this year we hosted two ESF meetings in Academy House.

A record number of conferences and seminars, twenty in total, was organised, and twenty-eight other special events were held in Academy House. Among the many publications during the year, there were three notable launches: volume 40 of the *Ordnance Survey Memoirs of Ireland* (in collaboration with the Institute of Irish Studies, the Queen's University of Belfast) on 28 September 1998, by President McAleese; the first volume of *Documents on Irish foreign policy* on 2 November 1998; and the *Irish historic towns atlas no. 9: Bray* on 26 February 1999. There was a full programme of discourses, including M. Herity's Presidential address, 'The end of prehistory', on 25 February 1999.

We note with sadness the death of twelve Members. Four of these, J.R. McConnell, D.F. O'Doherty, L. de Paor and G. Watson, were former Officers of the Academy. Nine new Members were elected in March 1998, including the President of Ireland, M. McAleese, and eight further Members were elected in March 1999.

Among the many distinctions bestowed on Members, we note the election of L.M. Cullen as a Fellow of the British Academy and D.L. Weaire as a Fellow of the Royal Society; G.T. Wrixon was elected President of the National University of Ireland, Cork; and T.P. Hardiman was appointed Chancellor of Dublin City University.

We note, and welcome, the decision to establish an Interim Humanities and Social Sciences Research Council, pending the Minister's appointment of a permanent Research Council in these areas. This is in accord with recommendations made by the Academy and will, in particular, provide for the continuation of the research funding in the social sciences currently made under the auspices of the Academy. This important initiative may point the way towards the establishment of a Science Research Council in line with the practice that has been adopted and proved effective in Europe, and indeed in most developed countries.

We acknowledge the continuing support of the Higher Education Authority. The 1998 grant for current purposes was £1,400,000 (which included £100,000 for the Social Science Research Council). The balance carried forward at the year's end was £4,419.

Among the changes in staff during the year I note in particular the retirement of Ms Íde Ní Thuama after many years of devoted service as Deputy Librarian. Her successor is Ms Bernadette Cunningham. Ms Mary Davies, who made a major contribution to the Irish Historic Towns Atlas, also retired this year; she is succeeded as Cartographic Editor and Project Administrator by Ms Sarah Gearty.

I wish to thank the Members for their commitment to the work of the Academy, particularly those who have served as Officers and on Council, on committees, with projects, and in representational capacities. I am glad to have this opportunity to pay tribute on behalf of the Academy to my predecessor, Michael Herity, who was President throughout the year under review. Our special thanks are due to him for his dedicated service and leadership during the three years of his Presidency.

Many who are not Members give generously of their time and energy, particularly on the various National Committees. The work of these committees, which is a central part of the Academy's activity, depends on the commitment of their members and on the effort and enthusiasm of their chairpersons and secretaries, as well as on those who undertake the onerous responsibilities of organising conferences.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to all of the Academy's staff. We are fortunate to have such a committed and dedicated team. Without their hard work and professional skill the many achievements described in this report would not have been possible.

T.D. Spearman
President
November 1999

MEMBERSHIP

At the Stated Meeting on Saturday, 16 March 1998, the following were elected:

New Members

R.J. Breen	R. Kearney
J.P. Casey	J.M. Kelly
J.P. Fraher	D.N. Livingstone
A.W.B. Jacob	P. McArdle

New Honorary Members

W. Hayes
W. Bodmer

Officers (1998-9)

President: M. Herity
Treasurer: T.B.H. McMurry
Secretary: E. Sagarra
Secretary of Science: R.P. Kernan
Secretary of Polite Literature and Antiquities: J.R. Fanning

Council (1998-9)

Committee of Science

J. Corish
E.P. Cunningham
D.M.X. Donnelly
R.P. Kernan
J.T. Lewis
D.J. McConnell
J.V. McLoughlin
T.B.H. McMurry
R. More O'Ferrall
M.C. Sexton
T.D. Spearman

Committee of Polite Literature and Antiquities

R.H. Buchanan
N.P. Canny
M.E. Daly
J.M. Dillon
J.R. Fanning
P. Harbison
B. Murphy
E. Sagarra
A. Simms
B. Wright

Vice-Presidents (1998-9)

J.T. Lewis (Senior Vice-President)	M.E. Daly
R.H. Buchanan	D.J. McConnell

At the Stated Meeting on Monday, 30 November 1998, the following was elected:

New Member

M. McAleese

At the Stated Meeting on Saturday, 16 March 1999, the following were elected:

New Members

D.M. Clarke	W.J. Smyth
J.N. Flavin	J.K. Vij
W. O’Sullivan	J.G. Vos
C.M. Quinn	D. Whitehead

New Honorary Members

J.L. Ericksen
B.E.S. Gunning
R.H. Grubbs
J-M.P Lehn
A. MacIntyre
Q.R.D. Skinner
R.D. Solow

Officers (1999–2000)

President: T.D. Spearman

Treasurer: T.B.H. McMurry

Secretary: E. Sagarra

Secretary of Science: R.P. Kernan

Secretary of Polite Literature and Antiquities: J.R. Fanning

Council (1999–2000)

Committee of Science

J. Corish
E.P. Cunningham
D.M.X. Donnelly
M.A. Hayes
R.P. Kernan
J.T. Lewis
D.J. McConnell
T.B.H. McMurry
R. More O’Ferrall
J.A. Slevin
D.L. Weaire

*Committee of Polite
Literature and Antiquities*

N.P. Canny
M.E. Daly
J.M. Dillon
J.R. Fanning
P. Harbison
G.L. Huxley
M.E.F. Ryan
E. Sagarra
A. Simms
B. Wright

Vice-Presidents (1999–2000)

G.L. Huxley (Senior Vice-President)

N.P. Canny

E.P. Cunningham

J.A. Slevin

Deceased Members

The deaths of the following Members in the period from 16 March 1998 to 16 March 1999 are recorded with regret:

B.P. BEIRNE, MA, MSc, PhD (Dubl)

Professor Emeritus, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia. Elected 1943. Died 28 March 1998.

L.K. DUNICAN, MAgrSc (NUI), MS, PhD (Cornell)

Professor of Microbiology, National University of Ireland, Galway. Elected 1986. Died 20 April 1998.

J. HESLOP HARRISON, PhD, DSc, FRS, FRSE, FLS

Professor of Botany, The Queen's University of Belfast. Elected 1956. Died 7 May 1998.

G. WATSON, MA (NUI), STL (Rome), PhD (QUB)

Professor of Ancient Classics, National University of Ireland, Maynooth. Elected 1978. Secretary of the Polite Literature and Antiquities Committee, 1986–9; Senior Vice-President 1987–8; Secretary of the Academy 1989–93. Died 24 July 1998.

L. de PAOR, MA (NUI)

College Lecturer in History, National University of Ireland, Dublin. Elected 1960. Executive Secretary of the Academy 1961–2; Vice-President 1986–7. Died 13 August 1998.

SIR ARTHUR VICK, OBE, DSc, PhD, LL.D, DCL, FIEE, FInstP

President and Vice-Chancellor of the Queen's University of Belfast. Elected 1973. Died 2 September 1998.

C. KEMBALL, CBE, MA, ScD (Cantab), DSc (Hon Heriot-Watt; QUB), CChem, FRSC, FRSE, FRS

Emeritus Professor of Chemistry, University of Edinburgh. Elected 1964. Died 4 September 1998.

D.F. O'DOHERTY, MA (NUI), PhD (Cantab)

Emeritus Professor of Logic and Psychology, National University of Ireland, Dublin. Elected 1954. Vice-President 1959–61, 1969–71. Died 9 September 1998.

J.K. WALTON, MA, DLitt (Dubl), FTCD (Emeritus)

Professor of English Literature, Trinity College Dublin. Elected 1972. Died 16 September 1998.

P.A. WAYMAN, MA, PhD (Cantab), DSc (NUI), ARAS

Director of Dunsink Observatory and Senior Professor of Astronomy, Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies. Elected 1966. Vice-President 1978–9. Died 21 December 1998.

J.C. EARNSHAW, PhD (Dunelm), FInstP

Professor of Physics, the Queen's University of Belfast. Elected 1994. Died 17 January 1999.

J.R. McCONNELL, MA, DSc (NUI), BCL, STL, DScMat (Rome)

Emeritus Professor of Theoretical Physics, Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies. Elected 1949. Secretary of the Academy 1967–72. Secretary of the Committee for Science 1968–70. Vice-President 1972–3. Died 13 February 1999.

Deceased Honorary Members

SIR DEREK HAROLD RICHARD BARTON, PhD, DSc (London), FRS, FRSE

Dow Distinguished Professor of Chemical Invention, University of Texas. Nobel Prize for Chemistry 1969. Elected 1985. Died 16 March 1998.

RALPH ALEXANDER RAPHAEL, PhD, DSc (London), CBE, ARCS, DIC, FRS, FRSE, FRSC

Professor of Organic Chemistry, University of Cambridge. Elected 1987. Died 27 April 1998.

SIR ALAN LLOYD HODGKIN, MA, ScD (Cambridge), FRS, OM, KBE

John Humphrey Plummer Professor of Biophysics, University of Cambridge and President of the Royal Society. Elected 1973. Died 20 December 1998.

BÉLA SZÖKEFALVI-NAGY

Member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Professor of Mathematics, József Attila University of Sciences, Szeged. Elected 1973. Died 21 December 1998.

WASSILY LEONTIEF

Professor of Economics, University of New York. Elected 1976. Nobel Prize for Economics 1973. Died 5 February 1999.

DAVID DAUBE, PhD, DCL, FBA

Emeritus Professor-in-Residence and Director of the Robbins Hebraic and Roman Law Collections, University of California, Berkeley. Elected 1970. Died 24 February 1999.

Distinctions

During the year 1998–9 the following distinctions were conferred on Members:

F.H.A. Aalen received the Manning Robertson Prize of the Royal Town Planning Institute and the J.S. Donnelly Prize of the American Conference for Irish Studies for his co-editorship of the *Atlas of the Irish rural landscape*.

J.J. Cleary was awarded the Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship at the University of Munich.

L.M. Cullen received the 1999 Samuel Champlain Prize of the Académie de Saintonge and was elected a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy.

S.F. Deane was awarded the 1998 Ruffino Antico Fattore Prize for Literature and was conferred with an Honorary Degree of DLitt by the University of Ulster.

P. Donlon was appointed the Sandars Bibliography Reader at the University of Cambridge for 1999.

D.M.X. Donnelly was elected an Honorary Member of the Royal Hibernian Academy of Arts.

J.C.I. Dooge received the inaugural John Dutton Medal of the European Geophysical Society, the 1998 R.K. Linsley Award of the American Institute of Hydrology and the 1999 IMO Prize of the World Meteorological Organisation. He was also elected a Foreign Corresponding Member of the Spanish Royal Academy of Sciences.

L. O' C. Drury was appointed the Andrews' Professor of Astronomy by Trinity College Dublin.

J.D.G. Evans was appointed to the Chair of the Philosophy Panel for the 2001 Research Assessment Exercise of the UK Higher Education Funding Councils.

P. Harbison was elected Honorary Member and Professor of Archaeology of the Royal Hibernian Academy of Arts and was also awarded an Honorary Fellowship by Trinity College Dublin.

T.P. Hardiman was elected as the first Chancellor of Dublin City University.

S. Heaney received the Los Angeles Public Library Literary Award and was awarded an Honorary Fellowship by Trinity College Dublin, and a DLitt by the University of Harvard.

G.L. Huxley was elected President of the Classical Association of Ireland for 1999.

D.N. Livingstone was awarded a British Academy Research Readership for 1999–2001 and received the Centenary Medal of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society.

J.P. Neary was elected President of the International Economics and Finance Society for 1999–2000.

B. Ó Buachalla was appointed as Parnell Fellow in Irish Studies at Magdalene College, University of Cambridge, 1998–9.

M.E.F. Ryan was appointed an Honorary Professor at Trinity College Dublin and also a member of the Interim Humanities and Social Sciences Council established by the Higher Education Authority, Dublin.

E. Sagarra was appointed a Member of the German Federal and State Commission to evaluate the German Research System and Chairperson of the Interim Humanities and Social Sciences Council established by the Higher Education Authority, Dublin. She was also elected a Corresponding Member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences.

D.L. Weaire was elected a Member of the Academia Europaea and a Fellow of the Royal Society, London.

G.T. Wrixon was elected President of the National University of Ireland, Cork.

GENERAL

Academy Meetings and Discourses

Ordinary General Meetings of the Academy are normally held in the October–June period. The meetings are open to Members and their guests, and a discourse is usually given by an invited speaker. During the period 15 March 1998 to 16 March 1999, the following meetings and discourses were arranged:

23 April 1998 in Academy House. Professor P.J. Corfield, Royal Holloway College, University of London: 'Songs and the city: sentiment, satire, and popular culture in early modern times'.

14 May 1998 in Academy House. Professor P. Kitromilides, University of Athens: 'An Enlightenment perspective on Balkan multi-culturalism'.

8 June 1998 in Academy House. Professor N. Hammond, Department of Archaeology, Boston University: 'Deciphering Maya hieroglyphics'.

1 October 1998 in the National University of Ireland, Galway. Dr R. Evans, University of Oxford: 'Language and history'.

14 December 1998 in Academy House. Professor A. Watson, University of Leeds: 'Ultra-high energy cosmic rays; the most energetic particles in nature'.

21 January 1999 at Academy House. Professor C.W. Jefford, University of Geneva: 'The fight against malaria'.

25 February 1999 in Academy House. Presidential Address by M. Herity: 'The end of prehistory'.

9 March 1999 in Academy House. Professor J.P. Greene, John Hopkins University: 'Law, liberty and identity in the construction of colonial English and revolutionary America'.

Conferences and Seminars

Each year, the Academy organises and hosts a large number of conferences and seminars. In the year 1998/9, the following were held:

19–20 March 1998 in Trinity College Dublin. Annual meeting of the Freshwater Research Group organised by the National Commission for Hydrobiology.

27–8 March 1998 in Academy House. ‘1798: Revolution, memory, imagination’ organised by the Committee for the Study of Anglo-Irish Literature.

3 April 1998 in the National University of Ireland, Galway. ‘Atmospheric science and global change’ organised by the International Geosphere–Biosphere Programme Committee.

17 April 1998 in Academy House. New Survey of Clare Island Sixth Annual Seminar organised by the New Survey of Clare Island Executive Committee.

23–4 April 1998 in Academy House. ‘Capital cities: Dublin and London from the late Middle Ages to c. 1800’ organised by the Royal Irish Academy and the British Academy.

21–2 May 1998 in Academy House. ‘The human mind’ organised by the National Committee for Philosophy.

29 June–10 July 1998 in Trinity College Dublin. Greek and Latin Summer Schools organised by the National Committee for Greek and Latin Studies.

9–14 August 1998 in the National University of Ireland, Dublin. 27th Congress of the International Association of Limnology organised by the SIL Congress Committee.

19 September 1998. ‘Transition-year physics’ organised by the National Commission for the Teaching of Physics.

9 October 1998 in Academy House. ‘What is crime and who are its perpetrators and victims? The view from Ireland’ organised by the National Committee for Economics and Social Sciences.

15–16 October 1998 in Academy House. ‘Indo-European mythology and religion’ organised by the National Committee for Greek and Latin Studies.

4 November 1998 in Academy House. ‘Science in Ireland in 1798: a time of revolution’ organised by the National Committee for the History and Philosophy of Science.

10–11 November 1998 in Academy House and Marsh’s Library. ‘Biblical and near eastern studies in Ireland: 1600–1850’ organised by the Consultative Committee on Biblical and Near Eastern Studies.

13–14 November 1998 in the Queen’s University of Belfast. ‘Transitions, transpositions and translations: cross-currents in language, literature and the other arts’ organised by the National Committee for Modern Language Studies.

21 November 1998. ‘New developments in practical biology’ organised by the National Commission for the Teaching of Biology.

26 November 1998. ‘Graduate research seminar in international relations’ organised by the National Committee for the Study of International Affairs.

3–4 December 1998 in Academy House. ‘Radio science symposium’ organised by the International Union of Radio Science Sub-Committee.

12 February 1999 in Academy House. ‘Human rights in the 21st century’ organised by the National Committee for the Study of International Affairs.

18–19 February 1999 in Academy House. ‘Ancient Pompeii’ organised by the National Committee for Greek and Latin Studies.

23–4 February 1999 in Academy House. ‘Biological invaders: the impact of exotic species’ organised by the National Committee for Biology.

Special Events

In the period of this annual report, the Academy was pleased to host the following special events, which were held in Academy House unless otherwise stated:

27–8 April 1998 Meeting of the European Science Foundation Standing Committee for Physical and Engineering Sciences (PESC).

12 May 1998 Lunch for the Board of the National Gallery of Ireland.

11 May 1998 Reception held to mark the retirement of Íde Ní Thuama, Deputy Librarian.

26 May 1998 Visit by H.E. the Ambassador of Greece.

15 June 1998 Conference organised by the National Library of Ireland on behalf of the Society of Australian Genealogists.

22 June 1998 Lecture for Northern Ireland Members by Mr William Maguire on ‘Speaking of 98’ at the Ulster Museum.

24 June 1998 Orientation meeting for the descendants of Thomas Addis Emmet who visited Ireland to join in the commemoration of the 1798 rebellion.

9 August 1998 Opening of the 27th Congress of the International Association of Theoretical and Applied Limnology (SIL) by Mr Danny Wallace, TD, Minister of State at the Department of the Environment, at the O’Reilly Hall, National University of Ireland, Dublin.

19 August 1998 Reception held on the occasion of the International Geographical Union World Political Map Meeting.

24–5 August 1998 Meeting of the Interim Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences.

31 August 1998 Symposium organised by the Department of Germanic Studies, Trinity College Dublin, to mark the retirement of Professor Eda Sagarra, MRIA.

28 September 1998 Launch by the President of Ireland, Mrs Mary McAleese, of the fortieth and final volume in the Ordnance Survey Memoirs of Ireland series.

13 October 1998 John Jackson Memorial Lecture at the Royal Dublin Society.

22 October 1998 Meeting of the National Library of Ireland Society.

27 October 1998 Launch of the fourth annual report of the Social Sciences Research Council.

2 November 1998 Launch of the first volume of *Documents in Irish foreign policy* by Mr John O’Donoghue, TD, Minister for Justice, at Iveagh House.

26 November 1998 Lunch hosted by Ms Celia Larkin for Mrs Cherie Blair, QC, wife of the British Prime Minister.

10 December 1998 Meeting of the National Library of Ireland Society.

28 January 1999 Reception for the Board for Humanities.

29 January 1999 Reception held to mark the retirement of Ms Mary Davies, Cartographic Editor of the *Irish historic towns atlas* series.

2 February 1999 Reception for the Board for Science.

4 February 1999 Reception organised by SWETS Subscription Agents.

6 February 1999 Spring Meeting of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland.

11 February 1999 Meeting of the National Library of Ireland Society

26 February 1999 Launch by Dr Garret FitzGerald, MRIA, of *Irish historic towns atlas no. 9: Bray*.

11 March 1999 Visit by Dr Enric Banda, Secretary-General of the European Science Foundation. Press conference organised by the Heritage Council to launch two of the Council’s policy documents.

Finance

This section of the Annual Report deals with transactions during the year 1 January–31 December 1998. A summary of the General Purposes current account appears in the Appendix at the end of the Report.

A grant-in-aid of £1,400,000 for current purposes was received from the Higher Education Authority: total income in the year amounted to £1,551,100. A surplus of £24,843 was brought forward from 1997 and the credit balance at the end of 1998 was £4,419.

Staff (as at 30 September 1999)

Administration

Mr Patrick Buckley, Executive Secretary; Ms Sara Whelan, Senior Assistant Executive Secretary; Ms Veronica Barker, Assistant Executive Secretary; Ms Laura Mahoney, Administrative Officer; Mr Pauric Dempsey, Administrative Officer.

General Office

Ms Aideen Hogan, Senior Executive Assistant; Ms Gerardine McLean, Senior Executive Assistant; Ms Marion Deegan, Senior Executive Assistant; Ms Máire Ní Chearbhaill, Executive Assistant; Ms Carol O'Leary, FÁS Assistant.

Editorial Office

Dr Peter Harbison, Honorary Academic Editor; Ms Rachel McNicholl, Editor; Ms Fidelma Hagan, Assistant Editor; Ms Aisling Flood, Editorial Assistant.

Publications Office

Mr Hugh Shiels, Publications Officer; Mr Trevor Mullins, Publications Assistant.

Information Technology

Mr Julian Aherne, IT Assistant.

Accounts

Ms Deirdre Dempsey, Senior Accounts Officer; Ms Lisa Doyle, Assistant Accounts Officer.

FÁS Supervisor

Mr Karl Vogelsang.

Library

Ms Siobhán O'Rafferty, Librarian; Ms Bernadette Cunningham, Deputy Librarian; Mr Marcus Browne, Library Assistant; Ms Dymphna Moore, Executive Assistant; Mr Warren Priest, FÁS Assistant.

Dictionary of Irish Biography

Mr James McGuire, Managing Editor; Dr James Quinn, Assistant to the Editors; Dr Linde Lunney, Editorial Secretary; Mr Richard Hawkins, Research Assistant and Copy-Editor; Dr Christopher Woods, Research and Editorial Assistant; Ms Helen Andrews, Editorial Assistant; Ms Frances Clarke, Editorial Assistant.

Dictionary of Medieval Latin from Celtic Sources

Dr Anthony Harvey, Editor; Ms Jane Power, Project Assistant; Mr Christopher Sweeney, FÁS Assistant.

Documents on Irish Foreign Policy

Dr Michael Kennedy, Executive Editor.

Foclóir na Nua-Ghaeilge

Dr Éamonn Ó hÓgáin, Eagarthóir; Dr Diarmuid Ó hAirt, Eagarthóir Cúnta; Dr Caoilfhionn Nic Pháidín, Eagarthóir Cúnta (ar shos gairme); Dr Úna Uí Bheirn, Eagarthóir Cúnta; Ms Cáit Ní Chonaill, Cúntóir Rúnaíochta.

Irish Historic Towns Atlas

Ms Sarah Gearty, Cartographic Editor and Project Administrator.

Services

Mr Paul Mitchell, Mr Paul Brady, Ms Sarah Walsh, Ms Teresa Brady.

Ms Íde Ní Thuama retired as Deputy Librarian on 24 April 1998
Ms Niamh O’Sullivan resigned as Assistant Accounts Officer on 16 October 1998.
Mr Des Feeley resigned as IT Assistant on 31 December 1998.
Ms Mary Davies retired as Cartographic Editor on 29 January 1999.
Ms Máire Ní Dhálaigh resigned as Cúntóir Rúnaíochta on 13 March 1999.
Ms Bronagh Harte resigned from Cleaning Services on 13 April 1999.
Ms Emer Condit resigned as Assistant Editor on 11 May 1999
Ms Margaret Critchley resigned as Administrative Officer on 14 May 1999.
Ms Amanda Kane resigned as Executive Assistant on 31 August 1999.
Ms Miriam Carolan resigned as Administrative Officer on 3 September 1999.
Mr Gearóid Mac Duinnshléibhe resigned as Cúntóir Eagarthóireachta on 10 September 1999.

Academy Representation on External Bodies

The Academy is represented on a number of external bodies, as follows:

Board, Institute of Irish Studies, the Queen’s University of Belfast: **J.R. Fanning**
Council, Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies: **President, ex officio**
Council, European Physical Society: **J.A. Slevin**
Executive Council, European Science Foundation: **E. Sagarra**
Standing Committee for the Humanities, European Science Foundation: **E. Sagarra**
Council, Lister Institute of Preventative Medicine: **J.P. Arbuthnott**
Court of the University of Ulster: **E. Sagarra**
Irish Naturalists’ Journal Ltd.: **F.G.A. Winder**
Board of Governors, National Gallery: **President, ex officio**
Board of Visitors, National Museum: **R.H. Buchanan, M.E. Daly, S. Ó Nualláin**
Permanent International Committee of Linguistics: **B. Ó Buachalla**
Institute of European Affairs: **R. Sinnott**

Academy Representation at International Meetings

A primary function of the Academy is to act as a national affiliating body to the more important international scholarly organisations in the sciences and humanities. In 1998–9 the Academy sent delegates to the following international meetings:

European Science Foundation:
Executive Council, Strasbourg, May 1998; September 1998: **E. Sagarra**
Standing Committee for the Humanities, Strasbourg, October 1998: **E. Sagarra**
General Assembly, Strasbourg, November 1998: **M. Herity**
ALLEA (All European Academies) General Assembly, Munich, March 1998: **M. Herity**
European Physical Society Council Meeting, Leiden, March 1998: **P.K. Carroll**
International Council of Scientific Unions General Assembly, Vienna, April 1998: **J.O.**

Scanlan

World Congress of Philosophy, Boston, August 1998: **Dr T. O’Connor**
International Mathematical Union General Assembly, Dresden, August 1998: **Professor S.K.**

Houston

International Union for Theoretical and Applied Mechanics General Assembly, Stuttgart, August 1998: **Professor P.F. Hodnett**

International Geosphere–Biosphere Programme Committee, Nairobi, September 1998: **Dr J. Sweeney**

International Exchanges

The Academy operates a number of international exchange schemes on an annual basis through agreements with other academies and institutions. These schemes are intended for senior researchers in the fields of humanities, social sciences and natural sciences.

The following persons took up fellowships or study visits in 1998:

British Academy Exchange Scheme: Professor S. Freyne (Trinity College Dublin); Ms I. Jeacle (Dublin City University); Professor R. Lloyd (Trinity College Dublin); Mr A. McCann (University of Limerick); Professor D. Moran (National University of Ireland, Dublin); Professor J.R.S. Phillips (National University of Ireland, Dublin).

Royal Society Exchange Scheme: Study Visit: Mr A. Flavin (Waterford Institute of Technology). Joint Research Projects: Dr N.P. Evans (Babraham Institute, Cambridge); Dr K. Ohlendieck (National University of Ireland, Dublin); Dr T. Sweeney (National University of Ireland, Dublin) and Dr S.J. Winder (University of Edinburgh).

Austrian Academy Exchange Scheme: Professor C. Holland (Trinity College Dublin); Dr T. Twamley (National University of Ireland, Maynooth).

Hungarian Academy Exchange Scheme: Dr D. Lederer (National University of Ireland, Maynooth); Dr M. Szelenyi (University Medical School, Pecs, Hungary).

Polish Academy Exchange Scheme: Professor M. Downes (National University of Ireland, Maynooth); Professor A. Fogel, (Polish Academy of Sciences); Dr P. Muldowney (Magee College, University of Ulster); Professor W. Ostachowicz (Polish Academy of Sciences); Dr M. Sterzynska (Polish Academy of Sciences).

Senior Visiting Fellowships Scheme: Professor W. Coffey (Trinity College Dublin); Dr A. Dowd (Dublin City University); Dr P. Goransson (Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden); Professor Y. Kalmykov (Russian Academy of Sciences); Dr J. Lunney (Trinity College Dublin); Dr C. O’Sullivan (National University of Ireland, Cork).

Ireland–France Exchange Scheme: Dr B. Andresso-O’Callaghan, (University of Limerick); Dr C. Bean (National University of Ireland, Dublin); Dr V. Cahill (Trinity College Dublin); Dr M. Crowe, (National University of Ireland, Dublin); Dr S. Devitt (Trinity College Dublin); Dr O. Feely (National University of Ireland, Dublin); Dr M. Gilchrist (National University of Ireland, Dublin); Dr G. Hamilton (Dublin City University); Dr J. Murphy (National University of Ireland, Maynooth); Professor C. Ó Gráda (National University of Ireland, Dublin); Professor J. Pulé (National University of Ireland, Dublin); Dr A. Quinn (Trinity College Dublin); Dr H. Sidebottom (National University of Ireland, Dublin).

LIBRARY

General. The past year has been one of the busiest yet for the Library. There has been a marked increase in the number of groups and organisations visiting the Library, of readers consulting our collections and of e-mail and telephone enquiries. In line with our policy to make the Library more accessible, the Academy joined the ALCID (Academic Libraries Cooperating in Dublin) Scheme, which includes Dublin City University, the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, the National University of Ireland, Dublin, the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and Trinity College Dublin. Full-time academic and academic-related staffs and specific categories of postgraduate students holding valid ALCID cards are eligible to read in the libraries of the member institutions. The Library also discussed cooperative measures with the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, with which body it intends to forge strategic links, and with the Linen Hall Library, Belfast.

The Library contributed submissions to the National Policy on Libraries and Information Services and to the section relating to Documentary and Archival Heritage in the National Heritage Plan. It also began to revise and develop in-house policies and procedures and presented a Collection Development Policy Statement and a Microfilming Policy and Procedures Document to the Library Committee in the course of the year.

The Library welcomed many groups and individual visitors during the year. One of the memorable events was the visit of the descendants of Thomas Addis Emmet (1764–1827) to the Library in June. K.B. Nowlan, MRIA, and the Librarian addressed the gathering, who viewed a display of Emmet family papers and a seventeenth-century family Bible. A printout of the text of a moving letter penned by Thomas Addis Emmet on arrival at New York in 1806 was presented to each of the participants.

Ms Bernadette Cunningham, Deputy Librarian, prepared an exhibition on the subject of the 1798 Rebellion, ‘1798 from Contemporary Sources’, based on manuscript and rare print sources held by the Library. The exhibition opened on Heritage Day, Sunday, 6 September 1998, and continued to the end of March 1999. It was very well received by all Library visitors, who included President Mary McAleese and Mrs Cherie Blair, wife of British Prime Minister Tony Blair. President McAleese visited the Library on 28 September 1998, on the occasion of the launch in the Academy of the fortieth and final volume of the *Ordnance Survey Memoirs of Ireland*, which were edited and published by the Institute of Irish Studies at the Queen’s University of Belfast in association with the Academy. Mrs Blair’s visit took place as part of a special lunch held at the Academy on the occasion of an Anglo-Irish summit. Special displays were mounted on both occasions.

In September the Library Association (UK) Rare Books Group Conference was held in Dublin. This was the first occasion on which the group had held its conference outside the United Kingdom. Five groups of participants visited the Academy over the conference period, and important contacts were made with UK colleagues. In particular, useful links were forged with the Natural History Museum Library. During the same period the International Congress of Conservationists took place in Dublin. The Library featured on the congress programme as a venue to visit, and a special display of the works of Irish conservators and of the late Roger Powell was mounted for the duration of the congress. The annual Swets Irish party was held in the Academy for the third time on 4 February 1999 and attracted a large attendance.

The culmination of several years of preparation resulted in the transfer of the Stowe Missal from the Academy to the Metropolitan Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, for a major exhibition, ‘Treasures of early Celtic art: a European heritage’, which ran from 17 April to 12 July 1998. This was the Japanese public’s first exposure to treasures from the Celtic world. The exhibition was

visited by around 200,000 people and was viewed by their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Hitachi. The Stowe Missal was displayed in a separate room at the end of the exhibition trail, surrounded by large wall panels displaying various illuminated pages from the manuscript. The manuscript was accompanied on its outward and return journeys by the Librarian, who supervised its installation in the exhibition. The Academy also loaned a rare pamphlet, *An account of the fishpool*, by Richard Steele (London, 1817), to the Library of Trinity College Dublin for an exhibition on food and technology. The Thomas Moore Medal (12.T.20) was loaned to the National Museum of Ireland for their exhibition on the 1798 Rebellion.

During the year the Library was visited for information purposes by colleagues from the Irish Architectural Archive and the Dún Laoghaire/Rathdown Public Library Service.

Library housekeeping activities continued unabated. Several cataloguing backlogs were cleared, the cataloguing of the Longfield Roberts Collection was completed, work continued on the sorting and listing of archival material and on the newspaper, glass plate and photograph collections. Ms Íde Ní Thuama, former Deputy Librarian, completed the Academy's entry to the *Handbuch deutscher historischer Buchbestände in Irland*, a directory of German holdings in Irish libraries that is part of a larger project to identify holdings of pre-1900 German books throughout Europe. With the assistance of the Office of Public Works, the Library commissioned a Risk Audit Report and Disaster Response Plan. This work was carried out by Mr John McIntyre, Head of Preservation at the National Library of Scotland.

The Library Committee met three times during the year.

Photographs and Reproduction. Permission was given by the Officers for the publication of 90 items from 34 manuscripts, items from Academy Minutes, 1890–1930, one complete paper from the *Proceedings* and illustrations from another, and five eighteenth-century pamphlets from the Haliday Collection. Permission was also granted to reproduce four photographs from the Praeger Collection together with portraits of Rober Lloyd Praeger and William Rowan Hamilton.

Interlibrary loans. Requests through BLDSC totalled 111 items (62 Irish libraries, 49 overseas). A further 43 non-BLDSC requests from Irish libraries were satisfied. Sixteen items were obtained for staff.

Binding. One hundred and four older books were bound during the year. This included the binding and repair of 31 rare Irish titles, funded by a grant from the Heritage Council. The Heritage Council also funded the binding and repair of twelve volumes of the Ordnance Survey six-inch maps and the repair and conservation of eleven single-sheet maps dating from the seventeenth to the nineteenth centuries. In addition, a letter (MS23.K.53/5) from Thomas Addis Emmet to Peter Burrowes, dated New York, 19 November 1806, was cleaned and repaired in advance of the Emmet family visit to the Academy. Forty volumes of Sharpe Book Auction Catalogues covering the period 1823–44 were repaired and bound with generous funding from the firm of Mealy Auctioneers, Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny.

Mr John Gillis completed the binding of MS24.P.26, a fifteenth-century medical treatise, at the Delmas Conservation Bindery. This work was funded by the Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds, Stuttgart, Germany. Mr Gillis also cleaned and phase-boxed the Betham O'Donnell Pedigree, which had been placed on deposit by Mr Charles Lysaght. Mr Lysaght generously funded the conservation measures undertaken in respect of the manuscript.

Fifty-two volumes of periodicals were bound during the year.

Exchange agreements. Exchange agreements were initiated with the following: Instituto Português de Arqueologia, Lisbon; Landesamt für Archäologie mit Landesmuseum für Vorgeschichte, Dresden; the Palaeontological Society of Japan, Tokyo; Universidad Autónoma de Madrid; and Zentrum für Europäische Integrationsforschung, Bonn.

Exchange agreements with the following institutions were terminated: Aberdeen University Library; the Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland, Copenhagen; Humboldt Universität, Berlin; Lund University Library; and Real Academia Gallega, La Coruna.

Acquisitions and funding. For the calendar year 1998, 593 items were acquired (1 audio cassette, 432 books, 4 CD-ROMs, 1 computer printout, 1 map, 41 offprints, 102 pamphlets, 1 thesis, 3 typescripts, 2 video cassettes and 5 xeroxes): 303 by donation, 18 by exchange with 11 institutions and 272 by purchase.

The Library received several important gifts during the year. The former Taoiseach, Mr Jack Lynch, presented a magnificent facsimile edition of Dante's *Divina Commedia*, the *Dante Urbinata della Biblioteca Vaticana*, to the Library. The original work was commissioned in the fifteenth century by Federigo da Montefeltro, Duke of Urbino. It is now held by the Vatican Library, which published the limited facsimile edition in 1965 to celebrate the 700th anniversary of Dante's birth. The two-volume set, which is richly illuminated, was presented to Mr Lynch in 1965 by the late Italian premier, Signor Aldo Moro. Mr Charles Lysaght placed on deposit with the Library a sumptuous early nineteenth-century Pedigree of the O'Donnell Family, compiled by Sir William Betham, MRIA, Ulster King of Arms. The manuscript is on vellum and is lavishly decorated and bound in an elegant Dublin binding. P. Mac Cana, MRIA, donated a rare imprint to the Library, namely *Heliotropium sive conciones tam de festis, quam de Dominicis...*, published at Lyons in 1622. This work, by the Irish Jesuit Barnabas Kearney, contains sermons for Sundays and feast days. A bound set of *The Citizen*, vol. 1 (2–52), 14 January–30 December, 1854, was presented to the Library by J.M. Dillon, MRIA. *The Citizen* was edited by John Mitchel in New York, and the presentation copy belonged to Professor Dillon's forebear John Blake Dillon. Mrs Mary Davies presented a collection of 1916 and World War II memorabilia, which has been housed with the Library's manuscript collections. The Greek Ambassador, H.E. Dr Maria Zografou, visited the Academy on 26 May 1998 and presented a magnificent volume, *Greece at the Benaki Museum*, to the Library.

The Library received generous cash donations from the Emmet Family Reunion Group and from Mr Richard S. Emmet, Mr Robert Emmet, Mrs Caroline Emmet Heald, Mr Seth Heald and Ms Katharine G. More. This funding will be used for the conservation and binding of a seventeenth-century Emmet family Bible, which is held by the Library. Donations were also received from the University of Wisconsin and from G.L. Huxley, MRIA.

Messrs Mealy Auctioneers of Castlecomer undertook to fund the binding of rare auction catalogues dating from the early to mid-nineteenth century. The catalogues were printed for the Dublin auctioneering house of Charles Sharpe and are mainly records of library sales; they are thus very important for the history of the book in Ireland. The Library is grateful to Mealys for their generous sponsorship of this binding project.

Books, pamphlets and offprints were received from the following Members and Honorary Members: T. Bartlett; R.D.C. Black; N. Canny; S.J. Connolly; P.J. Corish; M.E. Daly; H. Franke; N. Grene; P. Harbison; M. Harmon; M. Herity; G.L. Herries-Davies; G.L. Huxley; H. Jäger; D.N. Livingstone; J.F. Lydon; J.V. Luce; P. MacCana; R.B. McDowell; J. McEvoy; C. Cruise O'Brien; B. Ó Buachalla; D. Ó Corráin; P. O'Higgins; M. Ryan; R.B.K. Scaife; M.C. Sexton; A. Simms; B. Wright.

Books, pamphlets and offprints were also presented by: Accademia dei Georgofili; the All-Party Oireachtas Committee on the Constitution; the American Conference for Irish Studies; the Archaeological Survey of Ireland; Asahi Shimbun, Tokyo; C. Barrington; J.R. Bartlett; L. Baxter; Bibliothèque Nationale de France; J.M. Blázquez; A. Bonanno; M. Browne; P. Buckley; C.G. Buttimer; D. Byrne; Centrum Dziedzictwa Kulturowego Gornego Slaska, Kotowice; the Chester

Beatty Library; An Chomhairle Leabharlanna; Clarendon Press; F. Clarke; J.A. Clarke; the Classical Society of Japan; P. Coffey; D.C. Coleman; D.A.L. Cooney; Cork Corporation; Cork University Press; B. Cunningham; M. Davies; E. de Búrca; S.S. de Vál; the Defence Forces; R. Dekeyser; the Department of the Environment and Local Government; the Department of Finance; B. Dixon; the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, School of Celtic Studies; Duncan Baird Publishers; T.P. Dungan; East Clare Heritage Memorial Park; M.J.S. Egan; the English Place-Name Society; the European Commission on Preservation and Access; the European Science Foundation; J. Falvey; Four Courts Press; C. Gannon; P. Gorry; the Greek Embassy; Greenwood Press; An Gúm; H. Hablitzel; the Hakluyt Society; F. Hauser; the Hellenic Foundation, London; the Higher Education Authority; M. Hurley; the Institute of European Affairs; the International Council for Science; the Irish Legal History Society; the Irish Manuscripts Commission; A.W.B. Jacob; R.L. Johnson; C. Kelly; C. Kenny; J.R. Kenyon; the Kerry Archaeological and Historical Society; Kungliga Biblioteket, Stockholm; Kungliga Vitterhets Historie och Antikvitets Akademien, Stockholm; M. Lenox-Conyngham; the Linen Hall Library; the Lough Arrow Research Centre; E. Lyle; J. Lynch; C. Lysaght; S. Lysaght; V. McCarthy; M. Mac Conghail; D.P. McCracken; H. McNulty; M.P. Mac Thomáis; S. Martin; K. Matsumura; the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Defence, Cyprus; J. Mitchell; L. Mitchell; R.C. Mollan; N. Mongan; A.P. Moran; S.R. Moriarty; the National Committee for Geography; the National Committee for Nutritional Sciences; the National Committee for Physics; the National Library of Ireland; the National Museum of Wales; the National Portrait Gallery, London; the National Research Council; E.C. Nelson; Í. Ní Thuama; C. Nic Phóidín; Norske Videnskaps Akademi, Oslo; W. O'Brien; B. Ó Cathaoir; E. Ó hAnnracháin; S. Ó Lúing; S. Ó Maitiú; N. Ó Muraíle; S. O'Rafferty; B. O'Reilly; B.M. O'Reilly; S. Ó Saothraí; H. O'Sullivan; the Office of Public Works; Panstwowe Muzeum Archeologiczne, Warsaw; Providence Public Library; P. Pyne; J. Quinn; the Referendum Commission; E.H. Rogers; the Royal Dublin Society; the Royal Society of Edinburgh; Das Schottenstift, Vienna; P.M. Shannon; Societas Internationalis Limnologiae; the State Archaeological Museum, Warsaw; the Sydney Bailey Memorial Fund; Time-Life Books; Tisrara Heritage Society; S.N. Tranter; the Ulster Museum; University of Kansas Libraries, Lawrence; University of Uppsala; Vitterhetsakademiens Bibliotek, Stockholm; K. Veelenturf; J. Waddell; J.L. Waddington; N.P. Wilkins; the Westport Historical Society; B. Young.

The Academy thanks most sincerely all benefactors of the Library.

Statistics. Detailed statistics are available on request.

Visits. Visits were paid to the Library by the following:

27 March 1998	University of Newcastle
22 April 1998	Dalkey Active Retirement Group
12 May 1998	Historic Heart of Dublin Group
	The Board of the National Gallery of Ireland
15 June 1998	Society of Australian Genealogists
24 June 1998	The Emmet Family Reunion
8 July 1998	Tracing Your Family Tree Course Group 1
12 August 1998	University of Wisconsin
19 August 1998	Tracing Your Family Tree Course Group 2
6 September 1998	Library open to members of the public for Heritage Day
	Ulster Historical Foundation Annual Family History Conference participants
9 September 1998	Library Association, Rare Books Group, 2 visits
11 September 1998	Library Association, Rare Books Group, 3 visits

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18 September 1998	Dublin Heritage Group
21 October 1998	Dublin Heritage Group, Northern Ireland/Cooperation Ireland Exchange Group
13 November 1998	Trinity College Dublin, Department of Old Irish, Master Class
27 November 1998	Glenstal Abbey students
29 January 1999	Dundrum College
5 February 1999	National University of Ireland, Dublin, Archives Department students
6 February 1999	Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland
12 February 1999	Pembroke School
11 March 1999	National University of Ireland, Maynooth, Department of History, MA students, Master Class

Special displays were mounted and talks were given by the Librarians to the visiting groups.

Staff. The Deputy Librarian, Íde Ní Thuama, BA, DipLib, retired on 30 April 1998 after 40 years' service. Ms Ní Thuama had made a major contribution to the Library over the years. She had a thorough knowledge of the collections, in particular the Irish language and history collections; she was also expert in the archaeological holdings and the collections pertaining to natural history. She had an encyclopaedic knowledge of the history of the Academy and its membership. Her linguistic abilities (Irish, Latin, Romance languages, Arabic and a smattering of other languages) were of immense value in a Library that holds so many foreign language journal and book titles. A farewell reception was held in the Reading Room on 11 May, attended by a very large number of Íde's friends, family, colleagues, former colleagues, fellow librarians, Academy readers and Members. The Library wishes her well in her retirement.

Ms Bernadette Cunningham, MA, DipLib (Wales), took up her appointment as Deputy Librarian on 19 June 1998. Ms Cunningham had previously worked with the Dublin Diocesan Library. She has published and lectured extensively on the early modern period in Ireland.

Siobhán O'Rafferty continued to serve on COLICO (the Committee for Library Cooperation in Ireland) and on the committee of the Library Association of Ireland, Rare Books Group. She further served on the COLICO sub-committee that prepared the COLICO submission to the National Policy on Libraries and Information Services and on the Rare Books Group sub-committee that drafted a submission to the same policy document. Bernadette Cunningham served on the ALCID Librarians' Working Party on collaborative collection development, which is due to report later in 1999.

Staff attended the following seminars/training days: Cyber, Hyper or resolutely Jurassic?: archivists and the millennium (B. Cunningham; S. O'Rafferty); Guidelines for Digital Imaging (S. O'Rafferty); Irish Library and Cultural Resources Exhibition (B. Cunningham); The John T. Gilbert Centenary Conference (S. O'Rafferty); The Long Eighteenth Century (LA Rare Books Group Annual Seminar) (S. O'Rafferty); New Departures: developing a national policy for libraries and information services (S. O'Rafferty); Quality and Equality: setting and recognising common standards for Irish museums (S. O'Rafferty); The Role of Education in Museums, Arts and Heritage Venues (B. Cunningham); Science in Ireland in 1798: a time of revolution (B. Cunningham; S. O'Rafferty).

The librarians delivered several papers to conferences during the year including the following: 'Gilbert and the Royal Irish Academy' (S. O'Rafferty at the John. T. Gilbert Centenary Conference, 12 September 1998); 'Law and the Irish people in the seventeenth century' (B. Cunningham at the International Thomas More Conference on Humanism and Law, National University of Ireland, Maynooth, 11 August 1998); 'Gaelic sources for the history of Irish society

in the seventeenth century’ (B. Cunningham at University College Dublin, Department of Irish History, 11 November 1998); ‘*Leabhar Ruadh Mhic Aodhagain* identified: B.L. Add. MS 30512’ and ‘Michael Kearney: first translator of Geoffrey Keating’s *Foras Feasa ar Éirinn* (RIA MS 24 G 16)’ (B. Cunningham at Roscrea Medieval Conference on Irish Manuscripts and the Printed Word, October–November 1998). S. O’Rafferty contributed an article on the Library to the New Zealand publication *The Irish Link* (March 1999 issue) and an entry on the Stowe Missal to *Treasures of celtic art*, published in conjunction with the Tokyo exhibition on the same theme. S. O’Rafferty also reviewed *Standards for the development of archives services in Ireland* (Dublin, 1997) in *Museum Ireland* 8 (1998).

ACADEMY COMMITTEES

Publication Committee

Forty-two papers were published in Volume 98 of *Proceedings*: 20 in Section A, 16 in Section B and 6 in Section C. The number of pages, including *Minutes of Proceedings* and indexes, was 647 pages.

Regular sendings of *Proceedings*:

	Section A	Section B	Section C
Members	82	90	157
Exchange and copyright	286	330	314
Continuing orders	131	148	95

The first issue of *Mathematical Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy*, vol. 98A (1), which replaces Section A of *Proceedings*, was published in September. In addition to the three sections of *Proceedings*, the Editorial Office handled the production of: *Ériu*, vol. 49; *Irish Journal of Earth Sciences*, vol. 16; *Irish Studies in International Affairs*, vol. 9; and the *Annual Report 1997–98*. The Editorial Office also oversaw the final stages of production of *A teachers' guide to grassland ecology* (ed. D.W. Jeffrey) and *Intercultural Communication and Language Learning* (eds Angela Chambers and Dónall Ó Baoill).

Work began on volume one of the *New Survey of Clare Island* (working title *History, Folklife, Place-Names, Landscape*) and on the Introduction to the *Cathach* CD-ROM project.

The Academy's web site, having been formally launched at the Annual Stated Meeting of 16 March 1998, was managed and updated by the Editorial Office.

Ms Rachel McNicholl, MA, joined the staff as Editor on 16 April 1998.

Ms Fidelma Hagan (Assistant Editor) was made permanent on 21 May 1998 following the resignation of Ms Emer Condit. She began a course of studies for an MSc in Science Communication on 28 September 1998 and reduced her working hours to three days a week for the duration of the course (28 September 1998–28 May 1999).

Ms Aisling Flood's term of employment as Editorial Assistant was extended until 25 September 1998 (part-time) and again until 28 May 1999 (full-time for the duration of Ms Hagan's MSc studies). Groundwork was begun on reviewing, documenting and computerising work procedures in the Editorial Office and on analysing the development of the journals and monograph series over the years. Two work-placements for students of media/publishing studies were supervised jointly by the Editorial and Publications Offices.

Informal meetings were held with the editors of the three sections of *Proceedings*, the *Irish Journal of Earth Sciences*, *Irish Studies in International Affairs* and the Medieval Dublin Excavations (MDE) series; the guidelines for MDE authors were revised and updated, and meetings were held with two of the authors in the series to discuss work in progress and guidelines.

The Committee met once.

Editorial Board of the Dublin Excavations Publication Project

A grant was secured from the Heritage Council to begin work during 1999 on the production of a catalogue of finds from Viking burials in Ireland. Significant progress was reported on the preparation of a number of other titles for publication in 1999–2000.

The Committee met four times.

Committee for the Study of Anglo-Irish Literature

In March 1998 the Committee held a seminar on the theme '1798: Revolution, Memory, Imagination', with Professor Joep Leerssen, Professor of European Studies, Universiteit van

Amsterdam, as keynote speaker. Fifty people participated. The Committee is planning a seminar scheduled for April 1999 on the theme 'Theatre in a postmodern world', with Mr Patrick Mason, Artistic Director of the The Abbey Theatre, as keynote speaker.

The Committee met twice.

Consultative Committee on Biblical and Near Eastern Studies

The Committee organised a two-day colloquium on 'Biblical and Near Eastern studies in Ireland: 1600–1850' in conjunction with Archbishop Marsh's Library, Dublin, on 10–11 November 1998. Six papers were presented.

A three-day conference provisionally entitled 'Visions of the future and the endtime in oriental and Celtic religious thought' is planned for June 2000.

Professor Sean V. Freyne is editing the papers of the 1997 Conference on 'Jews in the Hellenistic and Roman Cities' for publication by Routledges, London. Dr Elaine Wright of the Chester Beatty Library joined the Committee.

The Committee met four times.

New Survey of Clare Island Executive Committee

The sixth annual public seminar and fieldworkers' meeting was held in Academy House on Friday, 17 April 1998, and was devoted to the geology of Clare Island. The eight presentations of the seminar highlighted the great diversity of the rocks on the island. The new fossil finds and 350-million-year-old river channels were also discussed, and the first report on soils of Clare Island was presented. A meeting of the executive committee was held on Clare Island on Saturday, 20 June 1998.

Fieldwork is continuing in the zoology section, and applications for funding were made to the National Parks and Wildlife Division, Dúchas, The Heritage Service of the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands, and to the Heritage Council.

The section on History, Place-names and Folklife is being prepared for publication as volume one of the survey, and it is planned that the section on Archaeology will follow.

The Executive Committee met five times.

Dictionary of Irish Biography

By 5 March 1999 the total number of biographical entries stood at 2888. The confirmation in late March 1998 of previously announced additional funding (see *Annual Report* for 1997–8) made possible a twenty-per-cent increase in the number of biographical entries written in-house in 1998–9. In particular, progress was made with biographical entries covering early and medieval Ireland, the eighteenth century, twentieth-century public figures, medicine, and sport. The selection of names for inclusion in the Dictionary continued. Attention was paid to particular categories, including music, the Irish abroad and writers in the Irish language. In 1998–9 the copy-editing by Richard Hawkins of completed biographies made significant headway.

The Editors are very grateful for the generous support the project continues to receive from the wider scholarly community, especially from those who gave expert advice in the choice of names in specialist categories in 1998–9. A particular debt of gratitude is owed to external contributors. In 1998–9 twenty-eight external contributors submitted biographical articles and a further seventy-two agreed to write at least one article, and in many cases several, for the Dictionary.

At a seminar for members of the project held in November 1998 Mr Louis McRedmond delivered a paper on his approach to editing *Modern Irish Lives* (Dublin, 1996) and gave much useful advice and encouragement to project staff.

The Managing Editor reported on the state of the project to the Officers of the Academy on 25 June 1998. Mr William Davies visited the project on behalf of Cambridge University Press on 11 December 1998. He inspected a number of completed biographies, storage arrangements and the manner in which subjects for biographical treatment are designated on the project's database.

The Editorial Committee met once.

Dictionary of Medieval Latin from Celtic Sources (DMLCS)

DMLCS aims to make a substantial piece of researched work available to the public each year; on this occasion, the compilation in question was an electronic Celtic-Latin Word-List, launched on the project's web site in early summer with the help of Ms Karen McKinty of the Queen's University of Belfast. Initially drafted by Ms Deborah Ford, it represents the Academy's first venture into scholarly publishing on the Internet and constitutes a working checklist of distinctive vocabulary as found in the DMLCS database; as such, it serves as a browsable, lemmatised, alphabetical catalogue of the material currently being drawn upon in the writing of the first (Non-Classical Lexicon) phase of the DMLCS itself.

As well as prefiguring the scope of the complete Lexicon, the List constitutes a basic linguistic guide in its own right. Also, by design, it is a catalogue from which orders can be placed: in the case of letters for which full Lexicon articles have been written (by the year's end all of A, B, D, E and G), users interested in a particular word or words are invited to send an e-mail request to the project staff, who reply with a plain ASCII copy of the full article, typically consisting of headword, etymology, definition(s) subdivided as appropriate and chronological list of attestations. (A copyright declaration is also included, copyright and revenue considerations being the reason for not publishing the Lexicon in its entirety on the Internet.) The List, for its part, is to be revised and expanded letter by letter as the corresponding sections of the Lexicon are finalised; by the end of the reporting year, such updating had already been conducted in respect of the two letters (G and B) that had been completed since the launch. The ease with which this process could be carried out confirmed the Internet as the most appropriate publication medium for the Word-List, something that was further underlined by the observed popularity of its pages (which raised the hit-rate on the DMLCS site as a whole to a consistent average of somewhat over two thousand per month by users from anything up to thirty countries or domains).

In the context of contact with the external scholarly world during the year, the DMLCS staff researched and answered questions from individuals in twenty institutions worldwide and gave detailed advice on the planning of five academic projects in Ireland and Wales. Within the Academy, help with Latin or computing matters was provided to the Editorial Office, the Dictionary of Irish Biography and Foclóir na Nua-Ghaeilge (from whom valuable assistance was also received). In July, an electronic version of Lawlor's edition of the *Cathach* (PRIA 33C (1916–17), 332–89) was specially adapted by the DMLCS FÁS participant, Christopher Sweeney, for inclusion on the Academy's CD-ROM publication of that manuscript.

With their ongoing work on the DMLCS Ancillary volumes, the *Scriptores Celtigenae* venture and the Non-Classical Lexicon part of the full DMLCS, as well as on the electronic Archive of Celtic-Latin Literature (ACLL) CD-ROMs and now the updatable Word-List on the Web, the Editor and part-time Project Assistant have become wholly or principally responsible for the production of five different publication streams. However, each of these plays an essential part in the realisation of the project's overall objectives, and work on them is carefully integrated: during the autumn Dr Harvey prepared for Council a detailed diagrammatic version of the DMLCS development plan that showed how the various components fitted together. This was done under the auspices of the Academy's Senior Vice-President, on the basis that it might constitute a useful

planning model for other projects to follow. As part of the Academy's rolling programme of reviewing its projects, the Chairman of the Editorial Board met the Officers and discussed ways in which implementation of the DMLCS plan might most effectively be facilitated.

The full DMLCS Board and Brepols Committee each met once during the year, though they were effectively in regular session thanks to constant e-mail correspondence between their members and the Project Office as specific matters arose throughout the year.

Documents on Irish Foreign Policy

Volume one of the Documents on Irish Foreign Policy (DIFP) series (covering the years 1919–22) was published on schedule in October 1998. The volume was launched by the Minister for Justice, Mr John O'Donoghue, TD, at a reception in the ballroom of Iveagh House hosted by the Department of Foreign Affairs on 2 November 1998. The publication of volume one received considerable media attention, with reviews in the major Irish papers and in British and Irish journals. Sales of the volume have been very good, with half the print run of 2000 being sold in the six months following publication.

Work is continuing on volumes two and three of the DIFP series, covering the years 1922–32. Archival considerations will dictate the period within these years covered by volume two, but it is likely that this volume will cover the years 1922 to 1925 or 1926. It is expected that research for volume two will be completed by the end of 1999, with the printed volume appearing in the winter of 2000. It is planned at present that volume three should appear in 2002.

In early October 1998 the Executive Editor took part in the fifth international conference for the editors of diplomatic documents, held at the Auswärtiges Amt in Bonn. Attendance at this conference allowed the DIFP project to develop useful international connections and introduce itself to the community of states who publish diplomatic documents. Volume one of DIFP, which was on display at the conference, attracted widespread interest.

There has continuing overseas interest in the work of the DIFP project. In March 1999 the Executive Editor presented a paper on the project and its findings to a postgraduate seminar at the London School of Economics.

The project has begun to build up links with archives outside of Ireland. In March 1999 the Executive Editor met with Michael Leydon of the Reader Services Department, Public Record Office (PRO), Kew. Arrangements were made to allow the DIFP to make bulk orders of documents for consultation from relevant collections at the PRO and to make photocopying orders. The PRO contains many important documents relating to Irish foreign policy, copies of which are not available in Irish archives. The link with the PRO is a most important one for the DIFP and it will be of great value in the years to come.

The Executive Editor wrote articles on the project for *Irish Studies in International Affairs*, *History Ireland* and for the Documents on British Policy Overseas project newsletter on diplomatic documents projects. A DIFP project web page has been created as part of the Academy's web site. It includes information on the project, samples of documents and some images of both diplomats and documents.

The editors of the Documents on Irish Foreign Policy Project met eight times. The Editorial Advisory Board met once.

Eriugena Project

Progress continued on the critical edition of the *Periphyseon*, or *De Divisione Naturae*. The editor, Édouard Jeuneau (who is an Honorary Member of the Academy), published the third of the five books: *Iohannis Scotti seu Eriugena Periphyseon liber tertius* (CCM, 163), Turnhout (Brepols).

A meeting of the officers of SPES (Society for the Promotion of Eriugenean Studies) was held at Louvain, Belgium, on 19 February 1999, with the President, Professor Carlos Steel, in the chair. At this meeting the existing plans for the forthcoming Tenth International Colloquium were overhauled and consolidated. The event will take place at St Patrick's College Maynooth and the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, from Wednesday, 16 August 2000, to Sunday, 20 August 2000. Friday, 18 August 2000, will be spent at the Academy. The overall theme will be 'History and eschatology in Eriugena and his times'. The conference organiser is Professor James McEvoy, Secretary of SPES. A call for papers has appeared in a number of learned journals.

The annual newsletter was circulated to members and interested institutions (*Eriugena. The Annual Bulletin of SPES*, No. 8, 1999). A copy has been deposited in the library of the Academy.

Foclóir na Nua-Ghaeilge Coiste Eagarthóireachta

Díríodh go háirithe ar dhá ghné d'obair an tionscadail i rith na bliana.

Leanadh ar aghaidh le hábhar as irisí léannta a ghabháil go leictreonach agus cuireadh dlús le cruinnléitheoireacht agus le marcáil agus le cóiríú a dhéanamh ar ábhar a bhí gafa cheana.

As an 12,000,000 d'fhocail reatha atá anois ar fáil gafa sa tionscadal, roghnaíodh timpeall agus 2,500,000 d'fhocail reatha as téacsanna ón seachtú haois déag mar chorpas samplach chun go bhféadfaí sampláil a dhéanamh ar an ábhar atá gafa agus chun go bhféadfaí forbairt a dhéanamh ar na modhanna oibre ríomhaireachta a d'oirfeadh do ghnó na foclóireachta.

Ba mhór an áis chun na samplála agus chun na forbartha sin na fearais nua ríomhaireachta—Windows 98—a fuarthas i rith na bliana. Le cabhair na hacmhainne sin, cruthaíodh bunachar in Access inar liostaíodh na foirmeacha focal atá le fáil sa chorpas samplach agus a mhinice agus atá gach foirm acu ann. Uirlis phleanála riachtanach an bunachar sin chun tástáil shamplach a dhéanamh ar a bhfuil d'ábhar cóirithe go dtí seo.

Cuireadh ord ar an gcnuasach mór slipeanna agus rinneadh socrúithe leis an Leabharlann ar mhaithe le slándáil an chnuasaigh. Baineadh buntáiste as na hacmhainní nua ríomhaireachta chun roinnt téacsanna atá gafa a chur ar an suíomh Idirlín (www.ria.ie) mar áis do scoláirí. Ina theannta sin, cuireadh dréacht samplach de chúig cinn de cheannfhocail ar an suíomh Idirlín mar aon le liosta na bhfoinsí as ar tarraingíodh na samplaí léirithe atá curtha chun úsáide iontu.

Ba mhór an chabhair i gcur chun cinn na hoibre a thug triúr céimithe agus fochéimí amháin a fostaíodh ar bhun páirtaimseartha ar feadh tréimhsí.

Thug Ole Norling-Christensen, bainisteoir corpais ar Det Danske Sprog- og Litteraturselskab (Cumann Teanga agus Litríochta na Danmhairgise), cuairt ar cuireadh ar an tionscadal agus chuir sé tuairisc mheastóireachta ar fáil.

Is mór ag an tionscadal go bhfuil cabhair le fáil ó institiúidí eile agus ó dhaoine aonair chun cur le líon na dtéacsanna atá ar fáil ar mhodh leictreonach. Bhronn an Dr Nollaig Ó Muraíle, an tOllamh Alan Titley, an tOllamh Ruairí Ó hUiginn, an Dr Ciarán Ó Duibhín, an Gúm, agus Comhar, diosaí de théacsanna ar an tionscadal le bliain anuas.

D'éirigh Máire Ní Dhálaigh as a post mar Chúntóir Rúnaíochta chun dul i mbun poist fhoil-sitheoireachta ina dúiche féin.

Bhí baill den fhoireann gníomhach i rith na bliana i réimsí acadúla agus i réimsí den saol poiblí a bhaineann le hathréimniú na Gaeilge.

Tháinig an Coiste Eagarthóireachta le chéile cúig huaire. Thug ionadaithe ón gCoiste cuairt ar an tionscadal trí huaire.

Advisory Committee on Genetic Anthropology

The goal of the Committee is the mounting of a project on genetic anthropology entitled 'Irish origins: the genetic history and geography of Ireland'. It is intended as an all-Ireland study that would be linked to other national projects in a variety of disciplines in Ireland, Britain and

elsewhere. In 1998 Council approved that the project be proposed as an Academy Millennium Project. It would last for a period of five years at a total cost of £4,000,000. The Chairman of the Committee, Dr David McConnell, has explained the project to officials of both Governments on this island and has received encouraging responses. He has also had contact with the Wellcome Trust. An exploratory meeting took place with the Vice-Chancellor of the Queen's University of Belfast, Dr George Bain, on 21 January 1999, and again the response was encouraging. The Secretary to the Committee, Dr Alun Evans, was in attendance, and a subsequent meeting involved another member of the Committee, Dr Jim Mallory.

A proposal for a project entitled 'Irish origins: the genetic history and geography of Ireland' was submitted on 12 October 1998 to the Millennium Commission in the Office of the Taoiseach as an All-Ireland Millennium Project of the Academy. The project was considered suitable, but the Committee was asked to resubmit it in a standard format, and this has been done. We are grateful for the support of the Office of Public Works in presenting the project.

The Committee will meet when further responses are obtained from the relevant authorities. The Committee did not meet in the period of this Annual Report.

Irish Committee for the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme

Some seventy-seven countries are now formally subscribed to the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP), which was established thirteen years ago at a meeting of the International Council for Science in Berne, Switzerland. The objective of the Programme was: 'To describe and understand the interactive physical, chemical and biological processes that regulate the total Earth system, the unique environment that it provides for life, the changes that are occurring in this system and the manner in which they are influenced by human action.'

The Programme provides a means for coordinating research in various scientific disciplines and for fostering a holistic picture of the processes of global environmental change. For the first five years it was concerned mainly with plans relating to eight core projects covering such topics as atmospheric science, terrestrial ecology, oceanography, hydrology and links between the natural and social sciences. Many of these are now reaching maturity, and the IGBP is embarking on a new phase of dissemination of results and involvement in the policy-making processes relating to global change.

The Irish Committee for IGBP was established in October 1988 under the auspices of the Royal Irish Academy and serves to promote the various research programmes managed by IGBP and to liaise with the IGBP secretariat in Stockholm. Many Irish researchers participate in EU-funded programmes related to the IGBP core projects, and the Irish Committee for IGBP designates one of its members to oversee developments in each area that may be of interest to the Irish research community.

The Committee organised a one-day symposium entitled 'Atmospheric Science and Global Change: Contributions from Ireland to Climate Change Studies'. This was successful in bringing together researchers from a wide range of atmospheric sciences and was addressed by Dr John Miller of the World Meteorological Organisation. Two further symposia are currently in preparation. These will deal with 'Remote Sensing for Global Change' and 'Human Impacts on the Carbon Cycle'.

The fifth Scientific Advisory Council (SAC) of IGBP took place in Nairobi, Kenya, in September 1998. Approximately three hundred delegates from over fifty countries attended this meeting. The Irish Committee for IGBP was represented by the Secretary, who submitted a report on Irish IGBP activities to the meeting. As a result of the fifth SAC, the Irish Committee for IGBP is currently discussing possible changes in its role and terms of reference.

The Committee has been continuing to press during the past year for the establishment of an Irish Ecological Monitoring Network where long term changes in ecosystem functioning could be

established in the light of greenhouse forcing of climate. The Committee was represented at a study visit to what is a suitable location for initiating such a facility—Brackloon Wood, near Westport, Co. Mayo. Related to this topic the Committee considered a report co-authored by one of its members entitled ‘National and international legal and scientific requirements for ecosystem monitoring in Ireland’.

The Committee continued to be represented on the National Advisory Panel convened by Forbairt to provide advice on national research priorities for inclusion in the EU. Submissions were made to this body in connection with the finalisation of the research programme of the Fifth Framework Programme.

On the Committee’s recommendation, Council has invited Professor Sigfoes Johnsen, University of Copenhagen, to give an Academy Discourse on 10 January 2000 on a topic dealing with analysis of ice-cores from the Greenland Ice-Core Project (GRIP). This is particularly relevant to the PAGES (Past Global Changes, News of the International Paleoscience Community) and IGAC (International Global Atmospheric Chemistry) core projects.

The absence of a national programme of research into climate change and the difficulties posed for compliance with the Kyoto Protocol by the absence of a recognised facility at any university were discussed by the Committee. An initial meeting to assess the problems is currently being organised for autumn 1999.

Activities relating to the Irish Committee for IGBP have been updated on its home page at: <http://www.may.ie/IGBP/>

As in previous years, the Committee donated all duplicate reports and various other global environmental change documentation to ENFO (Environmental Information Service).

One personnel change to the Irish Committee for IGBP occurred with the addition of Dr Padraic Larkin, representing the Environmental Protection Agency. Financial support for the activities of the Irish IGBP Committee continued to be received from the Department of the Environment and Local Government.

The Committee met four times.

Irish Historic Towns Atlas

Irish historic towns atlas no. 9: Bray, by Mrs K.M. Davies, was published in December 1998. The fascicle was launched by Dr Garret FitzGerald on 26 February 1999 in Academy House. A display of Bray material was mounted, and this was later exhibited at the Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement weekend conference in Dublin. No. 9 is a large fascicle, with sixteen pages of text and a double-page map showing the town as it stood in 1837–8. The five facsimile maps, all printed in colour, include early estate maps of the town, Heffernan’s map of Bray of 1870 and a full-page growth map that traces the extensive development of the town in the nineteenth century. The publication of *Bray* was supported by the Heritage Council.

Work on *Kilkenny* (Mr John Bradley) is well advanced, and this fascicle, no. 10, is due to be published next in the series. The reconstruction map of the town in the mid-nineteenth century has already been completed, and its size and detail reflect the varied topographical history of what will be the largest town published in the series so far. Fascicles on Armagh, Derry, Trim and Fethard (Co. Tipperary) are in active preparation, and research has commenced on Enniskillen. Work on the major cities, Dublin (part 1, to 1610) and Belfast (part 2, to 1840) is proceeding under the direction of series editors Dr Howard Clarke and Dr Raymond Gillespie.

The Luther I. Replogle Foundation, Washington D.C., renewed its grant, and a second instalment of the grant from the Marc Fitch Fund, Oxford, enabled Ms Sarah Gearty to be employed as a full-time research assistant until January 1999. Work on the Armagh reconstruction map and continuing research by Dr Alan McGovern on the early sources for the town was supported by funding from the Armagh City Council.

Professor Anngret Simms, MRIA, continued to serve as co-chairperson of the International Commission for the History of Towns working group on Irish towns atlases. In September 1998 she attended the meeting of the International Commission in Spa, Belgium, together with Dr Raymond Gillespie.

Scholars from Greece and Sweden and a group from the Historic Heart of Dublin project visited the atlas office during the year to see work in progress. An exhibition of atlas material was mounted at the joint Irish and British Academy two-day seminar on capital cities in Academy House in April 1998.

Mrs Davies, who worked as cartographic editor and project administrator with the Irish Historic Towns Atlas (IHTA) since its inception in 1981, coordinating the production of the nine fascicles and the bound volume published to date, retired on 29 January 1999. At a reception held in honour of her retirement in Academy House on 29 January, the Academy's Treasurer, colleagues in the Academy and the editors of the IHTA project expressed their warm appreciation for her role in building up the project and coordinating it so successfully over the years.

Ms Sarah Gearty was appointed cartographic editor and project administrator on 1 February 1999.

The Editorial Board met twenty-one times.

Humanities Research Committee

The Humanities Research Committee (HRC) held a watching brief, pending the appointment by the Minister of Education and Science of the permanent Council(s) for the Humanities and Social Sciences. In the event, the announcement by the Minister, scheduled for the spring of 1999, was postponed until the autumn, and the Interim Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences, chaired by the Academy's Secretary, E. Sagarra, was asked to serve a further term and administer the postgraduate awards for the academic year 1999–2000. At its April 1999 meeting Council renewed the HRC's one-year term of office for a further year, adding to the list of members the name of Professor R.H. Buchanan, MRIA, who has agreed to serve.

John Jackson Memorial Fund Committee

To commemorate the life and career of the highly respected geologist and naturalist, Dr John S. Jackson (1920–91), the Royal Irish Academy and the Royal Dublin Society jointly established a John Jackson Memorial Fund. This was to provide an opportunity for his friends and colleagues in the many and diverse societies in which John Jackson was involved to express their affection in lasting form. An eminent Irish geologist is invited annually to present an authoritative overview of a topical aspect of Irish geology. This is then published as an issue of the Royal Dublin Society's series, *Occasional Papers in Irish Science and Technology*.

The Inaugural Lecture took place on 17 February 1994. It was given by Dr John Feehan of the Department of Environmental Resources, National University of Ireland, Dublin, and was entitled 'Beyond 2000: the price and place of landscape heritage in Ireland'. In 1995 Professor William O'Brien of the Department of Archaeology, National University of Ireland, Galway, presented a lecture entitled 'From the fiery furnace: copper sources and early Irish metallurgy'. In 1996 Professor Gordon Herries Davies, MRIA, of the Department of Geology, Trinity College Dublin, gave a lecture on 'Dublin Solid, Dublin Drift: The story of geology in the Dublin region'. In 1997 Dr Padhraig S. Kennan of the Department of Geology, National University of Ireland, Dublin, presented a paper on 'Granite: a singular rock'. In 1998 Dr David Naylor, a consultant with ERA Maptec Ltd, presented his lecture on 'Irish shorelines through geological time'.

Professor Michael Baillie, MRIA, School of Archaeology/Palaeoecology at the Queen's University of Belfast, has been invited to present the 1999 Award Lecture.

The Committee met twice.

Consultative Committee for Pharmacology and Toxicology

The Committee considered nominations for its Award of Merit, and the successful candidate for 1998 was Professor Robin Shanks, MRIA. The Award of Merit is a valuable contribution of the Academy and the Committee to the fields of pharmacology and toxicology in Ireland. Professor Shanks gave his Merit Award lecture on 'The contribution of the Queen's University of Belfast to cardiovascular clinical pharmacology' in March 1999. Necessary amendments to the criteria for the Award in future years to take account of Council's new recommendations of 5 October 1998 on Academy Awards were considered and will be finalised during 1999. The next Award will be offered in the year 2000.

Other issues considered by the Committee during the years included the transport of animals into Ireland, and the Academy and its activities. Contact was made between the National Commission for Microbiology and the Committee with a view to the organisation of a joint Millennium Symposium on Biotechnology under the auspices of the Academy in 2000.

Professor Michael Murphy, Professor Brian Leonard, MRIA, and Dr Michael Pugh offered their resignations from the Committee. Council approved the election of Dr John P. Kelly of the National University of Ireland, Galway, Dr Ashley Allshire of the National University of Ireland, Cork, and Dr Joseph Tracey of Beaumont Hospital in their place. Other members of the Committee remained unchanged. Council also approved the appointment of Dr Iona Pratt as Secretary to the Committee to succeed Dr Pugh.

The Committee met three times.

Praeger Committee for Field Natural History

The Praeger Committee was pleased to announce that a computerised catalogue of reports on work done by Praeger Fund grantees since 1958 had been completed by the Academy Library. The Committee made plans to expand its membership to include a botanist and a geologist. It also discussed its financial position and reviewed progress on the New Survey of Clare Island.

The Committee met once.

Science Research Committee

The Science Research Committee considered in detail the various programmes for research in third-level institutions. The Committee expressed its concerns to the Minister for Science and Technology over the short-fall of funding for the Basic Research Scheme, which had arisen primarily because of administrative problems associated with the transfer of the scheme. As a result of these and other related initiatives the funding was finally restored. The Committee also considered at some length the new scheme for funding research in third-level institutions introduced by the Higher Education Authority (HEA). Concern was expressed at the very short notice given to the universities for the completion of applications, and it was also noted that, for the most part, the universities did not have structures in place that would permit a rational choice of projects for their submissions. The Committee also considered the HEA's request to nominate an overseas scholar of distinction to join the Assessment Panel. After some discussion it was decided to recommend Dr William Hayes (Clarendon Laboratory, Oxford), who had recently been elected to Honorary Membership of the Academy. This was communicated to the Academy's President.

The Committee considered in detail progress reports from some of the panels of the Technology Foresight Programme that was set up by the Irish Council for Science, Technology and Innovation (ICSTI). Professor McConnell, who is a member of ICSTI, gave a presentation of the thinking and rationale behind this initiative. The Committee was generally supportive of the programme.

The crisis in secondary schools regarding the falling interest in the core disciplines of physics and chemistry was discussed by the Committee. The shortage of trained teachers in these two areas was identified as a major factor. The Committee recommended that the President should write to the Minister for Education offering the Academy's assistance in tackling the problem.

The Committee met twice.

SIL Congress Committee

The highly successful 27th Congress of *Societas Internationalis Limnologiae* (SIL), in planning since 1987 by the SIL Congress Committee, was held on the campus of the National University of Ireland, Dublin (UCD) between 9 and 14 August 1998. The Congress, co-organised with the UCD Environmental Institute, attracted 1200 delegates with 200 accompanying persons. Mr D. Wallace, TD, Minister of State at the Department of the Environment and Local Government, declared the event open on Sunday, 9 August 1998, following introductory addresses by the following: Dr Declan Murray, General Secretary, SIL Congress Committee; Dr Caroline Hussey, Deputy President and Registrar of the National University of Ireland, Dublin, Professor Michael Herity, President, Royal Irish Academy; Mr Tom Garvey, Deputy Director General DG XI, European Commission (major sponsor); Mr Ted Dalton, Electricity Supply Board (title sponsor); and Professor Carolyn Burns, President of SIL.

The scientific programme, compiled through the Academy, commenced on Monday, 10 August 1998, with a keynote address by Mr David Grant Lawrence, Director of the European Commission DG XI Environmental Quality and Resources Division, on 'Reform of the European Union Water Policy and the Water Framework Directive'. Professor C. Goldman (University of California, Davis), delivered the SIL Baldi lecture, 'Four decades of change in two sub-Alpine lakes'. During that afternoon and the following four days, twelve invited plenary addresses were given by limnological experts addressing a wide range of topics to heighten awareness of issues important to aquatic conservation and management. The programme of over seven hundred lectures was arranged by Professors Paul Giller and Brian Wood in forty-two theme areas and scheduled in twelve concurrent morning and afternoon sessions. Poster presentations, totalling 386, were presented in four afternoon sessions. Fourteen workshop/discussion sessions were held, complementing plenary lectures and theme sessions, dealing with issues of sustainable use of aquatic resources and ecosystems. Staff of the Academy assisted with the logistics of the scientific programme preparation and co-ordination of chairpersons.

A State reception was hosted in Dublin Castle on Monday evening, 10 August 1998, by Mr Seamus Brennan, TD, Government Chief Whip and Minister of State at the Department of the Taoiseach. A full programme of daily social events was organised for delegates and accompanying persons. On Wednesday, 12 August 1998, full day participants were offered a choice of twenty-eight excursions, coordinated by Dr J. King, to areas of limnological interest in Ireland, North and South.

Sixty-seven delegates from developing countries were financially assisted, primarily by a subvention from the Department of Foreign Affairs but supplemented by funds allocated through the Finance Sub-Committee of the SIL Congress Executive Committee. This fund was administered through the Academy by a sub-committee chaired by Dr K. Irvine. Payment of registration, subsistence, accommodation and some limited travel expenses supported delegates from twenty-six developing countries, including Albania, Argentina, Brazil, China, Colombia, Egypt, Estonia, Hungary, India, Kenya, Korea, Macedonia, Morocco, Poland, Romania, Russia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Uruguay, Venezuela and Zimbabwe. The participation of these delegates not only enhanced the diversity of the global scientific programme but also provided contact for them with experts from developed countries and opened potential avenues for future cooperation in research.

The plenary lecture, 'Limnological research and capacity building in tropical developing countries', and the allied special workshop on 'Limnological training and research in tropical developing countries', chaired by B. Gopal (India) and P. Denny (Netherlands) were particularly well attended and provided appropriate contact mechanisms.

Three books on Ireland's limnology were published through the Marine Institute for the congress: Paul Giller (ed), *Studies in Irish limnology*; Christopher Moriarty (ed.), *Studies of Irish lakes and rivers*; and Julian Reynolds, *Ireland's freshwaters*. Each of the first two volumes contained contributions from a number of authors detailing different aspects of research in Irish aquatic habitats; the third was distributed to delegates in their congress package. Abstracts of the Congress proceedings were produced as hard copy and also on CD-ROM. The proceedings of the Congress are being electronically formatted in Ireland by Mayo Editorial and will also be available on CD-ROM.

During the Congress Dr Murray brought to the attention of the SIL International Committee a proposal by the Academy's National Commission for Hydrobiology to compile an inventory of the inland water flora and fauna of Ireland. The project received unanimous support from the International Committee and the SIL Executive, and a resolution was passed at the second general assembly of delegates on Friday, 14 August 1998, endorsing the proposal.

The SIL Congress Committee will hold a final meeting on 18 May 1999.

Social Science Research Council

The fourth annual report of the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) was presented to the Minister of State at the Department of Education and Science, Mr Noel Treacy, TD, at a reception in Academy House on Thursday, 29 October 1998. Three Postgraduate Awards of £7000 each and five Postgraduate Essay prizes of £1000 each were presented by the Minister, who also took note of the eleven Research Awards with a total value of £108,000 awarded by the SSRC during the year. The 1998 budget of the SSRC was based upon a grant of £100,000 from the Irish government and additional funding of £50,000 from the Nuffield Foundation.

The SSRC has welcomed the establishment by the Minister of Education of an Interim Council for Humanities and Social Sciences and the announcement of Government of Ireland Research Scholarships in the Humanities and the Social Sciences as an initial development leading to more substantial funding for social science training and research. The SSRC decided, in view of this development, not to continue its own postgraduate award scheme in 1999.

At the first meeting of the new SSRC, the Chair, Professor John A. Jackson, and Vice Chair, Professor Elisabeth Meehan, were asked to serve on an interim basis pending developments regarding the proposals for research funding as a result of Dr Bric's report to the Minister. At the March meeting they were elected to serve for a further term. Professor Brendan Whelan of the Economic and Social Research Institute was nominated to the SSRC to assist in particular with the development of the Data Archive project.

During the year the Secretary of the SSRC, Miriam Carolan, attended the fifth meeting of the European Science Foundation Standing Committee for the Social Sciences Core Group and Member Organisations Senior Research Administrators in Berne, Switzerland.

The SSRC met seven times.

NATIONAL COMMITTEES

National Committee for Archaeology

Three grants to a total of £2000 were awarded from the Academy's Archaeological Research Fund for 1998. Recipients of excavation grants for 1998 presented the results of their work to the members of the Committee at the annual Excavations Seminar held on 17 November 1999 at Academy House. Eight excavation grants and one post-excavation grant in respect of the 1999 season were approved in principle.

The publication record of excavators funded by the National Monuments and Historic Properties Division, Dúchas, The Heritage Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands, on the Committee's recommendation continued to be monitored. The Committee prepared a document on 'The development of a National Heritage Plan' to form part of the Academy's submission to the Policy Division of the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands. The Committee also prepared a document 'Towards the development of a policy on the publication of archaeological excavations' for submission by the Academy to the Heritage Council.

The Committee met three times.

National Committee for Astronomy and Space Research

The main business of the Committee is to review and consider developments in astronomy (particularly facilities) and space research (particularly in relation to ESA) as they impact on Irish researchers in these areas. Irish involvement continues to be very healthy, with professional astronomical research in most of the universities (Trinity College Dublin; National University of Ireland, Dublin; National University of Ireland, Cork; National University of Ireland, Maynooth; National University of Ireland, Galway; the Queen's University of Belfast) and many Institutes (Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, Armagh Observatory, Galway–Mayo Institute of Technology, Carlow Institute of Technology). Observation time has been allocated on many of the largest telescopes, and there is participation on several space missions.

The Committee has continued in its efforts to address the increasingly urgent problem of a continuing reduction in the uptake of science subjects at second level, particularly in physics. A work plan and outline syllabus was generated by a sub-group of the Committee to provide a Transition Year module in astronomy to stimulate interest in physics. Efforts, so far unsuccessful, have continued to fund the preparation and provide course material for a pilot programme.

The Committee met twice.

National Committee for Biochemistry

The Committee is pleased that Schering-Plough (Brinny) Co. of Innishannon, Co. Cork, have agreed to be the new sponsors for the National Committee for Biochemistry Award. The support of Kerry Group plc for this award since its inception is gratefully acknowledged. No award was made this year.

The Science Writing Competition continued to flourish with a marked increase in entries. The winner was Gearóid Tuohy of the Department of Genetics, Trinity College Dublin, and the title of his paper was 'Apoptosis: a message of death in the code of life'. This award is a joint venture between the Academy, Yamanouchi Ireland and the *Irish Times*. The runner-up was Siobhán Conroy of the Department of Biochemistry, National University of Ireland, Dublin. Her article was entitled 'Type 1 diabetes: prevention or cure? A game of strategies'. The first prize was £300, with £150 for the runner-up, and the winning entry was published in the *Irish Times*.

There was also increased interest in the Postgraduate Travel Bursary Scheme. The main sponsors were Biotrin International, Brennan & Co., Guinness Ireland and Sigma-Aldrich Ireland. Five bursaries were awarded. These were to Vicki Betts (Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland), Valerie Cullen (National University of Ireland, Dublin), Ciaran Duffy (Dublin City University), Aideen O'Doherty (the Queen's University of Belfast) and Lassarina McLoughlin (National University of Ireland, Galway).

Arrangements are being made for a joint symposium with the National Committee for Biology on 'Ethics and the molecular life sciences'. This is planned to take place in the Academy on Friday, 28 January 2000, with an excellent panel of speakers covering key areas of debate.

Special sub-groups were involved in the preparation and assessment of the Committee's various activities. The full Committee met three times.

National Committee for Biology

The annual seminar entitled 'Biological invaders: the impact of exotic species' was held on 23–4 February 1999 and was attended by 90 persons. Eighteen oral presentations were made and eleven posters displayed. The Proceedings of the 1996 Seminar on 'Eutrophication in Irish waters' were published.

The Committee made a submission on the National Heritage Plan.

The matter of membership of the International Union for Biological Sciences was considered. The Committee agreed that Ireland's membership should continue, and the Chairman communicated his views on the value of association to the Executive Secretary of the Academy.

The Committee met four times.

National Commission for Hydrobiology

The fourth edition of the Commission's Register of Hydrobiologists now contains over 250 entries.

The National Committee for Biology agreed that the Freshwater Research Group could be enlarged to include those with a marine interest, to take effect at the 1999 meeting.

The Annual Meeting of the Freshwater Research Group was held on 19–20 March 1998 in the new East End Science Buildings of Trinity College Dublin, convened by Dr Julian Reynolds. The prize for best student presentation went to Jon Proman of Trinity College Dublin.

The culmination of many years' efforts, first mooted at a Freshwater Group Meeting in 1985 and involving the Commission's entire membership, was the successful SIL (International Association of Theoretical and Applied Limnology) Congress, held in the National University of Ireland, Dublin (UCD), from 9–14 August 1998. The congress was organised by the SIL Congress Committee under Chairman Dr Christopher Moriarty and General Secretary Dr Declan Murray. There were some 1200 delegates, and the programme included tours to sites of hydrobiological interest throughout Ireland, workshops, plenaries, sessional lectures and posters. The Committee produced three books for the Congress: Paul Giller (ed.), *Studies in Irish limnology*; Christopher Moriarty (ed.), *Studies on Irish lakes and rivers*; and Julian Reynolds, *Ireland's freshwaters*. A SIL Congress resolution supported the idea of publishing an inventory of Irish Limnobiota, which led to a Steering Committee of the Commission being set up in January 1999.

The Commission met twice.

National Commission for Microbiology

A seminar on 'Microbial responses to stress' was held at Academy House on 30 April 1998. It attracted a large audience, including an above average number of students of microbiology. The

planning of a seminar on ‘Developments in food science and technology: risks, benefits and responsibilities’, scheduled for 1999, was initiated.

Following the seminar on 30 April 1998, Professor David Coleman, Department of Microbiology and School of Dental Science, Trinity College Dublin, received the National Committee for Microbiology Award Medal 1997. Professor Coleman delivered a paper entitled ‘Stress response in *Candida dubliniensis*, an emerging fungal pathogen in Aids patients’.

The Food Safety Authority of Ireland was approved as a nominating body to the Commission. The Commission met four times.

National Commission for the Teaching of Biology

The Commission organised seminars under the title ‘New developments in practical biology’ on Saturday, 21 November 1998, at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, the University of Limerick and the Galway–Mayo Institute of Technology. The seminars were well attended and feedback was very favourable. The Department of Education and Science provided funding for these seminars.

D.W. Jeffrey’s booklet, *A teacher’s guide to grassland ecology*, was published and made available for purchase.

Major issues and concerns considered by the Commission were: the state of facilities for teaching biology in secondary schools; the new Leaving Certificate syllabus (delay in its implementation, non-examination of practical work, the role of the inspectorate); the proposed primary science syllabus; the organisation of the 1999 seminars; and the use of archaic nomenclature within the 1967 Leaving Certificate biology syllabus, which resulted in a report being sent to the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA).

Mr F. Ó Ríordáin continued to act as Chairman and Dr K. Kavanagh as Secretary to the Commission. Mr D. Sweeney was welcomed to the Commission.

The Commission met four times and had a further joint meeting with the National Commission for the Teaching of Physics.

National Committee for Chemistry

Following discussions with the Irish Business and Employers Confederation (IBEC), a substantial contribution towards the annual subscription to the International Union for Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) was received. Professor A.F. Hegarty, MRIA, agreed to represent the Academy at the General Assembly of IUPAC in Berlin in August 1999.

The Committee was concerned at the declining numbers of students taking chemistry as a subject at second level and is considering initiatives that might be adopted by third-level institutions to reverse this trend and to improve the general perception of chemistry in the community.

The Chemistry Essay Competition, supported by the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland and the local branches of the Royal Society of Chemistry and the Society of Chemical Industry, was run for the first time. Sponsorship was obtained from AGB Scientific Ltd and the *Irish Times*.

The Committee met twice.

National Committee for Economic and Social Science

The Committee’s Research Network Scheme, under which small sums of money are made available to facilitate networking between British and Irish scholars, continued to operate through a grant of IR£7500 from the British Council, matched by IR£7500 from the Social Science Research Council (SSRC). Five networks were supported over the past year, with funding recently being committed to supporting a further four networks in the coming year. In addition, the

Committee was successful in expanding the scope of the scheme by securing a new source of support: the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) will provide 10,000 Euros for German–Irish networks from the year 2000. Matching funding has been approved from the SSRC to enable the Committee to avail of this generous German support.

Another significant achievement for the Committee in 1998 was its October conference on crime: ‘What is crime and who are its perpetrators and victims? The view from Ireland’. The conference, organised by Professor John Brewer of the Queen’s University of Belfast, had speakers from the Republic, Northern Ireland and England. The Committee hopes to publish proceedings of the conference.

The Committee, while welcoming the increased funding being made available for social science research through the Interim Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences, is keen to examine its implications for the future role of the SSRC. It is hoped that the niche role in funding social science research in Ireland, both North and South, carved out by the SSRC will not be lost in the proposed new structures. Further, it is the Committee’s view that it could continue with this all-Ireland brief in collaboration with the proposed new Council to be appointed by the Minister for Education and Science.

Professor M.J. Laver, MRIA, the Committee’s nominee for the European Science Foundation’s (ESF) Standing Committee for the Social Sciences (SCSS), continues to represent the views of the committee, particularly with regard to the Exploratory Research Grant Scheme and the blueprint for the European Social Survey. It is now clear that the Irish contribution to the latter will need to be properly funded to ensure appropriate Irish participation and access to data.

The Nuffield Foundation continued to commit significant funds for social science research in both parts of Ireland, through the SSRC, while recognising the inclusive North–South brief of the National Committee.

The Committee met four times.

National Committee for Engineering Science

A major item of discussion during the year was the availability of Leonhard Euler’s *Opera omnia*. With collaboration between Dublin City University, Trinity College Dublin, the National University of Ireland, Dublin, and the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, now joined by the Royal Irish Academy, access to the available volumes has been greatly facilitated and no further action was considered necessary.

Funding of the Parsons Medal, to be awarded annually to a young researcher in Ireland for an outstanding contribution to engineering science, is now in the final stages of agreement. From suggested designs for the medal by artist Joe Nelson, the Committee agreed to proceed on a bronze design based on the theme of a turbine blade.

The date 17–18 February 2000 has been fixed for the Engineering, Science and Technology (EST) conference. A sub-committee with responsibility for this event and associated sponsorship was set up. The process of setting up a register of researchers in engineering science is continuing.

The Committee met four times.

International Union of Radio Science (URSI) Sub-Committee

A joint symposium with the UK panel for URSI was held in Academy House on 3–4 December 1998. There was a total of sixty-eight participants including speakers. The programme consisted of eighteen presentations in the areas of radioastronomy, remote sensing, electromagnetics, signal processing, antennas and propagation. Mr Alfie Kane, Chief Executive of Telecom Éireann, gave the keynote address, ‘Ireland and the information age’. Proceedings were not published, but a book

of abstracts is available on request. The event was entirely self-financing, and the level of sponsorship from companies in the telecommunications sector was particularly satisfactory. A dinner was held in Trinity College Dublin for speakers and participants from the UK. The Sub-Committee was pleased to note that the UK delegation was very impressed with the facilities provided by the Royal Irish Academy and with the high attendance by our research students.

The URSI General Assembly 1999 will be held in Toronto, Canada. Three topics were forwarded through the Royal Irish Academy for consideration in the Young Scientist Programme. This was the first occasion that research work undertaken at Irish universities had been submitted. Two topics were supervised directly by members of the Sub-Committee. Following an independent assessment by a committee from URSI in Canada, the three topics were accepted under the programme.

Another joint symposium with the UK is being planned for April 2000 at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory. Professor Michael C. Sexton, MRIA, is co-ordinator for the presentations from Ireland. As the UK is the host country, invitations to speakers and publicity for the event will be issued by the UK panel for URSI.

The eleventh Symposium on Radio-Science is at the planning stage. A provisional date of March 2001 has been proposed. It is intended that the general format would be similar to previous symposia.

The Sub-Committee met four times, with additional meetings of the conference organising group.

Coiste Náistiúnta Léann na Gaeilge

Leanadh den teangmháil le hoifigigh ón Údarás um Ardoideachas d'fhonn a dheimhniú go mbunófaí scéim chuimsitheach téacsleabhar chun na buntéacsanna agus na téacsleabhair atá riachtanach do léann na Gaeilge a sholáthar.

I bhfianaise na n-iarratas ar thacaíocht don Ghaeilge sa tríú leibhéal oideachais a bhí á lorg ag an Údarás san am san, chuir an Coiste meamram fé bhráid an Údaráis an 29 Meitheamh 1998. Tagraíodh sa mheamram so do ghnéithe eagsúla de Léann na Gaeilge, agus leagadh béim go háirithe ar sholáthar téacsleabhar.

Na folúntais in Oifig na Logainmneacha agus sa Ghúm a bhí fé chaibidil sa tréimhse bliana 1997–8, líonadh le linn na tréimhse seo iad.

Tháinig an Coiste le chéile aon uair amháin.

National Committee for Geodesy and Geophysics

The Committee is preparing a Report on Geodesy and Geophysics for the next General Assembly of the International Union for Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG), to be held in Birmingham on 18–30 July 1999. It will cover activities during the past four years, with references from earlier as appropriate. It was agreed that Professor A.W.B. Jacob, MRIA, will attend the General Assembly as the chief delegate for Ireland.

Arrangements for an event to honour Robert Mallet, scheduled for 6–8 October 1999, are proceeding well. There will be a historical review of the life and work of Mallet as part of the programme.

The International Union of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (IUTAM) has approved the proposal for a seminar on Atmosphere–Ocean Dynamics, to take place in July 2000. The seminar, which will take place in the University of Limerick, is in the planning stage. It is being organised by the National Committee for Theoretical and Applied Mechanics. At the request of the Committee, IUGG has agreed to co-sponsor the symposium. A Register of Research Scientists in Geophysics, with e-mail addresses and brief indications of research interests, was revised during the year.

The Committee met twice.

National Committee for Geography

A prime focus of the Committee's discussions continued to be its relationship with the International Geographical Union (IGU), which is currently undergoing reform. During the year Ireland's IGU membership status was raised from Category I to Category II. The Secretary prepared a report of the Committee's ongoing activities, an abstract of which was published in the *IGU Bulletin* (vol. 48 (1), 1998, 47–9). An invitation was received to offer an Irish contribution to the proposed IGU Multi-Lingual Glossary of Cultural Approaches to Geography.

Preparations are under way for the publication of the third *Bibliography of Irish Geography*, covering the period 1996–9, which will be available for international delegates to the International Geographical Congress at Seoul, Korea, in August 2000. A working group continued to investigate the feasibility of producing a new *Atlas of Ireland*.

Particular pleasure was recorded at progress made in negotiations between the Academy's Digital Data Working Group (DDWG) and Ordnance Survey Ireland (OS) as a result of which agreement was imminent on reducing the costs of OS maps and related data to academic users. The DDWG's chairperson, Professor W.J. Smyth (National University of Ireland, Cork), was elected to membership of the Academy.

The Committee responded to an invitation from the Minister for the Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands on the formulation of a National Heritage Plan. The Committee also contributed to the consultation process on the restructuring of the Academy's activities.

The Committee met three times.

National Commission for the Teaching of Geography

The greater part of the Commission's business during the year focused on arrangements for the proposed symposium for primary school teachers on the teaching of geography outside the classroom, an approach that is receiving increasing emphasis. However, it was thought prudent to postpone the conference from April 1999 until the autumn of 1999 as a result of the delay in the publication of the new programme for primary schools.

The Commission continued its examination of reports and other documents concerning forthcoming changes in Irish education in general and geography in particular. An analysis was made of Education Bill no. 2, and the implications for geography and geography teaching were discussed. A summary was made available to the National Committee.

An opportunity was taken by the Commission during the consultation phase to express its views on revisions to the Leaving Certificate. It sent a two-part response, which was designed to reflect the experiences of both Northern Ireland and the Republic, to the National Council for Curriculum Assessment (NCCA) on the proposed changes. NCCA subsequently expressed its appreciation.

One of the roles of the Commission is to keep abreast of international developments in geographical education. Reports on the business of the International Geographical Union's Commission for Geographical Education that highlight contemporary developments were examined with interest and their content disseminated where appropriate.

The resignation of Dr Harold Hislop from the Commission during the year, due to the demands of his new job responsibilities, was very much regretted. His departure left the Commission without a Secretary, a role that Dr Hislop had diligently undertaken for some time. He continues his contribution to geography, and to primary education in general, as an Inspector for the Department Education and Science. The position of Secretary was filled by Mr Pat Kelly, who was later also forced to resign as a consequence of unexpected ill health. He remains, however, as a member of the Commission. The duties of Secretary have once again been assumed by Mr David Sherwood.

The low attendance of teacher members at meetings has become critical. This is caused mainly by the financial implications for schools in funding substitutions. The Commission has asked the Academy, once again, to make another approach to the Department of Education and Science on the matter. A response from the Department has been slow in coming. It is hoped that membership and attendance difficulties will be resolved in the coming year.

The Commission met three times.

National Committee for Geology

The current cycle of the National Committee for Geology, which commenced in January 1996 under the Chairmanship of Professor M.J. Kennedy, National University of Ireland, Dublin, will conclude in December 1999. During the current year the Committee focused on professionalism in geology, review of the Royal Irish Academy's activities, conservation and protection of geological sites, organisation of the John Jackson Memorial Lecture, and in addition it continued liaison with the International Union of Geological Sciences, the Irish Science Centres Association Network (ISCAN) and Forfás Science and Technology Information Group.

Dr E. Doyle, Chairperson of the Professional Affairs Committee of the Irish Association for Economic Geology, addressed the Committee on professionalism in geology. He outlined the present state of progress, functions of the proposed professional body and the schedule to which the Professional Affairs Committee is adhering in its efforts to establish a professional body for geologists by May 1999. The National Committee for Geology strongly supported the proposal as presented by Dr Doyle and will continue to liaise with the Professional Affairs Committee in an effort to provide any assistance that may fall within its remit.

The Committee is participating in an internal review of the Royal Irish Academy's activities and is addressing, in particular, the very low representation of the geological profession among the membership of the Academy. It is also concerned with the Academy's responsibilities vis-à-vis funding and promotion of scientific research and has suggested an examination of the Bye-Laws with a view to enlargement of membership. This would ensure that the Academy is more widely representative of active scholars and thus truly representative of the academic and scholarly community.

The Committee responded to a request from the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands for input into the development of a National Heritage Plan. It supported the objective of an integrated, structured and coherent plan for the protection, conservation, management and preservation of the national heritage and addressed two aspects, Geological Features and Natural and Cultural Landscape, in particular in its response. The Committee continues to emphasise the need to appoint one or more professional geologists in relation to the implementation of the Plan.

The Committee made representations to Wicklow County Council requesting that the Council ensure that geological considerations had been duly investigated in the planning of the proposed widening and associated works of the current national route way through the Glen of the Downs, Co. Wicklow. Following a site visit in the company of the Wicklow County Council officials, the Chairman reported that a recent revision of the Council's plans had reflected the Council's increased sensitivity to landscape problems within the context of making the route way safer.

The Committee continues to liaise with UNESCO and is inviting Dr Brett, President of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), to visit the Academy. The Committee also continues to support the Science and Technology Information Group and ISCAN by actively participating in their meetings.

The Committee met four times.

National Committee for Greek and Latin Studies

The annual series of colloquia was continued with a colloquium in February 1999 on the subject of Ancient Pompeii. The keynote paper, 'A fresh look at Pompeian painting', was presented to a large and appreciative audience by Professor Roger Ling, University of Manchester.

Summer schools in Ancient Greek and Latin were again organised; they continue to attract a wide range of students and to play a significant role in the advancement of classical studies in Ireland.

The committee has been involved in recruiting a postgraduate Latin student to be sent on a scholarship to Munich to work on the *Thesaurus Linguae Latinae* project.

Enormous progress has been made in the Irish Institute of Hellenic Studies at Athens, whose Director, Dr Pat Cronin, has recently retired as Secretary to the National Committee. In March 1999 Dr Cronin and Professor Andrew Smith organised a highly successful study tour of Greece and Crete, in which eighty-three students from Irish universities participated. It is hoped that this will become an annual event.

The Committee met four times.

National Committee for the History and Philosophy of Science

The Committee had a successful year in promoting the history of Irish science. Papers presented at its symposium, 'Three centuries of Irish chemistry', were published in *Irish Chemistry News* (summer 1998).

The Committee organised a very successful conference on 'Science in Ireland in 1798: a time of revolution'. The proceedings of this conference will be published in the near future.

The Committee's *Newsletter*, volume 3 (1998), which aims at disseminating information about Irish activities involving the history and philosophy of science, was also published.

The Committee was successful in obtaining funding for the publication of a composite volume of *People and places in Irish science and technology*. This volume will be published in the near future.

The Committee agreed to support the National Committee for Philosophy in organising its forthcoming conference on 'The Vienna Circle'.

The Committee continues to be affiliated to both the International Union for the History and Philosophy of Science/Division of History of Science (IUHPS/DHS) and the International Union for the History and Philosophy of Science/Division of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science (IUHPS/DLMPS).

The Committee met twice.

National Committee for the Study of International Affairs

The Committee's seminar series continued with papers from Mr Douglas Gageby, Mr Gerald Keown, Dr Michael Kennedy and Dr Anna Murphy.

The annual conference on the theme of 'Human Rights in the Twenty-First Century' was held in Academy House on 12–13 February 1999, having been deferred from November 1998. The keynote speech was given by Minister of State at the Department for Foreign Affairs, Liz O'Donnell. Other speakers included Professor Adrian Guelke on the Peace and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa, Dr Barrie Wharton on Islam in Europe and Dr Karen Kenny on the UN Charter and human rights.

The Committee's annual Graduate Research Seminar on international relations was held on 21 November 1998. Papers on a variety of topics, including international law and human rights, and the French nuclear deterrent, were submitted by Mr Gordon Anthony, Ms Dervilla Kenny, Mr Robert McNamara and Mr Liam O'Hagan.

Volume 9 of *Irish Studies in International Affairs* was launched on schedule. Volume 1 of *Documents on Irish foreign policy* was launched on 2 November 1998.

National Committee for Mathematics

Preparations continued for World Mathematical Year 2000. Professor S.K. Houston, as editor of a planned book of biographies of Irish mathematicians, received sixteen articles on mathematicians with an Irish connection, and it is hoped to publish the book in June 2000. No decisions were received concerning the proposals for a postage stamp, a callcard and a bank calendar to mark the year. The possibility of a collection of open problems, which might appear in the *Bulletin of the Irish Mathematical Society*, is being investigated.

Information concerning careers and courses in mathematics, which is intended mainly for schools, is to be made available on the Web.

Professor Houston and Dr R. Watson were the Academy's delegates at the General Assembly of the International Mathematical Union, which was held in Dresden during August 1998.

The Committee met twice.

National Sub-Commission for Mathematical Instruction

Major pedagogical topics discussed included the teaching of mathematics to non-specialist students at third level (with particular reference to engineering), learning to teach mathematics at university level, the mathematical training of future second-level teachers and the mathematical training of physicists. This last topic was in conjunction with the National Commission for the Teaching of Physics and is ongoing.

The Sub-Commission continued to be involved in supporting the training of the Irish International Mathematical Olympiad team. The sum of £7500 was received from the Department of Education and Science towards the cost of the 1998 International Mathematical Olympiad being held in Taiwan. A highlight was the award of an individual bronze medal to Raja Mukherji. This is only the third time an Irish student has won a medal. The 1999 meeting will be held in Romania. Thanks were expressed to the various individuals and university departments involved in the training of our team for this event.

At the behest of the International Commission for Mathematical Instruction, the Chairman, Professor A.D. Wood, and Professor S.K. Houston carried out a survey of changes in Irish university mathematics departments over the decade 1987–97. This was a constituent part of a worldwide survey and covered mathematics degrees, mathematical careers and service teaching. While there was lack of clarity over the exact definition of 'mathematics major', there was no doubt that both the absolute number and the percentage of university students taking honours degrees in mathematics had increased throughout Ireland during the decade. While part of this increase could be attributed to the introduction of 'applicable mathematics'-type degrees in the newer universities (Dublin City University, the University of Limerick and the University of Ulster), most of our older universities also showed growth in numbers. This contrasted with a fall in mathematics majors in many other developed countries.

Over the same period, in-service teaching of mathematics had increased, though not to the same extent. This was attributed to some in-service teaching of mathematics being delivered by other departments and to the growth of student numbers in non-quantitative disciplines. There are now many new career options for mathematics majors in the financial services area, and several departments reported difficulty in recruiting research students because of the high starting salaries on offer in the commercial and computing sectors.

The resignation due to illness of Dr R. Critchley, Secretary of the Sub-Commission, was accepted with regret. Mr B. McCann was elected in his place for the remainder of the term of office. This report has, therefore, been prepared by the Chairman.

The Sub-Commission met twice.

National Committee for Modern Language Studies

The Committee organised its twenty-fifth annual conference at the Queen's University of Belfast on 13–14 November 1998; arrangements are now under way to publish the proceedings. As the final exercise in the existing Committee's mandate, arrangements have been completed to produce a new National Register of Research in Modern Languages; the work of collating material for the register was kindly undertaken by Professor S. Rivière of the University of Limerick, and it is planned to have the document ready for sale and distribution at the twenty-sixth annual conference, to be held at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, on 12–13 November 1999. Arrangements for this conference, entitled 'Teaching and Learning Language, Literature and Culture', are now nearing completion.

Owing to the absence of the Secretary, long-term plans to mount a major project to heighten language awareness in Ireland and to take stock of resources have not progressed, but the outgoing Committee is wedded to the project as an essential step in the construction of a properly European outlook. A further concern is the nature of the Committee's liaison with the National Commission for the Teaching of Modern Languages following the resignation of Dr S. Watts (who was a member of both bodies) to take up a post at Cambridge University. Dr Watts was replaced as the representative of Trinity College Dublin by Professor C. Lonergan. Following her appointment to an academic post in the USA, Professor A. O'Healy of the Department of English at the National University of Ireland, Galway, also resigned.

The Committee met four times.

National Commission for the Teaching of Modern Languages

The focus of attention during the year 1998–9 has been on the following areas: culture and literature as manifested in the new secondary school syllabus, in particular the effect on class room activities and examinations for Modern Languages; languages on offer at secondary school level; primary sector and modern languages; update on various EU programmes by Léargas.

Dr S. Watts resigned as Chairperson at the June 1998 meeting to take up a position in the Department of German and Linguistics at Cambridge University. Ms S. Supple was proposed as Chairperson for the remaining term of this Commission, and Ms M. Smith was proposed as Secretary. Ms C. Saito (Japanese/Dublin City University) joined the Commission in June 1998. Dr M. Wall (French/Education Department, National University of Ireland, Cork) resigned from the Commission in September 1998.

The Commission has met four times.

National Committee for Nutritional Sciences

The Committee had the honour of presenting the first Royal Irish Academy Award in Nutritional Sciences to Dr Helene McNulty. Dr McNulty gave an excellent Award Lecture in the Academy on 12 November 1998, on 'Folic acid in Health and Disease'. A copy of the lecture is available in the Library.

The Committee is hoping to hold a conference entitled 'Nutrition and Cancer' on 4 November 1999.

Ms U. O'Dwyer joined the Committee as the representative for the Department of Health and Children, and the representative of the Health Research Board, Professor M. Gibney, resigned.

The Committee met three times.

National Committee for Philosophy

The Committee held its eighteenth annual conference, entitled ‘The Human Mind’, in Academy House on 21–2 May 1998. Professor Owen Flanagan, Duke University, was the principal speaker. His paper was entitled ‘Three philosophical problems about dreams’. Eight other papers were read at the conference.

The Committee discussed the possibility of philosophy as a subject in secondary schools. Its report on the matter has been submitted to the National Council for Curriculum Assessment (NCCA) for consideration.

In August 1998, Dr T. O’Connor (Chairman) attended the General Assembly of the Federation Internationale des Sociétés de Philosophie as a delegate of the Academy during the World Congress of Philosophy in Boston.

The Committee also considered the possibility of producing an *Irish Philosophical Newsletter*. The Committee met three times.

National Committee for Physics

Among the matters addressed was the teaching of physics in schools, and the Secretary wrote to the Minister for Education seeking a meeting and indicating that the Committee would like to offer assistance in this regard. The Committee is particularly concerned at the lack of a subject quota, which militates against the entry of general or pass degree science graduates to the Higher Diploma in Education courses.

The Committee also addressed the question of Ireland’s non-membership of CERN (Centre Européen de Recherche Nucléaire) and is to prepare a case for membership to be presented to the Department of Education and Science.

Professor J.A. Slevin, MRIA (Chairman), was nominated to represent the Academy at the IUPAP (International Union for Pure and Applied Physics) General Assembly, which was held in tandem with the centenary celebrations of the American Physical Society in March 1999.

Dr V. Toal was nominated as the Academy delegate to attend the European Physical Society’s Council meeting in April 1999.

A nomination for an Academy Discourse was forwarded to the Academy Council in respect of Professor Maurice Rice.

The Committee met twice.

National Commission for the Teaching of Physics

The Commission organised two seminars for post-primary teachers. One of the seminars, held at the University of Limerick, was entitled ‘Transition Year—Physics on the Internet’. The other, held in Mount Temple School, Dublin, dealt with ‘Physics for the Transition Year’. The participants were provided with a comprehensive manual to accompany the topics covered by the seminars. The seminars were attended by forty teachers, although the demand for places far exceeded the numbers that could be accommodated.

Planning is at an advanced stage to hold two seminars in 1999. Both seminars will have an IT component and will also deal with some of the experimental requirements of the current Leaving Certificate physics syllabus. Other matters considered by the Commission were: the shortage of physics graduates entering the teaching profession; primary level science; and safety in the school laboratory.

Mr. S. Fitzmaurice of Hartstown Community School joined the Commission. The Commission met three times.

National Committee for Theoretical and Applied Mechanics

Professor A.D. Wood, together with Professor M. Berry, Bristol University, convened a summer school, which was held in Sligo on 6–10 August 1998, covering areas studied by G.G. Stokes.

The Chairman, Professor P.F. Hodnett, attended the IUTAM (International Union for Theoretical and Applied Mechanics) General Assembly at Stuttgart, Germany, on 28–30 August 1998 as the Academy representative and presented a report to Council.

Professor M. Hayes, Secretary General of IUTAM, informed the Committee that the proposal for the IUTAM symposium ‘Advances in Mathematical Modelling of Atmosphere and Ocean Dynamics’, organised by Professor P.F. Hodnett and Dr P. Lynch, had been accepted. The Symposium will be held at the University of Limerick on 2–7 July 2000.

The Committee communicated to Council a unanimous endorsement of Science Week Ireland, which is organised by Forfás.

Professor M. Hayes organised an Irish Mechanics Society meeting, to be held in conjunction with the Academy Discourse by Professor Ray Bates, at the National University of Ireland, Dublin, on 24–5 May 1999.

The compilation of the Register of Researchers in Theoretical and Applied Mechanics in Ireland has been completed by the Secretary, Dr J.J. Grannell. The Register, containing forty entries, will appear shortly on the Academy’s web site. It will be updated annually. The Secretary, with the help of Dr M. Gilchrist, National University of Ireland, Dublin, is developing a significant expansion of the Register, especially in the area of Fracture Mechanics.

Selected papers from the symposium on ‘Innovative Computational Methods for Fracture and Damage’, held at the National University of Ireland, Dublin, on 30 June–5 July 1996, and convened by Professor P. O’Donoghue, were published in two special issues of the international journal *Computational Mechanics* 19 (6) (1997) and 20 (1/2) (1997).

The Committee met twice.

APPENDIX

Membership of Academy Committees and National Committees, their affiliations to international bodies, and their dependent committees and commissions.

To increase the usefulness of the following lists, they have been updated to give the membership of the various bodies at the latest possible date (29 October) before publication in November 1999.

ACADEMY COMMITTEES

Please note that Academy Members on Academy Committees appear without titles.

Library Committee

The President	P. Donlon
The Treasurer	J.C.I. Dooge
The Secretary	J.V. Luce
M.E. Daly	A.G. O'Farrell
J.M. Dillon	B. Ó Madagáin

Publication Committee

The President	P. Harbison	G.J. Murphy
The Treasurer	T.J. Laffey	Dr M. O'Dowd
The Secretary	P. Mac Cana	P. Ó Riain
Dr T.B. Barry	R.S. McElhinney	M.W. Steer
Professor P. Giller		

Editorial Board, Dublin Excavations Publication Project

Mr A. Halpin	Mr R. Ó Floinn (<i>Secretary</i>)
M. Herity	B. Raftery
F.X. Martin	P.F. Wallace

Committee for the Study of Anglo-Irish Literature

Royal Irish Academy	M. Harmon
	Dr C. Morash
National University of Ireland, Cork	Professor C. Kearney
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Dr C. Murray
National University of Ireland, Galway	Professor K. Barry
Trinity College Dublin	T. Brown
The Queen's University of Belfast	Professor E. Longley
University of Ulster	Professor R. Welch
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	Professor B. Cosgrove (<i>Chairperson</i>)
National Library of Ireland	Dr N. Kissane (<i>Secretary</i>)

Consultative Committee on Biblical and Near Eastern Studies

Professor J.R. Bartlett (<i>Chairperson</i>)	A.D.H. Mayes
Dr D.R.G. Beattie	Dr D. Morray
S.V. Freyne	Dr G.J. Norton
Dr M. McCarthy	Dr F. Ó Fearghail (<i>Secretary</i>)
Dr C. McCullough	Dr E. Wright
M.J. McNamara	

New Survey of Clare Island Executive Committee

The President	Mr C. Mac Cárthaigh
The Science Secretary (<i>Chairperson</i>)	Dr T.K. McCarthy
Dr D. Cabot	Mr C. Manning
Dr G. Doyle (<i>Secretary</i>)	Professor A. Myers
Dr J.R. Graham	M.W. Steer

Dictionary of Irish Biography

Editors: A. Clarke, J.R. Fanning, Professor E.M. Johnston-Liik, Mr J. McGuire,
Professor M. Murphy

Editorial Committee

A. Cosgrove	P. Mac Cana
Dr R. Gillespie	P. Ó Riain

Consultative Committee

N.P. Canny	M. Harmon
A. Cosgrove	P. Mac Cana (<i>Chairperson</i>)
M.J. Craig	D.J. Simms

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M. McNamara	A.B. Scott
D. Ó Cróinín	

Observers

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Professor L. de Coninck	

Documents on Irish Foreign Policy Project

Editors

J.R. Fanning, Professor D. Keogh, Professor E. O'Halpin (*Chairperson*)

Executive Editor: Dr M. Kennedy

Editorial Advisory Board

Mr G. Ansbro	Ms C. Crowe
Mr P. Buckley	Dr G. Keown

Foclóir na Nua-Ghaeilge
Coiste Eagarthóireachta

An tUachtarán	An tOllamh C. Ó Háinle
An Dr E. Mac Aogáin	An tOllamh R. Ó hUiginn
An Dr L. Mac Mathúna	B. Ó Madagáin
An tOllamh S. Mac Mathúna	An Dr N. Ó Muraíle
An tOllamh S. Ó Coileáin (<i>Cathaoirleach</i>)	An Dr S. Watson

Advisory Committee on Genetic Anthropology

The President	D.J. McConnell (<i>Chairperson</i>)
M.G.L. Baillie	J.P. Mallory
Dr D.G. Bradley	Professor S. Whitehead
E.P. Cunningham	P.F. Wallace
Dr A. Evans (<i>Secretary</i>)	

Irish Committee for the International Geosphere–Biosphere Programme

Dr R.J. Devoy	Dr T. O’Connor
Dr E. Farrell	Professor M. Orren
Dr M.B. Jones	Professor H. Sidebottom
R.P. Kernan (<i>Chairperson</i>)	Dr J. Sweeney (<i>Secretary</i>)
Dr P. Larkin	Mr M.B. Thorp
Dr P. Lynch	

Irish Historic Towns Atlas

Editors

A. Simms (*Chairperson*), Dr H.B. Clarke, Dr R. Gillespie
Consultant Editor: J.H. Andrews

Editorial Committee

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Mr J. Bradley	G. Mac Niocaill
Mr M. Brand	Dr P. Robinson
Dr R. Gillespie	Dr M.K. Simms
Mr R. Haworth	Dr K.F. Whelan

Humanities Research Committee

The President	T.P. Hardiman
The Secretary (<i>Secretary</i>)	K.A. Kennedy
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M.E. Daly	J.P. Mallory
J.M. Dillon	M. Ó Murchú
J.D.G. Evans	M.F. Ryan
J.R. Fanning (<i>Chairperson</i>)	A. Simms

Humanities Research Steering Committee

The Secretary	J.R. Fanning (<i>Chairperson</i>)
N.P. Canny	W.E. Lyons
M.E. Daly	M.F. Ryan

John Jackson Memorial Fund Committee

Mr S. Finlay	Professor M.J. Kennedy
Dr R.R. Horne	Dr C.I.D. Moriarty

Eoin O'Mahony Bursary Committee

N.P. Canny	Mr J. McGuire
M.E. Daly	K.B. Nowlan
Mr C. Lysaght	Mr P. Tynan O'Mahony

Consultative Committee for Pharmacology and Toxicology

Dr A. Allshire	J.V. McLoughlin (<i>Chairperson</i>)
Dr D. Johnston	Dr I. Pratt (<i>Secretary</i>)
Dr J. Kelly	Dr J.A. Tracey
Dr J.G. Kelly	Professor J. Waddington

Praeger Committee for Field Natural History

The Treasurer	A. MacFadyen
J.S. Fairley (<i>Chairperson</i>)	Dr D. Murray
Mr J.M.C. Holmes	Dr R. Nairn
Dr M. Jebb	Dr B.A. Osborne
Dr T.K. McCarthy	G.S. Sevastopulo

Science Research Committee

The President	D.M.X. Donnelly (<i>Chairperson</i>)
The Science Secretary	D.J. McConnell
The Treasurer	G.D. Sevastopulo
S. Dineen	J.A. Slevin (<i>Secretary</i>)

SIL Congress Committee

Dr J. Bowman	Dr J. King
Professor F. Convery	Dr T.K. McCarthy
Dr D. Douglas (<i>Vice-Chairperson</i>)	Dr C. Moriarty (<i>Chairperson</i>)
Professor C. Gibson	Dr D.A. Murray (<i>Secretary</i>)
Professor P. Giller	Dr J. Reynolds
Dr K. Irvine	Professor R.B. Wood

Congress Registration and Accommodation Secretariat

Ms E. Fitzgerald

Excursions and Social Programme Sub-Committee

Dr C. Byrne	Dr J. Lynch
Professor C. Gibson	Dr T.K. McCarthy
Dr J. King (<i>Convenor</i>)	

Financial Aid Sub-Committee

Dr K. Irvine (<i>Convenor</i>)	Professor B. Wood
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Finance and Sponsorship Sub-Committee

Dr J. Bowman	Dr D. Douglas (<i>Convenor</i>)
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Publications Sub-Committee

Professor P. Giller	Dr J. Reynolds (<i>Convenor</i>)
Dr K. Irvine	Dr J. Rochford
Dr C. Moriarty	

Scientific Programme Sub-Committee

Professor P. Giller	Professor R.B. Wood (<i>Convenor</i>)
Dr K. Irvine	

SIL Congress Executive Committee

Dr J. Bowman	Dr C. Moriarty (<i>Secretary</i>)
Professor F. Convery	Dr D. Murray (<i>Chairperson</i>)
Dr D. Douglas (<i>Vice-Chairperson</i>)	Dr J. Reynolds
Ms E. Fitzgerald	

Social Science Research Council

Royal Irish Academy	M. Laver
	Professor D. Dineen
	Professor J.A. Jackson (<i>Chairperson</i>)
	Professor B. Nolan
Irish Economics Association	Professor B. Whelan
	Professor J. Spencer
Political Studies Association	Dr F. Walsh
	Professor E. Meehan
	(<i>Vice-Chairperson</i>)
	Dr J. Coakley
Sociological Association of Ireland	Mr A. McCullough
	Dr Máire Nic Ghiolla Phádraig

NATIONAL COMMITTEES
(from 1 January 1996 to 31 December 1999)

National Committee for Archaeology

Royal Irish Academy	Professor G. Eogan Mr P.D. Sweetman (<i>Chairperson</i>) Mr M. Hurley Ms M. Cahill
National University of Ireland, Cork	Professor P.C. Woodman
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Professor B. Raftery
National University of Ireland, Galway	Professor E. Rynne
Trinity College Dublin	Dr T.B. Barry
The Queen's University of Belfast	Professor D.D.A. Simpson
Commissioners of Public Work	Mr C. Manning
National Museum of Ireland	Mr E.P. Kelly
Ulster Museum	Ms S. McCartan
Irish Association of Professional Archaeologists	Mr V.M. Buckley
Ordnance Survey	Mr P. Walsh (<i>Secretary</i>)
N.I. Department of the Environment	Mr B. Williams

National Committee for Astronomy and Space Research

(affiliated to the International Astronomical Union)

Royal Irish Academy	Professor P.K. Carroll Professor B.P. McBreen Professor E. Kennedy Mr P. Samways Dr A. Shearer Professor E. Meurs
National University of Ireland, Cork	Dr P. Callanan
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Dr A. Breslin
National University of Ireland, Galway	Professor R.M. Redfern (<i>Secretary</i>)
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	Professor S. McKenna-Lawlor
Trinity College Dublin	Professor P.S. Florides
The Queen's University of Belfast	Dr A. Fitzsimmons
Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, School of Cosmic Physics	Professor T. Ray
Armagh Observatory	Professor M.E. Bailey
Enterprise Ireland	Dr B. O'Donnell (<i>Chairperson</i>)
Irish Astronomical Society	Mr L. Smyth

National Committee for Biochemistry

(affiliated to the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology)

Royal Irish Academy	Professor K.F. Tipton Dr D. Hannah Dr E. Prosser Dr A. Ward
National University of Ireland, Cork	Professor J.J.A. Heffron
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Professor P. Engel
National University of Ireland, Galway	Professor J. Gosling
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	Dr K. Mills
Trinity College Dublin	Dr T.J. Mantle
The Queen's University of Belfast	Dr G.B. Wisdom (<i>Chairperson</i>)
University of Ulster	Dr B.M. Hannigan
Dublin City University	Professor R. O'Kennedy (<i>Secretary</i>)
Association of Clinical Biochemists in Ireland	Dr K. McGeeney
Teagasc	Dr A. Moloney
Enterprise Ireland	Dr M. Brougham
Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland	Professor P.B. Collins
Irish Area Section of the Biochemical Society	Dr F. Lynch

National Committee for Biology

(affiliated to the International Union of Biological Sciences)

Royal Irish Academy	Professor J.A. Kavanagh Dr D. Murray Mr D. Synnott Dr J. O'Connor
National University of Ireland, Cork	Professor A.A. Myers
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Professor M.W. Steer
National University of Ireland, Galway	Professor M. O'Connell
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	Professor P. Whittaker (<i>Chairperson</i>)
Trinity College Dublin	Professor B.L. Roberts
The Queen's University of Belfast	Dr R.N. Govier
University of Ulster	Dr T.E. Andrew
Dublin City University	Dr S. McDonnell
University of Limerick	Dr J. Breen
Teagasc	Mr L. Dowley
Institute of Biology of Ireland	Mr T. Flanagan
Royal Dublin Society	Dr M. Forrest
Dúchas (National Parks and Wildlife)	Ms C. Douglas
Minister for the Marine	Dr C. Moriarty (<i>Secretary</i>)
Environmental Protection Agency	Dr J. Bowman

National Commission for the Teaching of Biology

Mr P. de Bhaldraithe	Ms M. Lee
Dr T. Bolger	Mr T. McCloughlin (<i>Secretary</i>)
Mr D. Bourke	Mr B. Mac Donnchadha
Dr J. Breen	Mr K. Maume
Mr B. Brennan	Mr C. Morris
Dr A. Cook	Mr F. Ó Ríordáin (<i>Chairperson</i>)
Mr T. Harrington	Mrs A. Potts
Mr G. Hughes	Dr C. Pybus
Mr P.B. Hughes	Dr E. Sides
Dr D.W. Jeffrey	Mr D. Sweeney
Dr K. Kavanagh	

National Commission for Microbiology

Dr R. Bishop (<i>Chairperson</i>)	Dr A.P. Moran
Dr J.F. Dempster	Dr M. O'Connell
Professor C. Dorman	Professor F. O'Gara
Professor W.M. Fogarty	Mr J. O'Shea
Dr R.B. Gilliland	Dr M.G. O'Sullivan
Professor J.A. Kavanagh	Mr J. Quinn (<i>Secretary</i>)
Dr U. MacEvilly	Dr P. Wall
Dr A. McHale	

National Commission for Hydrobiology

Dr J. Bracken	Dr C. Moriarty (<i>Chairperson</i>)
Dr M. Costello	Dr D.A. Murray
Dr D. Cotton	Dr J. O'Sullivan
Dr T.F. Cross	Dr A. Peterson
Mr J. Curtin	Dr H. Platt
Dr D. Douglas	Dr J. Reynolds (<i>Secretary</i>)
Professor A. Ferguson	Dr J. Ryan
Dr P. Fitzmaurice	Dr J. Tobin
Professor B.F. Keegan	Dr K.F. Whelan
Dr G.J.A. Kennedy	Dr J.G. Wilson
Mr J. Lucey	Professor R.B. Wood

National Committee for Chemistry

(affiliated to the International Union for Pure and Applied Chemistry)

Royal Irish Academy	Professor A.F. Hegarty (<i>Chairperson</i>)
	Professor T.B.H. McMurry
	Mr M. Moran
	Dr N. Russell
National University of Ireland, Cork	Professor L.D. Burke
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Professor K. Dawson
National University of Ireland, Galway	Professor P. McArdle
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	Dr J. Briody (<i>Secretary</i>)
Trinity College Dublin	Professor J.M. Kelly
The Queen's University of Belfast	Professor J.J. Rooney
Dublin City University	Professor H. Vos
University of Limerick	Dr K. Hodnett
Health Research Board	Dr R. Darcy
Institute of Chemistry of Ireland	Mr J. Rowley
Enterprise Ireland	Mr D. Carroll

National Committee for Economics and Social Sciences

Royal Irish Academy	Professor M. Laver
	Professor D.F. Hannan
	Mr C. McCullagh
	Professor B. Roche
	Dr M. McLachlan (<i>Secretary</i>)
	Dr J. Coakley
National University of Ireland, Cork	Professor C.F. Fanning
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Professor P. Clancy
National University of Ireland, Galway	Dr E. O'Shea
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	Professor P. Geary
Trinity College Dublin	Mr A. McCashin
The Queen's University of Belfast	Professor J. Brewer
University of Ulster	<i>vacant</i>
Dublin City University	Mr A. Foley
University of Limerick	Professor D. Dineen (<i>Chairperson</i>)
Economic and Social Research Institute	Professor B. Nolan
Enterprise Ireland	Dr S. Hayward
Northern Ireland Economic Council	Dr P. Gorecki
Social Science Research Council	Professor J.A. Jackson (<i>ex officio</i>)

National Committee for Engineering Sciences

Royal Irish Academy	Professor J.C.I. Dooge
	Professor J.A.C. Stewart
	Professor G. Byrne
	Dr P. O'Donoghue
National University of Ireland, Cork	Professor P. O'Kane (<i>Chairperson</i>)
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Professor G. Hamer
National University of Ireland, Galway	Professor C. Cunnane
Trinity College Dublin	Professor S. Perry
The Queen's University of Belfast	<i>vacant</i>
University of Ulster	Dr S. Laverty (<i>Secretary</i>)
Dublin City University	Dr D. Cameron
University of Limerick	<i>vacant</i>

U.R.S.I. Sub-Committee

Professor T. Brazil	Dr P. Murphy
Mr J. Colgan	Dr M. O'Droma
Dr C. Downing	Mr A.D. Patterson
Dr N. Evans	Comdt T. Roche
Mr O. Foley	Dr B.K.P. Scaife (<i>Chairperson</i>)
Professor V. Fusco	Professor M.C. Sexton
Professor T. Gallagher	Professor J.A.C. Stewart
Mr L. Kilmartin	Dr S.S. Swords
Dr B. McArdle (<i>Secretary</i>)	

Coiste Náisiúnta Léann na Gaeilge

Acadamh Ríoga na hÉireann	An tOllamh P. Mac Cana
	An tOllamh M. Ó Murchú
	An Dr L. Mac Mathúna (<i>Cathaoirleach</i>)
Ollscoil Náisiúnta na hÉireann, Corcaigh	An Dr B. Ó Conchúir
Ollscoil Náisiúnta na hÉireann, Baile Átha Cliath	An Dr S. Watson
Ollscoil Náisiúnta na hÉireann, Gaillimh	An tOllamh B. Ó Madagáin
Ollscoil Náisiúnta na hÉireann, Má Nuad	An Dr D. Ó Muirí
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath	An tOllamh C. Ó Háinle
Ollscoil na Banríona, Béal Feirste	An Dr N. Ó Muraíle
Ollscoil Uladh	An Dr D. Ó Doibhlin
Ollscoil Luimnigh	An tUas. L. Ó Dochartaigh
Ollscoil Chathair Baile Átha Cliath	An Dr A. Titley
Aire Oideachais agus Eolaíochta	An Dr E. Ó Suilleabháin
Institiúid Ard-léinn Bhaile Átha Cliath	An Dr A. Nic Dhonnchadha (<i>Rúnaí</i>)
Institiúid Teangeolaíochta Éireann	An tOllamh D.P. Ó Baoill
Bord na Gaeilge	An tUas. P. Mac Aonghusa

National Committee for Geodesy and Geophysics

(affiliated to the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics)

Royal Irish Academy	Professor N.A. Porter
	Professor J.C.I. Dooge
	Professor A. Brock
	Professor M.J. Orren
Met Éireann	Dr P. Lynch (<i>Secretary</i>)
	Mr D. Fitzgerald
National University of Ireland, Cork	Dr R.J. Devoy
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Dr C. Bean
National University of Ireland, Galway	Dr A. Ó Rodaighe
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	Dr J. Sweeney
Trinity College Dublin	Mr B. Murphy
The Queen's University of Belfast	Dr G. Leslie
University of Ulster	Dr J. McCloskey
Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies	Professor A.W.B. Jacob (<i>Chairperson</i>)
Geological Survey of Ireland	Mr D. Inamdar
Northern Ireland Meteorological Office	<i>vacant</i>
Ordnance Survey	Mr M. Cory
Enterprise Ireland	Dr K. Rybaczuk

National Committee for Geography

(affiliated to the International Geographical Union)

Royal Irish Academy	Professor A. Simms
	Dr F.H.A. Aalen
	Dr M. Keane
	Professor M. Bannon
National University of Ireland, Cork	Professor W.J. Smyth
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Professor A. Buttimer
National University of Ireland, Galway	An tOllamh M.S. Ó Cinnéide
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	Professor J.A. Walsh
Trinity College Dublin	Professor D.A. Gillmor (<i>Chairperson</i>)
The Queen's University of Belfast	Professor D.N. Livingstone
University of Ulster	Dr C. Thomas (<i>Secretary</i>)
Dublin City University	Dr M. Dillon
University of Limerick	Dr P. O'Connor
Teagasc	Dr J. Lee
Geographical Society of Ireland	Dr M. Cawley
Ordnance Survey	Mr B. Madden
Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland	Mr R. Clements
Irish Planning Institute	Mr P. Jones
Environmental Protection Agency	Mr J. Feehan

National Commission for the Teaching of Geography

Ms A.M. Duffy	Mr S. Kelly
Mr T. Foran	Mr D. McCafferty
Ms E. Hayes	Ms D. McKane
Dr H. Hislop	Mr E. Ó Breacáin
Dr M. Keane (<i>Chairperson</i>)	Mr D. Sherwood
Mr G. Kelly	Ms P. Sweeney
Mr P. Kelly (<i>Secretary</i>)	

National Committee for Geology

(affiliated to the International Union of Geological Sciences
and the International Union for Quaternary Research)

Royal Irish Academy	Professor G.D. Sevastopulo
	Mr N.T. Monaghan
	Mr D. Ball
	Dr P. Shannon
National University of Ireland, Cork	Professor P.M. Brück
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Professor M.J. Kennedy (<i>Chairperson</i>)
National University of Ireland, Galway	Professor P. Ryan
Trinity College Dublin	Dr J.R. Graham
The Queen's University of Belfast	Professor A.D. Wright
University of Ulster	Dr P. Lyle
Teagasc	Mr S. Diamond
Geological Survey of Ireland	Dr P. McArdle
Geological Survey of Northern Ireland	Mr J.W. Arthurs
Irish Association for Economic Geology	Ms L.P.C. Farrell (<i>Secretary</i>)
Irish Association for Quaternary Studies	Mr K. Barton
Irish Geological Association	Dr P.N. Wyse Jackson
Irish Mining and Quarrying Society	Dr P.R.R. Gardiner
Royal Dublin Society	Mr S. Finlay

National Committee for Greek and Latin Studies

(affiliated to the International Federation of the Societies of Classical Studies)

Royal Irish Academy	Professor J.M. Dillon
	Dr C. Morris
	Dr R. Finnegan (<i>Secretary</i>)
National University of Ireland, Cork	Professor K. Sidwell
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Professor A. Smith
National University of Ireland, Galway	Dr J. Madden
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	Dr M. O'Brien (<i>Chairperson</i>)
Trinity College Dublin	Dr B. McGing
The Queen's University of Belfast	Professor F. Williams
Classical Association of Ireland	Mr B. Farley
Classical Association of Northern Ireland	Mr P.M. Crummey

National Committee for the History and Philosophy of Science
(affiliated to the International Union for the History and Philosophy of Science)
(from 1 June 1996 to 31 May 2000)

Roayl Irish Academy	Professor D. Clarke Professor D.T. Burns Professor J.J. McEvoy Dr C. Mollan Dr J. O'Shea
Board for Humanities	Professor P. Bowler (<i>Chairperson</i>) Dr E. O'Flaherty
National Committee for Astronomy and Space Research	Professor S. McKenna-Lawlor
National Committee for Biochemistry	Professor J.J.A. Heffron
National Committee for Biology	Dr C. Moriarty
National Committee for Chemistry	Dr W.J. Davis
National Committee for Engineering Sciences	Professor P. O'Kane
National Committee for Geodesy and Geophysics	Professor A.W.B. Jacob
National Committee for Geography	Professor A. Buttimer
National Committee for Geology	Dr P.N. Wyse Jackson
National Committee for Mathematics	<i>vacant</i>
National Committee for Philosophy	Professor P. O'Gorman (<i>Secretary</i>)
National Committee for Physics	Professor D.L. Weaire
National Committee for Theoretical and Applied Mechanics	Professor M.A. Hayes

National Committee for the Study of International Affairs

Royal Irish Academy	Professor J.R. Fanning Professor J.C.I. Dooge Dr J. Devlin (<i>Secretary</i>) Professor N. Rees Mr N. Dorr
National University of Ireland, Cork	Professor D. Keogh
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Dr R. Sinnott
National University of Ireland, Galway	An tOllamh G. Ó Tuathaigh
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	Dr T. McCarthy
Trinity College Dublin	Dr M. Marsh
The Queen's University of Belfast	Professor A. Guelke
University of Ulster	Professor A. Sharp
Dublin City University	Professor E. O'Halpin (<i>Chairperson</i>)
University of Limerick	Professor E. Moxon-Browne
Minister for Foreign Affairs	Mr R. Townsend/Mr B. Robinson
Economic and Social Research Institute	Dr A. Barrett
Institute of European Affairs	Mr T. Brown

National Committee for Mathematics

(affiliated to the International Mathematical Union)

Royal Irish Academy	Professor F. Holland Professor S. Dineen Mr T. Power Mr B. Hannan
National University of Ireland, Cork	Dr D. Hurley
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Professor T.J. Laffey
National University of Ireland, Galway	Professor T. Hurley
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	Dr R. Watson (<i>Secretary</i>)
Trinity College Dublin	Professor D.J. Simms
The Queen's University of Belfast	Professor D. Armitage
University of Ulster	Professor S.K. Houston (<i>Chairperson</i>)
Dublin City University	Professor A.D. Wood
University of Limerick	Dr R. Critchley
Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies	Professor J.T. Lewis
Dublin Institute of Technology	Dr J.M. Golden
Irish Mathematical Society	Dr E. Gath

National Sub-Commission for Mathematical Instruction

(affiliated to the International Commission on Mathematical Instruction)

Royal Irish Academy	Professor T.J. Laffey Dr H.G. Morrison Dr B. McCann (<i>Secretary</i>) Dr S. Close
National University of Ireland, Cork	Professor P. Barry
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Dr K. Hutchinson
National University of Ireland, Galway	Dr R. Ryan
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	Dr R. Watson
Trinity College Dublin	Dr D.P. O'Donovan
The Queen's University of Belfast	Dr S.D. McCartan
University of Ulster	Professor S.K. Houston
Dublin City University	Professor A.D. Wood (<i>Chairperson</i>)
University of Limerick	Dr R. McCann
Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies	Professor L.S. Ó Raifeartaigh
Dublin Institute of Technology	Mr T. Gaffney
Minister for Education and Science	Ms D. McMorris
Irish Mathematics Teachers' Association	Ms E.E. Oldham

National Committee for Modern Language Studies

Royal Irish Academy	Professor E. Sagarra
	Professor B. Wright
	Dr A. Ryan
National University of Ireland, Cork	Professor T. O'Reilly
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Professor C.E.J. Caldicott (<i>Chairperson</i>)
National University of Ireland, Galway	Professor J. Bradley
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	Dr A. McTigue
Trinity College Dublin	Professor C. Lonergan
The Queen's University of Belfast	Dr R.M. Bales
University of Ulster	Dr R.J. McKee
Dublin City University	Professor M. Townson
University of Limerick	Professor S. Rivière
Institiúid Teangeolaíochta Éireann	Mr E. Mac Aogáin

National Commission for the Teaching of Modern Languages

Dr D. Barnwell	Ms H. O'Connell
Mr J. Bean	Ms S. Roland
Ms M. Broderick	Ms M. Ruane
Ms M. Clancy	Ms C. Saito
Ms A. Clarke	Mr H. Sinnerton
Ms N. Córdón	Ms M. Smith (<i>Secretary</i>)
Mr J. McCarthy	Ms S. Supple (<i>Chairperson</i>)

National Committee for Nutritional Sciences

(affiliated to the International Union of Nutritional Sciences)

Royal Irish Academy	Professor J.V. McLoughlin
	Professor R.G. O'Regan
	Ms M. Moloney
	Dr J. Kearney
National University of Ireland, Cork	Dr N. O'Brien
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Professor B. McKenna (<i>Chairperson</i>)
National University of Ireland, Galway	<i>vacant</i>
Trinity College Dublin	Professor J.M. Scott
The Queen's University of Belfast	Dr K.J. McCracken
University of Ulster	Dr B. Livingstone
Teagasc	Dr R. Gormley
Institute of Food Science and Technology of Ireland	Dr R. Devery
Minister for Education and Science	Ms B. Ní Ríordáin
Minister for Health	<i>vacant</i>
Health Research Board	Ms U. O'Dywer
Irish Nutrition and Dietetic Institute	Ms J. Dowsett (<i>Secretary</i>)
Nutrition Society, Irish Section	Dr H. Roche

National Committee for Philosophy

(affiliated to the International Federation of Philosophy Societies)

Royal Irish Academy	Professor W.E. Lyons Professor M. Wörner (<i>Secretary</i>) Dr M. Baghramian Dr D. Dooley
National University of Ireland, Cork	Dr T.A. O'Connor (<i>Chairperson</i>)
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Professor D. Moran
National University of Ireland, Galway	Dr P. O'Gorman
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	Dr J.J. Cleary
Trinity College Dublin	Dr V. Politis
The Queen's University of Belfast	Professor J.D.G. Evans
University of Ulster	Dr S.T. Mills
Dublin City University	Dr J. Dunne
University of Limerick	Dr J. Hayes
Milltown Institute of Theology and Philosophy	Dr W. Mathews

National Committee for Physics

(affiliated to the International Union for Pure and Applied Physics and
the European Physical Society)

Royal Irish Academy	Professor P.K. Carroll Professor D.L. Weaire Dr R.W. McCullough Dr P. Callanan
National University of Ireland, Cork	Professor J. McInerney
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Professor A. Montwill
National University of Ireland, Galway	Professor T. Glynn
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	Professor J.A. Slevin (<i>Chairperson</i>)
Trinity College Dublin	Professor W. Blau
The Queen's University of Belfast	Dr R.G.H. Greer
University of Ulster	Professor J.T. McMullan
Dublin City University	Professor E. Kennedy
Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies	Professor L. O'C. Drury
Dublin Institute of Technology	Dr V. Toal (<i>Secretary</i>)
Enterprise Ireland	Dr C. O'Carroll
Institute of Physics of Ireland	Professor D. O'Sullivan Mr P. Goodman

National Commission for the Teaching of Physics

Dr A. Allen	Ms M. Moore
Rev. Dr T.P. Burke	Dr J. O'Brien
Professor F. Donovan	Mr S. Ó Donnabháin
Dr E. Finch	Mr E. O'Flaherty (<i>Secretary</i>)
Mr S. Fitzmaurice	Dr C. O'Sullivan
Dr G.W.A. Fogarty	Ms M. Palmer
Professor T. Glynn	Mr G. Porter
Mr I. Headden	Mr D. Rea
Dr B. MacCraith	Dr O. Ryan
Sr E. McNamee	Dr A. Scott (<i>Chairperson</i>)

National Committee for Theoretical and Applied Mechanics

(from 1 June 1996 to 31 May 2000)

(affiliated to the International Union for Theoretical and Applied Mechanics)

Royal Irish Academy	Professor M.A. Hayes
	Professor M.F. McCarthy
	Professor P.F. Hodnett (<i>Chairperson</i>)
	Dr T. Cox
	Dr M. Golden
	Dr S. O'Brien
National Committee for Engineering Sciences	Professor R.J. Crawford
	Dr P. O'Donoghue
National Committee for Mathematics	Professor A.D. Wood
	Professor J.N. Flavin
National Committee for Physics	Dr P. Lynch
	Dr M. Turner
Irish Mechanics Society	Dr J.J. Grannell (<i>Secretary</i>)

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1998

GENERAL PURPOSES CURRENT ACCOUNT *

Receipts	IR£
H.E.A. Grant for current purposes (including a grant of £100,000 for the Social Science Research Council)	1,400,000
Fees, subscriptions and deposit income	33,707
Sale of publications	50,141
Sale of proceedings	12,409
Brought forward from 1997	24,843
Total	<u>1,521,100</u>
Direct Expenditure	
Audit, law and bank charges	17,125
Incidentals (petty cash)	1,596
Miscellaneous	21,089
Postage and telephone	33,727
Fuel and light	11,394
Furniture, equipment and household	4,686
General insurances	6,907
Printing (administrative)	43
Salaries and wages	387,563
Stationery and office equipment	19,957
Supplementary pensions	35,429
Information technology	17,753
Total	<u>557,269</u>
Allocations to Special Accounts	
International Unions and General Assemblies account	30,423
Library account	108,429
Printing Proceedings account	110,733
General Publications account	19,448
Foclóir na Nua-Ghaeilge account	277,786
Celtic Latin Dictionary account	50,915
International Exchanges and Fellowships account	10,043
Atlas of Historic Towns account	25,728
Dictionary of Irish Biography account	285,907
Social Science Research Council	<u>90,000</u>
Total of Allocations	<u>959,412</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>1,516,681</u>
Income	£1,521,100
Expenditure	<u>£1,516,681</u>
Surplus	<u>£4,419</u>

* These accounts are shown as presented for audit. Under the provisions of the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act, 1993, the Academy's accounts are subject to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General. The Academy's audited accounts for the years 1996 and 1997 were signed on 23 June 1999 by the Comptroller and Auditor General. The Academy's audited accounts for 1998 had not been received by the Academy from the Comptroller and the Auditor General's Office up to mid-October 1999.