

# ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ending 16 March 1998

## INTRODUCTION

On the occasion of the 1,400th anniversary of the death of Colum Cille, 9 June 1997, the Academy visited Derry. The *Cathach* manuscript, traditionally said to have been written by Colum Cille, was placed on display in the Guildhall, together with its eleventh-century metal shrine, and attracted large numbers of visitors. A discourse, "Colum Cille: the Continental evidence", was given in the morning at Magee College by Dr J.-M. Picard of the National University of Ireland, Dublin. In the evening, after a short presentation by Mr Risteard MacGabhann, Department of Irish, University of Ulster at Coleraine, and Professor Próinséas Ní Chatháin of the National University of Ireland, Dublin, on *Amra Choluimb Chille* ("Elegy of Colum Cille"), attributed to Dallán Forgaill, three Members, Dr S. Heaney, Professor R.M. Flannery and Dr B.M.S. Campbell, signed the roll, Dr Heaney and Professor Flannery signing in the city where they went to school. Dr Heaney presented the Academy with a signed manuscript poem, *Colmcille the scribe*, translated from the old Irish "Sgíth mo chrob ón scríbinn". Professor Flannery, who was admitted to Honorary Membership, was awarded the 1998 Will Allis Prize for advancing the understanding of recombination processes.

Ms Siobhán O'Rafferty was appointed Librarian of the Academy on 20 June 1997. The manuscript and rare book collections of the Academy continue to draw large numbers of scholars from Ireland and abroad. The medical manuscript 23.P.10, the fifteenth-century *Book of the O'Lees* and MS.24.P.26, a medical treatise of the same century compiled by the O'Hickeys, were conserved and repaired with funds provided by the Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds, Stuttgart, to whom we are grateful for enabling this and earlier conservation work.

A beginning was made in establishing the Academy's presence on the Internet with the cooperation of Professor F.J. Smith, MRIA, of the Queen's University of Belfast. Four documents discussing different aspects of the Dictionary of Medieval Latin from Celtic Sources project were set up, each appropriately linked to the others and with external links. This allowed the Academy to gain experience that was valuable when the Academy's own website was later being designed and set up. Dr Michael Cahill's edition of the seventh-century *Expositio Evangelii Secundum Marcum*, the first commentary in Latin on St Mark's Gospel, was published in the *Scriptores Celtigenae* series, a joint venture between the Academy, the Irish Biblical Association and the publishing house of Brepols.

Toghadh cúig bhall nua ar Choiste Eagarthóireachta Fhoclóir na Nua-Ghaeilge i rith na bliana. Sa tslí sin, cuireadh go mór leis an saineolas a mbeadh tarraingt ag an tionscadal air feasta. Seo a leanas baill an Choiste Eagarthóireachta anois: an tOllamh S. Ó Coileáin (Cathaoirleach), an Dr E. Mac Aogáin, an Dr L. Mac Mathúna, an tOllamh S. Mac Mathúna, an tOllamh C. Ó Háinle, an tOllamh R. Ó hUiginn, an tOllamh B. Ó Madagáin, MRIA, an Dr N. Ó Muraíle agus an Dr S. Watson.

Críochnaíodh an ghabháil leictreonach ar théacsanna ón 17 haois, ón 18 haois agus ón 19 haois atá i bhfoirm leabhar agus nach raibh gafa go dtí seo. Tá 214 téacs agus timpeall 5,793,000 focal

san ábhar sin. Ina theannta sin, tá 125,000 focal a bhaineann leis na haoiseanna sin gafa as irisí léannta. Táthar i mbun fhuíollach an ábhair ó na haoiseanna sin a ghabháil as na hirísí faoi láthair. Timpeall agus 5,000,000 focal as téacsanna an 20 haois atá gafa go dtí seo. Tá roghnú á dhéanamh faoi láthair ar théacsanna ionadaíocha ón 20 haois a bhéadh le gabháil. Tá léamh cruinnis agus iomláine agus marcáil déanta ar fhorhmór an ábhair a gabhadh ón 17 haois agus ar chuid mhaith den ábhar ón 18 haois.

A Consultative Meeting on the “Genetic history and geography of Ireland” was inaugurated on 30 October 1997 in Academy House by Sir Walter Bodmer, FRS, who gave an address on the theme “Human genetic diversity and disease susceptibility: genetic clues in anthropology and archaeology”. The large attendance reflects the widespread interest in this project, which was featured on an RTÉ programme, *The Late Late Show*, in November. A native of Dublin, Dr A. Hollingsworth, Head of Research, European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts, gave a discourse on 22 May 1997 on “Seasonal and inter-annual prediction for a chaotic atmosphere”. Professor M.C. Carey, Hon. MRIA, Harvard Medical School, signed the roll of Members and addressed the Academy on “Gall-stones, glaciers and genes: a biophysical history of bile” on 8 December 1997.

It was a pleasure to launch the Downpatrick fascicle, no. 8 of the Irish Historic Towns Atlas series, edited by Professor R.H. Buchanan, MRIA, and Mr Anthony Wilson, at the Down County Museum, Downpatrick, on 24 April 1997. Dr Maurice Hayes, MRIA, performed the Dublin launch on 25 June at Academy House. The thanks of the Academy are due to the Luther I. Replogle Foundation and the Marc Fitch Fund for their support.

The Science Research Committee of the Academy held a number of meetings to complete its response to the government’s White Paper on Science, Technology and Innovation. The response, which was published as a 24-page booklet in April 1997, attracted extensive press coverage in Ireland and abroad. The Social Science Research Council was enabled by a grant of £100,000 from the Irish government and generous support from the Nuffield Foundation to make postgraduate awards and give postgraduate essay prizes.

The Dictionary of Irish Biography has been enabled to appoint extra contract and temporary staff by very welcome increases in funding, the second of which was made available by the Minister for Education and Science, Mr Mícheál Martin, T.D., to mark the publishing agreement between the Academy and Cambridge University Press. This was presented by the Minister for the Marine and Natural Resources, Dr Michael Woods, T.D., at Academy House in February 1998. We note with satisfaction that the section A–C is virtually complete.

We wish many years of happy retirement to Mr Noel Lindsay, former Chairman of the Higher Education Authority, and every success to Dr Don Thornhill, who has succeeded him.

M. Herity  
President  
November 1998

## MEMBERSHIP

At the Stated Meeting on Saturday, 15 March 1997, the following were elected:

### New Members

B.M.S. Campbell	N. Grene
J.J. Cleary	C.I.S. Lewis
D.J. Fegan	J.P. Neary
R. Gow	A.C. Ottewill

### Officers

*President:* M. Herity

*Treasurer:* T.B.H. McMurry

*Secretary:* E. Sagarra

*Secretary of Science:* R.P. Kernan

*Secretary of the Polite Literature and Antiquities Committee:* R. Fanning

### Council

#### *Committee of Science*

P.K. Carroll  
D.M.X. Donnelly  
R.P. Kernan  
F.A. Lewis  
J.T. Lewis  
D.J. McConnell  
J.V. McLoughlin  
T.B.H. McMurry  
R. More O'Ferrall  
D.J. Simms  
G.T. Wrixon

#### *Committee of Polite Literature and Antiquities*

T. Brown  
N.P. Canny  
M.E. Daly  
P. Donlon  
R. Fanning  
G.J. Hand  
P. Harbison  
G.L. Huxley  
B. Murphy  
E. Sagarra

### Vice-Presidents

D.M.X. Donnelly (Senior Vice-President)	F.A. Lewis
M.E. Daly	G.J. Hand

At the Stated Meeting on Saturday, 30 November 1997, the following were elected:

### New Members

Art Cosgrove  
Maurice Hayes

**Deceased former President**

GEORGE FRANCIS MITCHELL  
15 October 1912–25 October 1997  
Elected to Membership of the Academy 1940  
President of the Academy 1976–9  
Cunningham Medallist 1989

Frank Mitchell died peacefully, after a short illness, in October 1997. He had led a remarkably productive and varied life. His scholarly publications exceed 160 in number, 25 of them in the Academy's *Proceedings*. His academic career was passed in Trinity College, where he was successively Assistant to the Professor of Geology, Reader in Irish Archaeology and Professor of Quaternary Studies, a personal chair. On the administrative side he was Junior Dean, Registrar, Senior Lecturer (an historic Trinity title relating to academic administration) and Pro-Chancellor.

Frank held the Academy in special respect and affection, for his scholarly career had deep roots there. The Academy, encouraged by Robert Lloyd Praeger, had established a Committee for Quaternary Research in Ireland. The Committee invited Knud Jessen, a distinguished scholar and Professor of Botany at the University of Copenhagen, to introduce the emerging science of pollen analysis to Ireland. This would initiate the study of Ireland's bog and lake deposits and reveal the history of our flora preserved in their sediments. Frank, a recent graduate of Trinity in zoology and geology, was appointed in 1934 as one of Jessen's field assistants. The Secretary to the Committee was Tony Farrington, who was also Executive Secretary to the Academy. The three men became close friends and shared fieldwork throughout the 1930s and 1940s. Farrington, himself a very distinguished student of the Quaternary period, was Frank's mentor in landscape and geomorphology, just as Jessen had introduced him to pollen analysis and peatland studies. With such mentors and his own very high natural ability, Frank soon developed the wide, comprehensive interests that have been characteristic of his work. Jessen's achievements included the identification of the famous giant deer site at Ballybetagh, Co. Dublin, as of Late-glacial age (1938), the first such to be recognised in Ireland and Britain. He published a monumental study of Irish peatlands and their contained fossil flora (1949) and identified an interglacial site with a rich fossil flora near Gort in County Galway (1959). Frank took part in all these activities and continued with them when Jessen returned to Denmark.

Frank's scientific interests had always included archaeology, especially Mesolithic archaeology, but in later life he developed much wider interests. He studied plant macrofossils from Viking Dublin; he frequently visited the great passage grave at Knowth and acted as host to its excavators in his home at Townley Hall. Towards the end of his life he was studying water supply and drains at Mellifont Abbey. He had become President of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland (1957–60) and occupied a flat above the Society's rooms at 63 Merrion Square, where he was host to archaeologists meeting together after formal meetings of the Society downstairs.

He was strongly of the opinion that, in an agriculture-based economy such as Ireland's then was, education and research in agriculture should enjoy priority. He persuaded Trinity College to purchase Townley Hall near Drogheda, with some 500 acres, as a centre for Trinity's School of Agriculture. The experiment failed after some years because of insufficient student numbers, but Frank purchased Townley Hall, a splendid but sparsely furnished Georgian house with some land, and lived there or, later, in its too modestly named Gardener's Cottage until the end of his life.

At Townley Hall, Frank largely left laboratory science behind and began what was almost a second career, studying and writing about the Irish landscape. He was the author of several

successful books, a familiar voice on radio and occasionally on television as he talked about Ireland's geology, development of landscape, the impact of man and even modern use and abuse of the landscape.

With such a multifarious career it is impossible to record all his achievements in a short note. He received many honours. He was awarded the Academy's Cunningham Medal in 1989. The medal was first awarded in 1796 and has recently been reinstated as an occasional award to recognise outstanding contributions to scholarship and to the objectives of the Academy. Frank's award recognised his "mastery of many diverse fields of scholarship, and his remarkable record of service to the Academy during his fifty years of membership". Among other honours, he was Boyle Medallist of the Royal Dublin Society (1978), was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society (1973) and held honorary degrees from the Queen's University of Belfast, the National University of Ireland and the University of Uppsala. He was President of the Dublin Zoo (1958–61) and President of An Taisce (1991–3), of which he was also a founding member. He was President of the International Union for Quaternary Research (1969–73) and presided over its New Zealand meeting.

He was a great natural scientist, friendly and hospitable to all who shared his wide vision of Ireland, a remarkable and memorable man in all respects.

W.A.W.

#### **Deceased Members**

The deaths of the following Members in the period 15 March 1997 to 16 March 1998 are recorded with regret:

E.M. PATTERSON, MSc, Dsc (QUB)

Elected 1955. Died April 1997.

C. Ó hEOCHA, MSc (NUI), PhD (Calif)

National University of Ireland, Galway. Elected 1962. Died 19 May 1997.

T. MURPHY, MD, DSc

Emeritus Professor of Social and Preventive Medicine, National University of Ireland, Dublin. Elected 1977. Died 1 June 1997.

#### **Deceased Honorary Member**

VLADIMIR PRELOG

Elected 1971. Died 7 January 1998.

#### **Distinctions**

During the year 1997/8:

**J.P. Arbuthnott** was admitted to Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow.

**Sir Gordon Beveridge** was awarded the honorary degrees: LLD of the Queen's University of Belfast and DUniv of Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh.

**R.N. Butler** received the Boyle-Higgins Medal of the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland.

**W. Cocker** was conferred with the honorary degree of DPhil at Dublin City University.

**E.P. Cunningham** was the recipient of: DAgriC (hc) by the Agricultural University of Norway; ScD (hc) by Dublin University.

**G. Dawson** was awarded an ScD (hc) by Dublin University.

**S. Deane** was awarded both the *Irish Times* Fiction Award and the *Irish Times* International Fiction Award.

**J.C.I. Dooge** received the Ven Te Chow Award of the American Society of Civil Engineers. The award was made for pioneering concepts and theories in hydrology and for leadership in national and international research, consultation and education.

**G.M.D. FitzGerald** was elected Chancellor of the National University of Ireland.

**R.M. Flannery** was conferred with an honorary degree of Doctor of Science by the Queen's University of Belfast.

**R.M. Flannery** was awarded the 1998 Will Allis Prize. The Prize was made for advancing the understanding of recombination processes, in particular for developing a microscopic theory of three-body ionic recombination and for his novel applications of classical and quantum mechanical methods to the dynamics of atomic, molecular and ionic systems.

**A.E. Hamlin** was awarded an OBE.

**P. Harbison** was elected an Honorary Member of the Royal Hibernian Academy.

**G.L. Huxley** was chosen to be a Patron of the Irish Institute of Hellenic Studies at Athens.

**P. Masterson** was elected a Corresponding Member of the Lisbon Academy of Sciences, Section of Law and Sociology. He received an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from New York University.

**L. Ó Raifeartaigh** was awarded the Alexander Von Humboldt Research Award.

**M. Robinson** was appointed as United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

**E. Sagarra** was elected a Corresponding Member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences.

**O.L. Weaire** was elected President of the European Physical Society.

**Professor P.A. Whittaker** was elected to the Executive Committee of the International Union of Biological Sciences.

## 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 1997 to 16 March 1998, the following meetings and discourses were arranged:

22 May 1997 in Academy House. Dr A. Hollingsworth, Head of Research, European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts: “Seasonal and inter-annual prediction for a chaotic atmosphere”.

9 June 1997 in Magee College, Derry. Dr J.M. Picard, National University of Ireland, Dublin: “Columcille: the Continental evidence”.

30 October 1997 in Academy House. Sir Walter Bodmer, University of Oxford: “Human genetic diversity and disease susceptibility: genetic clues in anthropology and archaeology”.

13 November 1997 in Academy House. Dr A. Christensen, University of Oslo: “Viking boats and their western voyages”.

8 December 1997 in Academy House. Professor M.C. Carey, Hon. MRIA, Harvard Medical School: “Gallstones, glaciers and genes: a biophysical history of bile”.

29 January 1998 in Academy House. Professor P.J. Clarricoats, FRS, University of London: “Satellites in the 21st century—what do they offer?”.

### Conferences and Seminars

Each year, the Academy organises and hosts a large number of conferences and seminars. In the year 1997/8, the following were held:

18–21 March 1997 in Academy House. “Jews in the Hellenistic and Roman cities” organised by the Consultative Committee on Biblical and Near Eastern Studies.

11–12 April 1997 in Academy House and the Genealogical Offices. “Maria Edgeworth and history” organised by the Committee for the Study of Anglo-Irish Literature.

14 April 1997 in Academy House. “Ninth one-day symposium on radio-science” organised by the URSI Sub-Committee.

21 April 1997 in Academy House. “Enzymes in industrial biotechnology” organised by the National Commission for Microbiology.

15–16 May 1997 in Academy House. “Liberalism and pluralism” organised by the National Committee for Philosophy in association with the Faculty of Arts Pluralism Project, National University of Ireland, Dublin.

12 September 1997 in Academy House. “Celebration: three centuries of Irish chemistry” organised by the National Committee for the History and Philosophy of Science and the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland.

20 September 1997 in Academy House. “Transition-year physics” organised by the National Commission for the Teaching of Physics.

30–31 October 1997 in Academy House. “The genetic history and geography of Ireland” organised by the Advisory Committee on Genetic Anthropology.

7–8 November 1997 in Trinity College Dublin. “Intertextuality: continuities and discontinuities” organised by the National Committee for Modern Language Studies.

15 November 1997 in Academy House. “Biology practicals for the new syllabus” organised by the National Commission for the Teaching of Biology.

20 November 1997 in Academy House. “Graduate research seminar in international relations” organised by the National Committee for the Study of International Affairs.

20–22 November 1997 in Academy House. “Small states and European security” organised by the National Committee for the Study of International Affairs in association with the Finnish Institute in London.

5 December 1997 in Academy House. “Nutrition and elderly people” organised by the National Committee for Nutritional Sciences.

19–20 February 1998 in Academy House. “Ancient epic” organised by the National Committee for Greek and Latin Studies.

27 February 1998 in Academy House. “Efficacy and safety of biotechnology products” organised by the Consultative Committee for Pharmacology and Toxicology.

9 March 1998 in Academy House. “An Irish data archive” organised by the Social Science Research Council.

### **Finance**

This section of the Annual Report deals with transactions during the year 1 January–31 December 1997. A summary of the accounts appears in the Appendix at the end of the Report.

A grant-in-aid of £1,305,000 for current purposes was received from the Higher Education Authority; total income in the year amounted to £1,463,370. A surplus of £15,448 was brought forward from 1996 and the credit balance at the end of 1997 was £24,842.

### **Staff (at 16 October 1998)**

#### *Administration*

Mr Patrick Buckley, Executive Secretary; Ms Sara Whelan, Senior Assistant Executive

Secretary; Ms Veronica Barker, Assistant Executive Secretary; Ms Miriam Carolan, Administrative Officer; Ms Margaret Critchley, Administrative Officer.

*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, Ms Frances Clarke, Mr Padraic Dempsey, Editorial Assistants.

*Dictionary of Medieval Latin from Celtic Sources*

Dr Anthony Harvey, Editor; Ms Jane Power, Project Assistant.

*Foclóir na Nua-Ghaeilge*

Dr Éamonn Ó hÓgáin, Eagarthóir; Dr Caoilfhionn Nic Pháidín, Eagarthóir Cúnta; Dr Diarmuid Harte, Eagarthóir Cúnta; Dr Úna Uí Bheirn, Eagarthóir Cúnta; Ms Éilís Ní Bhrádaigh, Eagarthóir Cúnta; Ms Máire Ní Dhálaigh, Cúntóir Rúnaíochta (*ar shos gairme*); Ms Cáit Ní Chonaill, Cúntóir Rúnaíochta; Mr Gearóid Mac Duinnshléibhe, Cúntóir Eagarthóireachta.

*Irish Historical Towns Atlas*

Ms Mary Davies, Cartographic Editor; Ms Sara Gearty, Research Assistant.

*Social Science Research Council*

Ms Miriam Carolan, Secretary.

*Editorial*

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

*Publications*

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

*Accounts*

Ms Deirdre Dempsey, Senior Accounts Officer; Ms Niamh O'Sullivan, Assistant Accounts Officer.

*Library*

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

*FÁS Supervisor*

Mr Karl Vogelsang.

*Executive Assistants*

Ms Aideen Hogan, Senior Executive Assistant; Ms Gerardine Scanlon, Senior Executive Assistant; Ms Marion Deegan, Senior Executive Assistant; Ms Amanda Kane, Executive Assistant; Ms Máire Ní Chearbhaill, Executive Assistant.

*Services*

Mr Paul Mitchell, Mr Paul Brady, Ms Sarah Walsh, Ms Bronagh Harte.

Ms Patricia Gibson resigned as Secretarial Assistant on 27 February 1998.

Ms Colette Kinahan resigned on 9 June 1998.

Ms Barbara Young retired as Editor on 31 January 1998.

**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: 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 Preventive 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 1997/8 the Academy sent delegates to the following international meetings:

European Science Foundation:

Executive Council, Strasbourg, June 1997: D.M.X. DONNELLY

Standing Committee for the Humanities, Strasbourg, October 1997: E. SAGARRA

Standing Committee for the Social Sciences, Strasbourg, October 1997: M.J. LAVER

General Assembly, Strasbourg, November 1997: M. HERITY and T.B.H. McMURRY

European Physical Society, Council Meeting, Mulhouse, France, March 1997: J.A. SLEVIN

International Union for the History and Philosophy of Science, International Congress, Liège, Belgium, July 1997: DR P. WYSE-JACKSON

International Union of Nutritional Sciences, General Assembly, Montreal, Canada, July 1997: MS J. DOWSETT

International Astronomical Union, General Assembly, Kyoto, Japan, August 1997: DR R.M. REDFERN

International Astronomical Union, Finance Committee, Kyoto, Japan, August 1997: P.A. WAYMAN

International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, General Assembly, Geneva, Switzerland, August 1997: P.J. CORISH and T.B.H. McMURRY

International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, General Assembly, San Francisco, USA, August 1997: DR G.B. WISDOM

International Union of Biological Sciences, General Assembly, Taipei, Taiwan, November 1997: PROFESSOR P.A. WHITTAKER

ALLEA (All European Academies) Conference, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, December 1997: J.A. SLEVIN

### **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 grantees took up fellowships, study visits or joint projects in 1997 through the Academy's international exchange agreements:

*British Academy Exchange Scheme:* Professor P. Duffy (National University of Ireland, Maynooth); Dr H. Emerson (Trinity College Dublin); Ms E. Fitzpatrick (Trinity College Dublin);

Ms S. Mullally (National University of Ireland, Cork); Dr D.R. Phelan (Trinity College Dublin); Dr E. Tilley (National University of Ireland, Galway); Dr T. Urbainczyk (National University of Ireland, Dublin).

*Royal Society Exchange Scheme:* Study Visits: Dr B. Dolan (National University of Ireland, Maynooth); Dr J. Murphy (Tallaght Institute of Technology); Dr K.D. Williams (University of Wales, Cardiff). Joint Projects: Dr T. Sweeney (National University of Ireland, Dublin) and Dr N.P. Evans (The Babraham Institute, Cambridge).

*Austrian Academy Exchange Scheme:* Dr V. O'Regan (University of Limerick).

*Hungarian Academy Exchange Scheme:* Professor I. Dünzsch (University of Ulster); Dr M.P. Kennedy (National University of Ireland, Dublin); Dr T. Ó hAnnracháin (National University of Ireland, Dublin); Dr M. Biró (Computer and Automation Research Institute, Hungarian Academy of Sciences); Professor I. Farkas (University of Agricultural Sciences, Godollo); Dr M. Serényi (Research Institute for Technical Physics, Hungarian Academy of Sciences).

*Polish Academy Exchange Scheme:* J.D.G. Evans, MRIA (The Queen's University of Belfast); Mrs M. Krasnodebska-D'Aughton (National University of Ireland, Cork); Dr S. Marten-Finnis (The Queen's University of Belfast); Dr J. Banski (Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization, Polish Academy of Sciences); Professor G. Biernat (Institute of Paleobiology, Polish Academy of Sciences); Dr L. Budohoski (Medical Research Centre, Polish Academy of Sciences); Dr D. Mostowicz (Institute of Organic Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences).

*Senior Visiting Fellowships Scheme:* Dr T.S. Bakhle (Imperial College London); Dr G. Burnell (National University of Ireland, Cork); Professor J. Fraher (National University of Ireland, Cork); Dr J.F. Gallagher (Dublin City University); Dr D. Kelly (Trinity College Dublin); Dr H. Loughrey (National University of Ireland, Galway); Dr J. McCaffrey (National University of Ireland, Maynooth); M.L. Newell, MRIA (National University of Ireland, Galway); Dr A. Ottewill (National University of Ireland, Dublin).

*Ireland–France Exchange Scheme:* Dr J. Livesey (Trinity College Dublin); P. Mac Cana, MRIA (Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies).

## LIBRARY

*General.* The Library had another eventful and successful year. Having concentrated on the consolidation of Readers' Services facilities during the previous year, the Library turned its attention to the development of links with other libraries in Ireland and promoting access to the Academy Library service throughout the community.

In line with this the Library staff participated in a record number of outreach activities during the year.

1997 was the 1,400th anniversary of the death of St Colmcille. Thus, it was a special year of celebration for the Academy as holders of the *Cathach* manuscript, which is generally believed to have been written by Colmcille. The *Cathach* was lent to Trinity College Dublin from 24 March to 15 June, during which time it was displayed with the *Book of Durrow*, the *Book of Kells* and the *Cathach* shrine. The special display drew large crowds who availed of the opportunity to view three great manuscript treasures of early Irish monasticism together.

The *Cathach* was brought to the Guildhall, Derry, for display from 7 to 9 June. It was displayed with its shrine in a case lent by the Museums and Galleries Commission to Derry City Council. The display was one of many events that took place in Derry over the three-day period. It was very successful and drew large numbers of visitors. The *Cathach* featured in a joint RTE/UTV programme on St Colmcille, and in the course of the weekend the Academy's Librarian gave an interview to BBC Radio Foyle on the themes of the manuscript and the Academy Library.

The Academy would like to record its thanks to the Minister for Defence and his officials, Derry City Council, the Museums and Galleries Commission, the Air Corps, the Gardaí and the Royal Ulster Constabulary for their assistance in the realisation of the Derry display.

A rare sixteenth-century Dublin binding (MS.12.D.2: The Chartulary of St Thomas' Abbey, Dublin) was lent to the National Gallery of Ireland for an exhibition entitled "500 years of the art of the book in Ireland", and a volume of Theatre Royal playbills (12.S.7) was exhibited by the Irish Theatre Archive at the Civic Museum.

The Librarian gave a talk on the Library to users of Terenure Public Library and was interviewed about the Library's resources by Dublin Weekend Radio. The Library also featured in a Teilifís na Gaeilge programme, *Turasanama*, and was used as a location for a scene in a commercial film production.

The Library opened its doors to the public for Heritage Day, 21 September. On this occasion the Library mounted displays of scientific, historic and artistic interest. The Academy would like to record its thanks to D. Thorburn Burns, MRIA, who kindly lent a portrait of Sir Robert Boyle, together with early scientific publications and other artefacts, for the exhibition. Thanks are also recorded to Ms M. Pollard, who lent Maria Edgeworth first editions for a display that was mounted on the occasion of the conference "Maria Edgeworth and history" held by the Academy from 11 to 12 April.

A record number of groups visited the Library during the year, including the Association of Church Archivists of Ireland, who held a meeting in the Academy on 29 May. The Librarian welcomed the delegates and their guest speaker, Archbishop Francesco Marchisano, President of the Pontifical Commission for the Heritage of the Church, to the Academy. The Academic and Special Libraries Section of the Library Association of Ireland held its annual general meeting in the Academy on 16 April and returned to the Academy on 16 September to host a reception for a delegation of visiting Swedish government and academic librarians. The Librarian welcomed the visitors to the Academy and gave them a short talk on the Academy, the Library and the Library's long-standing exchange agreements with Swedish libraries. A special display had been mounted

for the occasion. Swets's annual Irish party was held for the second time in the Academy. Ms N. McDermott, Director of An Chomhairle Leabharlanna, spoke to a capacity audience on the national policy on libraries and information services. Again, a special exhibition was mounted for the occasion.

The Library made submissions to two policy documents during the year: *Public libraries and the arts* and *The Public Library Policy Review Project*.

Work continued on the conversion of the catalogue, the sorting and rehousing of the photographic collections and the cleaning and reordering of the book and journal stock. The Library availed of the Students' Summer Jobs Scheme to employ three students to assist in cleaning and sorting materials.

A collection of over 3,000 glass plates was transferred to the Academy from the Ordnance Survey of Ireland and the task of ordering, repacking and replacing these in custom-made acid-free boxes commenced.

A Pentium computer with CD-ROM drive was purchased and access to the Internet was established. The Library also input information to the Academy's home page on the World Wide Web, and there has been a noticeable response to this in terms of e-mail queries. Staff members of the Catholic Central Library, Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown Public Library Service and the King's Inns Library visited the Library during the year to view its facilities.

*Photographs and reproduction.* Permission was given by the Officers for the publication of 124 items from 41 manuscripts, extracts from the Charlemont and Windele Papers, the title page of one Academy paper, two complete papers from the *Proceedings* and the title page of one Holiday Pamphlet. Permission was also given to reproduce four Academy portraits, the façade of Academy House, the Lord Chancellor's chair and the Thomas Moore Medal.

*Inter-library loans.* Requests through BLDSC totalled 145 (83 Irish libraries, 62 overseas). A further 54 non-BLDSC requests from Irish libraries were satisfied. Nine items were obtained for staff.

*Binding.* Thirty-five older books and 44 volumes of periodicals were bound during the year. Three Rocque maps of Dublin, one of which is accompanied by additional sections, were repaired, conserved and placed in a custom-made portfolio by Ms Sarah McCartan at the Delmas Conservation Bindery. This work was funded by the Heritage Council.

Conservation of the *Book of the O'Lees* (MS.23.P.10) was completed and the manuscript was microfilmed at Trinity College Library. The Academy wishes to record its thanks to the Library of Trinity College for its cooperation in carrying out the microfilming work and curating the manuscript for the duration of filming.

MS.24.P.26, a fifteenth-century medical treatise compiled by the O'Hickeys, was disbound, cleaned and repaired by Mr John Gillis at the Delmas Conservation Bindery. This work and the conservation of MS.23.P.10 were funded by the Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds, Stuttgart.

*Exchange agreements.* Exchange agreements were initiated with: the Centre for Strategic Research, Ankara; the Palaeontological Society of Japan, Tokyo; Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai, Cluj Napoca; and the journal *Mathematical Inequalities and Applications*.

*Acquisitions and funding.* For the calendar year 1997, 554 items were acquired (332 books, 2 CD-ROMs, 2 CDs, 1 manuscript poem, 121 offprints and 96 pamphlets): 326 by donation, 25 by exchange with ten institutions and 203 by purchase. The Library received a set of photographs of Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies colloquia and correspondence from Erwin Schroedinger to Mrs Margaret MacDonnell from the MacDonnell family. These were displayed in the Library and excited great interest from the public. S. Heaney, MRIA, presented the Academy with a signed manuscript poem, *Colmcille the scribe*, on the occasion of the Academy's visit to Derry in June.

G.L. Huxley, MRIA, funded the purchase of several facsimile volumes of British Parliamentary Papers relating to the Great Famine. The Academy thanks all benefactors of the Library.

Books, pamphlets and offprints were received from the following Members: J.H. Andrews; G. Beveridge; P.J. Bowler; M. Craig; M.E. Daly; L. de Paor; J. Dillon; G. Eogan; N.J. Gibson; G.J. Hand; P. Harbison; S. Heaney; M. Herity; G.L. Huxley; J. McEvoy; J.P. Mallory; the late G.F. Mitchell; B. Ó Buachalla; M. O'Connell; G. O'Farrell; F.J. O'Rourke; W.S. Pitcher; D.B. Quinn; B. Raftery; M. Ryan; P.D. Sweetman; R.G. Ussher; B. Wright.

Books and pamphlets were also presented by: Aosdána; Archbishop Marsh's Library; the Arrow Community Enterprise Ltd Research Project; the Arts Council; M. Ashe Fitzgerald; the Austrian Institute for International Affairs; V. Barker; J.R. Bartlett; W. Battersby; Brepols; D. Broderick; P. Buckley; Clóchomhar; P. Coffey; V. Conaghan; E. Cooper; Cork University Press; Cumann Seanchais Ros Inbhir; E. Cunningham; M. Davies; the Department of an Taoiseach; Derry City Council; Drumlin Publications; Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, School of Celtic Studies; Dúchas; the European Commission; the European League for Economic Cooperation; the European Platform for Patients' Organisations, Science and Industry; the European Science Foundation; D. Fitzpatrick; the Forum for Peace and Reconciliation; N. Furlong; A. Harvey; the Heritage Council; the Higher Education Authority; A. Hollingsworth; J. Hurley; M.F. Hurley; the Irish Architectural Archive; the Irish Legal History Society; the Irish Traditional Music Archive; J.S. Sanders & Co.; D. James; R.L. Johnson; the Joint Nature Conservation Committee; C. Kenny; Liverpool University Press; J.B. Lyons; B. MacDonald; M. Mac Thomáis; J.P.G. Malthouse; O.T. Marmion; W.F.K. Marmion; C. Mollan; C. Moriarty; the Mount Jerome Historical Project; the National Committee for Geology; the National Gallery of Ireland; the National Museum of Ireland; the New History of Ireland; I. Ní Dheirg; Í. Ní Thuama; M. Ní Úrdail; the Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce and Industry; NUI, Galway, Zoology Department; O'Brien Press; D. Ó Catháin; F. O'Dwyer; E. Ó hAnnracháin; S. Ó Lúing; L. Ó Muirthile; S. O'Rafferty; J.J. Ó Ríordáin; S. Ó Saothraí; P. Ó Táilliúir; P.C. Power; P. Pyne; the Royal Library, Stockholm; St Columb's College, Derry; the Stationery Office; B. Thomas; Trinity College Dublin; P.J. Tynan; the United Nations Department of Public Information; the University of Stockholm; the University of Ulster; the University of Uppsala; K. Veelenturf; K. Whelan; E. White; Women in Science and Technology; C.J. Woods; E. Woods.

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

4 April 1997	Maynooth Outreach Programme
7 April 1997	Dominican College, Griffith Avenue
11 April 1997	NUI, Dublin, Library School, Archive Elective Students
15 April 1997	Raheny Heritage Group
26 April 1997	University Library Club, New York
22 May 1997	Saor Ollscoil na hÉireann Summer School
29 May 1997	Association of Church Archivists of Ireland
9 June 1997	Swiss Celtic Studies Group
18 June 1997	Old Dublin Society
3 July 1997	Blackrock Teachers' Centre, Genealogy and Family History course
9 July 1997	Blackrock Teachers' Centre, Genealogy and Family History course
22 July 1997	Celtic Congress participants
4 September 1997	Delegation of public representatives, Takashwa Town Shiga Prefecture, Kyoto
16 September 1997	LAI, Academic and Special Libraries Section with delegation of Swedish government and academic librarians

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<i>21 September 1997</i>	Library open to members of the public for Heritage Day
<i>14 October 1997</i>	John Scottus School
<i>16 October 1997</i>	Old Bawn Community School, Tallaght
<i>7 November 1997</i>	Queen's University Belfast, Institute of Irish Studies, Celtic Studies Group
<i>14 November 1997</i>	NUI, Dublin, Archives Department students
<i>18 November 1997</i>	Moyle Park College, Clondalkin

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

*Staff.* Staff attended the following seminars/training days: Access All Areas: Strategic Alliances between Arts and Libraries (S. O'Rafferty); The Experience of Reading: Historical Perspectives (Í. Ní Thuama); Information Professionals in a Changing World—Facilitating Progress (S. O'Rafferty); Towards the 21st Century: a National Preservation Office Conference (S. O'Rafferty); Workstations Course (S. O'Rafferty).

Íde Ní Thuama continued to serve on the committee of the LAI Rare Books Group and attend the meetings of the Acquisitions Group of Ireland. Siobhán O'Rafferty served on COLICO (the Committee for Library Cooperation in Ireland) and the committee of the LAI AVIT (Audiovisual Information Technology) Section. In January Íde Ní Thuama resigned from the Rare Books Group Committee and Siobhán O'Rafferty was nominated to serve on it. Siobhán O'Rafferty presented a paper, "Preservation: a position paper", on 24 February to COLICO at its Belfast meeting. She was appointed Librarian to the Academy on 20 June 1997.

The Library Committee met four times during the year.

## ACADEMY COMMITTEES

### Publication Committee

Forty-seven papers were published in Volume 97 of *Proceedings*; 21 in Section A, 21 in Section B and 5 in Section C. The number of pages, including *Minutes of Proceedings* and indexes, was 713.

Regular sendings of *Proceedings*:

	Section A	Section B	Section C
Members	84	89	152
Exchange and copyright	287	331	311
Continuing orders	129	148	90

In addition to the three sections of *Proceedings*, the Editorial Office handled the production of: *Ériu*, vol. 48; *Irish Journal of Earth Sciences*, vol. 16; *Irish Studies in International Affairs*, vol. 8. *Tara: an archaeological survey* by Conor Newman (Discovery Programme Reports 5) was published in July 1997.

Work has begun on the new journal, *Mathematical Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy*, which replaces *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy, Section A*.

Ms Fidelma Hagan joined the staff of the Editorial Office as Assistant Editor on 1 September 1997, replacing Ms Emer Condit, who was granted leave of absence for one year.

Ms Aisling Flood's term of employment was extended following completion of her term under the Community Employment Scheme on 14 October 1997.

Ms Barbara Young, Editor of Publications, retired on 31 January 1998.

The Committee met once.

### Editorial Board of the Dublin Excavations Publication Project

A volume entitled *The runic inscriptions of Viking Age Dublin* by Michael P. Barnes, Jan Ragnar Hagland and R.I. Page was published in August 1997. Funding has been sought from the Heritage Council to complete a catalogue of finds from Viking burials in Ireland, to be published as an ancillary volume to the Dublin Excavations series.

The Committee met five times.

### Committee for the Study of Anglo-Irish Literature

In April the Committee held a seminar entitled "Maria Edgeworth and history", with Professor Marilyn Butler, Rector, Exeter College, Oxford, as keynote speaker. Seventy-two people participated.

The Committee is planning a seminar on the theme "1798: Revolution, memory, imagination" scheduled for March 1998.

The Committee met twice.

### Consultative Committee on Biblical and Near Eastern Studies

The Committee organised a four-day conference entitled "Jews in the Hellenistic and Roman cities" from 18 to 21 March 1997. There were 55 participants. Fifteen papers were given by an international group of speakers, including academics from Duke University (North Carolina), Glasgow, Hull, Jerusalem, London, Michigan, Oxford, Reading, and Trinity College Dublin. The conference included an illustrated public lecture by Professor Eric Meyers, Duke University, North

Carolina, given in Trinity College Dublin by arrangement with the School of Hebrew, Biblical and Theological Studies, which provided generous support for the conference in many ways. The papers are to be edited for publication by Professor Seán V. Freyne.

The Committee is now planning a colloquium on “Biblical and Near Eastern studies in Ireland 1600–1850”, to be held in conjunction with Marsh’s Library in November 1998, and a conference provisionally entitled “Apocalypticism and calendars”, to be held in conjunction with the Chester Beatty Library in 1999–2000.

Professor G. Huxley has retired from the Committee. Dr Muriel McCarthy (Marsh’s Library) has joined the Committee.

The Committee met six times.

### **New Survey of Clare Island**

The fifth annual public seminar and fieldworkers’ meeting was held in Academy House on 18 April 1997. Final reports on the Archaeology, History, Placenames and Folklife sections of the Survey were presented, in preparation for publication in a planned series of reports on the New Survey, beginning in 1998. The Committee plans to hold the next annual seminar in April 1998, on the Geology Section.

A meeting of the Executive Committee was held on Clare Island on 28 June 1997. The Committee also took the opportunity to meet with Island representatives in order to promote further cooperation and awareness between the Survey workers and the Island residents. A full discussion took place and a number of issues were resolved. New publicity guidelines were drawn up and distributed to fieldworkers.

Fieldwork continued on the Archaeology, Botany, Geology and Placename sections of the Survey and plans were made to complete work in the remaining Zoology areas. A questionnaire survey on the presence of frogs and lizards on Clare Island is to be arranged through the island school. Applications for funding were made to the National Parks and Wildlife Service of the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands and to the Heritage Council Wildlife Committee. Another application was prepared for submission to the Environmental Partnership Fund of the Department of the Environment. Information on the Survey was sent for inclusion in the National Biodiversity Plan and to Mr Éamon Ó Cuív, T.D., Minister of State with Responsibility for the Islands.

Publication of the Reports of the New Survey of Clare Island was actively discussed in this period. On the recommendation of the Committee, Professor Martin Steer, MRIA, was appointed as the Managing Editor for the complete series of Reports. Applications for grants to cover the cost of publication were made to the Marc Fitch Fund (London) and the Heritage Council. Titles and page estimates were sought from authors. A special meeting of the Executive Committee on 4 February 1998 discussed the overall style, format and budget for the publication of the complete series of Survey Reports, and a proposal is being prepared for Council.

A fourth issue of the Survey Newsletter was published in March 1998 and widely circulated.

The Executive Committee met four times.

### **Dictionary of Irish Biography**

1997/8 has been a year of significant development for the project. Negotiations with Cambridge University Press to publish the Dictionary in six volumes in 2004 were brought to a satisfactory conclusion, and the contract was agreed in October.

The writing of in-house biographies for A–C names is virtually complete, and preparations are well advanced for the remaining five volumes. Editorial attention has been focused on the choice



of D–Z names. The following categories have been isolated for immediate attention, and draft lists have been prepared for advisers' reports: (a) pre-1200 Ireland; (b) medieval Ireland; (c) the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries; (d) 1760–1830; (e) 1922–97: politicians, public and civil servants; (f) writers in the Irish language 1530s–1990s; (g) scientists; (h) engineers; (i) visual artists; (j) medical figures; (k) scientists; (l) sportsmen and -women. When advisers' reports have been processed, editorial attention will turn in 1998/9 to another round of categories for inclusion in the Dictionary. The Editors are very grateful to those expert advisers who have given their time and advice so generously to the project.

The very welcome increase in funding from the Higher Education Authority, announced in February 1997 and mentioned in the 1996/7 report, made possible the appointment of contract and temporary staff. Dr James Quinn was appointed in April to the new position of Assistant to the Editors.

In February 1998, when the Minister for the Marine and Natural Resources, Dr Michael Woods, T.D., visited the Academy to mark the publishing agreement with Cambridge University Press, he announced on behalf of the Minister for Education and Science, Mr Mícheál Martin, T.D., a further increase in annual funding for the project. The Editors and Editorial Committee are immensely grateful for this support, which will assist their efforts to complete on time a national biographical dictionary for Ireland written to the highest scholarly standards.

#### **Dictionary of Medieval Latin from Celtic Sources (DMLCS)**

Once again the reporting year culminated in the publication of a major work of scholarship, this time Dr Michael Cahill's edition of the seventh-century *Expositio Euangelii secundum Marcum* (the first-ever Latin-language commentary on St Mark's Gospel). Appearing as the second in the *Scriptores Celtigenae* series being produced as a joint venture between DMLCS, Brepols and the Irish Biblical Association, the volume was prepared in the United States, refereed in Canada and published in Belgium. As with the other 25 or so texts being worked on for the series, the DMLCS staff provided the necessary Editorial Office services as well as, in the present case, undertaking the editing of the extensive English-language preliminaries and carrying out computerised checks and copy-editing tasks on the Latin sections. (The Latin will in turn be added to the project's full-text database and so be included in future editions of the electronic Archive of Celtic-Latin Literature, whence its vocabulary can be drawn upon for Dictionary purposes.) The *Expositio* was launched by the President, Professor Michael Herity, at a reception in March.

During the year the Editorial Board considered two works submitted for publication in the DMLCS Ancillary series. One was accepted, namely a catalogue of Celtic-Latin exegetical material, to be prepared in Toronto under the supervision of Professor Michael Herren. Interest in the Ancillaries generally was seen to increase, as did the number of external enquiries to the project. (Perhaps the most unusual of these involved the staff in advising on appropriate Linnaean terminology in a quasi-legal dispute between two universities concerning a particular biological discovery.) Talks and other publicising of the project by the Editor may have contributed to increased local awareness, but internationally it owed much to the establishment of a website on the Internet. This was launched in the autumn in the context of an initiative by Queen's University, Belfast, mediated by Professor F.J. Smith, MRIA, to host on-line publications for various learned societies (the journals of the Academy representing the other part of the latter's involvement). With help from Ms Karen McKinty and advice on design from members of seven institutions, the DMLCS pages were set up as four documents discussing different aspects of the project; each could serve as a front page (because it might be the first encountered by a browser or search engine) but was

appropriately linked to the others. External links were provided too. With the pages coming on line several months before the main Academy site, potentially valuable experience was gained. An Assistant Secretary from the Department of Education of Northern Ireland visited the Belfast end of the project and assured Professor Smith of continuing support.

The DMLCS staff again devoted their principle effort throughout the year to their core task of lexicography. The accelerated rate of progress achieved last year was maintained and, by the end of the reporting period, some eighteen hundred Dictionary-standard articles of the non-Classical lexicon had been written and approved; a lengthier discussion of one item was accepted for publication in *Ériu*. As well as much assistance from members of the Board, the Editor received valuable advice from Dr Andrew Hawke of Geiriadur Prifysgol Cymru (the lexicographical enterprise of the University of Wales). It is intended to publish this first phase of the Academy Dictionary in two parts, each of some 4,800 entries.

In the autumn John O’Keeffe, the project’s long-standing FÁS participant, left and was replaced by Christopher Sweeney. The Editor took part in the Classical Association of Ireland’s production of a tape to accompany the *Carpe Viam* selection of Latin poetry for the Department of Education’s Junior Certificate course.

The DMLCS Editorial Board and the Brepols Committee each met once.

#### **Documents on Irish Foreign Policy Project**

Work began on volume one of the Documents on Irish Foreign Policy (DIFP) series in June 1997. To date, the Executive Editor has worked through all files relating to the 1919–22 period in the Department of Foreign Affairs and the relevant files of the Department of the Taoiseach and Dáil Eireann. In addition, material relating to the development of Irish foreign policy has been selected from the collections of private papers at the University College Dublin Archives (UCDA). Most importantly, the DIFP gained access to the Éamon de Valera papers, which have just been moved to the UCD Archives Department.

Over 2,000 documents were initially considered by the Executive Editor for inclusion in volume one of the DIFP series. The Editors decided on a final selection of 329 documents covering all areas of Irish foreign policy from 1919 to 1922.

The DIFP series is very much a computer-driven project. In June 1997 the DIFP acquired a Pentium desktop and Pentium laptop computer. Peripherals such as a laser printer, zip-drive back-up system and related accessories have also been bought. The DIFP database of documents, which provides a searchable overview of the project, is its most important research tool and underpins the entire selection and editing process of the DIFP series.

The Executive Editor, who undertakes the overall management of the project, meets with individuals involved in the project on a day-to-day basis. This mainly involves meeting representatives from various Irish archives and the Department of Foreign Affairs. The Editors of the series meet once a month to finalise the selection of documents and deal with general matters relating to the publishing of the volumes. The Editorial Advisory Committee (the Editors and representatives from the RIA, the National Archives and the Department of Foreign Affairs) meets biannually.

The Executive Editor has ensured that the DIFP series received as much publicity as possible in its first year. Notices relating to the project have been placed in the relevant major Irish academic journals. The Executive Editor has also spoken on the project at conferences, to post-graduate students and will speak in May 1998 to the National Committee for the Study of International Affairs.

There have been two major modifications to the DIFP series since June 1997. It was decided, owing to the high quality and volume of documents selected, that volume one of the series should

cover 1919 to 1922 rather than 1919 to 1925 as initially planned. This has allowed the DIFP series Editors to provide a comprehensive survey of the 1921 Anglo-Irish Treaty negotiations as a major part of volume one of the series. The second modification is the projected publication date for volume one. Initially, volume one was to appear in January 1999, to mark the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Department of Foreign Affairs; the volume will now appear in October 1998.

There have been no staff changes in the project to date, although Dr Michael Kennedy, initially appointed as Assistant Editor to the project, is now its Executive Editor. Temporary staff have been engaged by the project on a piecemeal basis as required.

The editors of the project met eight times (July 1997 and monthly from September 1997 to March 1998) and the Editorial Advisory Committee met twice.

### **Eriugena**

The new edition of the masterpiece of Scottus Eriugena made further progress, with the publication by Edouard Jeaneau of *Iohannis Scotti seu Eriugena Periphyseon liber secundus* in 1997, in the CCCM series published by Brepols (Turnhout). The *liber tertius* is ready for press.

At the international conference of the Société Internationale pour l'Étude de la Philosophie Médiévale, which was held at Erfurt, 25–30 August 1997, with an attendance of over 600, the following sections were devoted entirely to Eriugena:

83 Sektion: Workshop “La nouvelle édition de *Periphyseon*” (held under the auspices of the Society for the Promotion of Eriugenian Studies); moderator: Edouard Jeaneau.

76 Sektion: “Eriugena and the philosophical tradition” was devoted to an “Interim report on Eriugenian studies” by C. Steel (K.U.L., Belgium; President of SPES). This was followed by two papers on aspects of Eriugena’s thought.

Plans to hold the Tenth International Colloquium of SPES in the year 2000 have been consolidated. The Colloquium will be held chiefly at Maynooth, with a session at the Academy. It will take place in late August 2000. The general theme will be “History and eschatology in Eriugena and his age”.

Issue no. 6 of *Eriugena: the annual bulletin of SPES* was circulated to all members of the Society in 1997. Like the preceding numbers, it carried a bibliographical update. A copy of the *Bulletin* has been deposited in the Academy’s Library.

### **Foclóir na Nua-Ghaeilge**

De réir mar a chuaigh an Coiste Eagarthóireachta i mbun cur chun cinn an tionscadail a bhreithniú, measadh go raibh sé tábhachtach go mbeadh ionadaithe ó níos mó institiúidí ar an gCoiste. Ar mholadh ón gCoiste, thogh Comhairle an Acadaimh an tOllamh Cathal Ó Háinle, an tOllamh Ruairí Ó hUiginn, an tOllamh Séamas Mac Mathúna, an Dr Nollaig Ó Muraíle agus an Dr Eoghan Mac Aogáin mar bhaill eile den Choiste.

Phléigh agus shocraigh an Coiste ceisteanna bunúsacha polasaí i rith na bliana chun go mbeadh fócas níos soiléire ag obair an tionscadail. Cuid thábhachtach den phlé ba ea an cruinniú a bhí idir Ionadaithe den Choiste agus Baill d’Fhoireann FNG. Ionas go mbainfí amach na sprioca eatramhacha agus an sprioc chinn riain, tháinig sé i gceist go raibh gá leis na moltaí éagsúla a bhaineann leis an tionscadal a mheas i bhfianaise na teicneolaíochta agus na n-acmhainní eile a bheadh ar fáil chun iad a chur i gcrích.

Beachtaíodh gurbh í an tréimhse 1600–2000 tréimhse teanga FNG. Aontaíodh go gcuimseodh an corpas na téacsanna go léir ón 17 haois, ón 18 haois agus ón 19 haois a cuireadh i gcló, chomh maith le rogha fhairsing téacsanna ón 20 haois (rogha a dhéanadh cúram de na canúintí—idir ábhar a breacadh síos ón gcaint agus litríocht a chum cainteoirí dúchais—agus a bheadh

ionadaíoch do theanga na hathbheochana trí chéile). Measadh gur cheart an corpas a chóiriú ar shlí a dhéanadh freastal sa chéad áit ar an bhfoclóir féin agus ansin chomh fada agus ab fhéidir é ar scoláirí taighde. Chuige sin, leagfaí amach na réimsí cuardaigh ionas go bhféadfaí cineálacha éagsúla cuardaigh a dhéanamh ar an gcorpas, e.g. de réir focail, dáta, údair, ceantair, aicme. Dhéanfaí iarracht, chomh maith, ar roinnt de na téacsanna gafa mar aon le hábhar dréachtaithe a rinneadh sa tionscadal a chur ar an idirlíon, de réir mar a d’oirfeadh, mar áis do scoláirí.

Críochnaíodh an ghabháil leictreonach ar théacsanna ón 17 haois, ón 18 haois agus ón 19 haois atá i bhfoirm leabhar agus nach raibh gafa so dtí seo. Tá 214 téacs agus timpeall 5,793,000 focal san ábhar sin. Ina theannta sin, tá 125,000 focal a bhaineann leis na haoiseanna sin gafa as irisí léannta. Táthar i mbun fhuíollach an ábhair ó na haoiseanna sin a ghabháil as na hirisí faoi láthair. Timpeall agus 5,000,000 focal as téacsanna an 20 haois atá gafa go dtí seo. Tá roghnú á dhéanamh faoi láthair ar théacsanna ionadaíocha ón 20 haois a bheadh le gabháil. Tá léamh cruinnis agus iomláine agus marcáil déanta ar fhorhmór an ábhair a gabhadh ón 17 haois agus ar chuid mhaith den ábhar ón 18 haois.

Cuireadh roinnt tástálacha i gcrích a bheidh fóinteach d’fhorbairt na hoibre feasta. Forbraíodh agus tástáladh modh bunmharcála téacsanna. D’fhothn modhanna scagtha agus dréachtaithe a mheas agus a fhorbairt, baineadh ábhar foclóra as focalstór téacs iomlán (20,000 focal) le cabhair bogearraí an-bhunúsach. Le linn do bhogearraí leimiúcháin a bheith á bhforbairt agus a dtástáil, rinneadh leimiú ar 20,000 focal de théacs. Chuir teorainneacha acmhainní an trealaimh ríomhaireachta bac ar dhul chun cinn níos mó.

Thug an Dr Éamonn Ó hÓgáin agus an Dr Ciarán Ó Duibhín cuairt eolais ar Institiúid Fhoclóir na hÍoslainne in Rejkavik na hÍoslainne agus chaith an Dr Ó hÓgáin seal cúpla lae staidéir in Institiúid na Foclóireachta in Ollscoil Exeter, Shasana.

Tá breithniú á dhéanamh faoi láthair ar na riachtanais uasghrádaithe ríomhairí sa tionscadal i gcomhthéacs an bhreithnithe ghinearálta atá ar siúl san Acadamh ar chúrsaí ríomhaireachta.

D’fhág Máire Ní Dhálaigh an tionscadal i mí na Márta chun dul ar shos gairme go ceann sé mhí.

Is mór ag an tionscadal an chabhair a thug na daoine seo a leanas don tionscadal: Éilís Ní Bhrádaigh; lucht saothraithe FÁS—Karl Vogelsang (Maor), Godfrey McGrath (Ionchuradóir); Máiréad Ní Éanacháin (Scéim Fhostaíochta Shamhraidh do mhic léinn).

Tháinig an Coiste Eagarthóireachta le chéile cúig huaire.

### **Advisory Committee on Genetic Anthropology**

The main work of the Committee is a project on genetic anthropology entitled “The genetic history and geography of Ireland”. The project is conceived to be a cross-border Irish contribution to international projects such as “The biological history of the peoples of Europe”; it is intended that it should be linked to other national projects in Ireland, Britain and elsewhere as appropriate, to be carried out by scholars from both parts of Ireland and their collaborators abroad.

The Committee had been asked by the Academy to communicate with national and international organisations and seek the widest possible cooperation with scholars interested in the project. The Council of the Academy agreed that a Consultative Meeting on the “Genetic history and geography of Ireland” should be held to ensure that the ideas about the project should be discussed by a wide range of scholars, and this was held on 30 and 31 October 1997 in Academy House. The meeting began with a discourse on 30 October 1997 given by Sir Walter Bodmer, FRS, University of Oxford, on the theme of “Human genetic diversity and disease susceptibility: genetic clues in anthropology and archaeology”.

Four papers were presented: “The evidence from linguistics” by Dr Patrick Sims-Williams,

University of Wales at Aberystwyth; “The evidence from genetics” by Dr Dan Bradley, Trinity College Dublin; “The evidence from genetic anthropology” by Dr James Mallory, MRIA, Queen’s University Belfast, and Dr Barra Ó Donnabháin, National University of Ireland, Cork; and ‘The evidence from medical epidemiology’ by Dr Alun Evans, Queen’s University Belfast. “The genetic history and geography of Ireland: a draft proposal for a research programme” was presented by Professor David J. McConnell and Professor Patrick Cunningham, MRIA, Trinity College Dublin. One hundred and four people attended. The project was considered very worthwhile and the Committee was encouraged to develop the ideas further.

The Committee greatly appreciates the financial support of £2,000 provided through the good offices of Mr Barry Murphy, MRIA, Chairman of the Commissioners of the Office of Public Works; £1,000 received and a further £1,000 pledged from Queen’s University Belfast; £2,000 pledged by the Department of Genetics, Trinity College Dublin; and £1,000 pledged from the National Museum of Ireland.

Three members of the Committee, the President, Professor Michael Herity, the Chairman of the Consultative Committee, Professor David McConnell, and the Director of the National Museum, Dr Patrick Wallace, appeared on *The Late Late Show* to discuss the project with Mr Gay Byrne.

The Committee is unanimous that the project should proceed. It believes that the key to the project is funding from the governments of Ireland and the United Kingdom, with secondary funding from private foundations.

The Committee has asked the Council to give approval to the Committee to prepare a draft proposal for submission by the Academy to the governments for core funding of a five-year Millennium project entitled “The genetic history and geography of Ireland”.

A Millennium project on “The genetic history and geography of Ireland” must be organised on the basis that it will add significantly to knowledge of the origins of the peoples of Ireland and their relationships with the other peoples of Eurasia and Africa. It is estimated that such a project will cost in the region of £4 million over five years.

The Academy would administer the project with the agreement of the two governments. It would call for research proposals which would be peer reviewed and funded on the basis of merit.

Dr Patrick Wallace joined the Committee in mid-1997.

The Committee met five times.

### **Irish Committee for the International Geosphere–Biosphere Programme**

The IGBP was established in 1986 at a meeting of the International Council of Scientific Unions in Berne to coordinate research activities concerned with addressing the growing problem of global environmental change. According to the ICSU President at the time: “The IGBP will certainly be the most ambitious, the most wide-ranging, and in its impacts on our understanding of the future of mankind, the most important project that ICSU has ever undertaken. It will be a major endeavour of the scientific community in every country of the world.” These comments have proven prophetic and at this stage almost every country in the world subscribes to the IGBP and supports a national committee to look after IGBP affairs.

Ireland maintains a small national committee, under the Academy’s auspices, to liaise with the IGBP Secretariat in Stockholm and promote research in the various programmes managed by the IGBP (the IGBP is not itself a funding body). Although in principle the IGBP should be viewed as one project—the essential biological, physical and chemical processes that regulate the earth system, together with the linkages existing between them—in practice the IGBP structures its approach into a number of thematic areas called core projects. These have lifecycles and are in due

course replaced by new concerns. After over a decade, generational change is beginning to take place in the core project groupings, although there are currently eight core projects, as follows:

Biospheric Aspects of the Hydrological Cycle	BAHC
Global Change and Terrestrial Ecosystems	GCTE
International Global Atmospheric Chemistry	IGAC
Joint Global Ocean Flux Study	JGOFS
Land–Ocean Changes in the Coastal Zone	LOICZ
Past Global Changes	PAGES
Land Use/Land Cover Changes	LUCC
Global Ocean-Ecosystem Dynamics	GLOBEC

Capacity building, particularly in the developing world, has been of growing concern to the Programme and has led to the establishment of Regional Research Networks; structures for overseeing data collection and dissemination; and for strengthening modelling capabilities. 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.

Preparation for publication of the proceedings of the 1995 Maynooth symposium, “Global change and the Irish environment”, was completed during the spring, and publication took place during the summer of 1997. The text comprises 14 chapters, 174 pages, and is available in hardback or softback form from the Royal Irish Academy.

The Committee was represented by the Secretary at the consultative conference in March 1998 called by the Minister for the Environment and Local Government in connection with the establishment of the Natural Environment Partnership Forum.

The Committee is planning a one-day symposium entitled “Atmospheric science and global change: contributions from Ireland to climate change studies” in NUI, Galway. The Committee has obtained the services of Dr John Miller of the World Meteorological Organisation to give the keynote address on developments in the Global Atmospheric Watch project.

The IGBP committee has continued to be represented on the steering committee seeking the establishment of a national network for long-term ecological monitoring.

A progress report on the activities of the Committee since the last Scientific Advisory Council meeting in Beijing in 1995 was prepared for SAC V in Nairobi in December 1997. The meeting was subsequently postponed until autumn 1998.

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 Fifth Framework Programme. Submissions were made to this body, and to a negotiating session in Brussels, emphasising the need to retain global research priorities in future EU research programmes.

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

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 three times.

### **Irish Historic Towns Atlas**

The year began with the launch by the President of the Academy of *Irish historic towns atlas no. 8, Downpatrick*, by Professor R.H. Buchanan and Mr Anthony Wilson. The launch took place

in Down County Museum on 24 April, courtesy of the Director. Displays were mounted by the towns atlas project and by the Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland; the display by the atlas project was retained in the Museum for the summer. Subsequently the fascicle was launched by Dr Maurice Hayes on 25 June in Academy House.

Work on 'Bray' (Mrs K.M. Davies) proceeded during the year, and this fascicle, no. 9, is due to be published shortly. As a seaside resort with the main growth period in the nineteenth century, Bray is a town of well-documented origins, and the fascicle will have an emphasis different from that of most others in the series. Work on 'Kilkenny' (Mr John Bradley) has also proceeded rapidly, despite the large amount of source material to be examined. Fascicles on Belfast (part I, to 1840), Dublin (part I, to 1610 and part II, 1610–1756), Derry, Limerick, Fethard (Co. Tipperary) and Trim continue under active preparation. Funding has been promised by Armagh City Council, and research for the Armagh fascicle has commenced.

The Luther I. Replogle Foundation, Washington D.C., renewed its grant and the Marc Fitch Fund, Oxford, provided matching funds to enable Ms Sarah Gearty to be employed as part-time research assistant.

Professor Anngret Simms continued to serve as co-chairperson of the International Commission for the History of Towns' working party on atlases; she attended the working party meeting at Bologna in May, together with Dr Howard Clarke and Mrs Davies, and in September she attended the meeting of the International Commission in Thessaloniki. Dr Raymond Gillespie returned to Dublin in July from his year as Visiting Fellow at All Souls', Oxford.

The Editorial Board met seventeen times.

#### **Humanities Research Committee**

The Humanities Research Committee met on three occasions in 1997/8 under its chairman, R. Fanning. The main business of the Committee in this period was strategic: how best to bring appropriate influence to bear on national policy-making in the area of humanities research support in Ireland. The activities of the Committee received particular and urgent focus in the spring of 1998 in consequence of the decision of the Minister for Education and Science, Mr Mícheál Martin, T.D., to entrust Dr Maurice Bric with the task of advising him, following a very widespread process of consultation in the scholarly community, on the question and format of setting up a research council or research councils in the humanities and social sciences in Ireland. A key issue that the HRC was required to address was the question of one joint council or separate research councils. In reaching its decision to advise the Council of the Academy that it favoured a single council, for a variety of scholarly and strategic reasons, the Committee received very helpful advice from its members, who, in addition to their scholarly discipline, were able to bring to bear other experience, whether as North of Ireland members, as directors and/or as managers of research in research institutions and organisations outside the university sector, etc.

The Humanities Research Council made, with the approval of Council, a separate submission to Dr Bric.

#### **Eoin O'Mahony Bursary Committee**

The Eoin O'Mahony Bursary Committee recommended that the total of £1,400 in grants be awarded for the following research projects:

Dr J. Livesey to visit the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, to conduct research for an annotated edition of Arthur O'Connor's "The state of Ireland (1798)";

Mr J. Rees to visit St Andrews, New Brunswick, and Durham, Ontario, to research the dispersal patterns of Fitzwilliam tenants on their arrival in New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario;

Dr Diane Urquart to visit Durham County Record Office to consult biographical sources relating to Anne, Teresa and Edith Londonderry.

The presentation of the awards was made by the President of the Academy at a reception on 9 May 1997.

#### **Consultative Committee for Pharmacology and Toxicology**

A very successful conference on "Efficacy and safety of biotechnology products", organised by the Committee, took place in Academy House on 27 February 1998, with support from BioResearch Ireland and Unitech Ireland. Speakers from Ireland, the United Kingdom and Europe addressed a wide range of topics, including the safety assessment of transgenic crops, the contribution of biotechnology to agriculture, the role of basic research in the development of biotechnology products and recombinant oral vaccines. The Conference was attended by over 100 participants.

During the year, major issues considered by the Committee included the need for participation by Ireland at the meetings of the Scientific Committee for the Protection of the Environment (SCOPE). The problems associated with the transport of laboratory animals into Ireland were discussed.

Nominations for the award of Merit Medal for outstanding contributions to Pharmacology and Toxicology were not sought in 1997. It is the intention of the Committee to seek such nominations in 1998.

Council approved the election of Dr I. Pratt as Secretary to replace Dr D.M. Pugh, who is on leave of absence.

The Committee met twice.

#### **Praeger Committee for Field Natural History**

The Praeger Committee recommended a total of £1,300 in grants to the following projects in 1998:

D.E. Allen	The <i>Rubus</i> flora of Connemara and west Mayo
Colm S. Ronayne	Distribution mapping of Irish aculeate Hymenoptera
Michael J. Simms	Epiphytic lichens on ancient parkland trees
David Nash	Distributions of vascular plants and butterflies of north Tipperary
Myles Nolan	Spider survey of montane blanket bog in Wicklow: area of Convalla and Table Mountain

In addition, a grant of £250 was made to defray the costs of the *Irish Naturalists' Journal*.

#### **Science Research Committee**

The Science Research Committee completed and published its response to the government's White Paper on Science, Technology and Innovation. The response received extensive press coverage in Ireland and elsewhere and the Committee was active in promoting its views. Members of the Committee made a presentation to a group of senior civil servants and also to the Irish Science, Technology and Innovation Council.

The Committee's initial period of office was reviewed and Council agreed that it should continue for a further three years, after which its terms of reference should be reviewed again. It was also agreed that the Committee should follow up the various issues raised in its booklet "Response to the White Paper" and focus in particular on research and development.

The Committee met twice.



### **Social Science Research Council**

At a reception in Academy House on 28 October 1997, Mr Noel Treacy, T.D., Minister of State at the Department of Education and Science, received the third annual report of the Council and presented three postgraduate awards and five postgraduate essay prizes. The SSRC funded eleven research proposals (from 33 received). There were 33 and 30 entries for the postgraduate awards and postgraduate essay prizes respectively.

The 1997 budget of the Social Science Research Council was based upon the £100,000 grant from the Irish government in addition to funding from the Nuffield Foundation.

A grant was made available to the National Committee for Economics and Social Sciences to support another round of the Research Networks Scheme, which is co-funded by the British Council. The Council has continued with its initiative regarding an Irish Social Science Data Archive through a working party under the chairmanship of Mr Ken Hannigan, National Archives.

The Council commissioned a consultant from the Data Archive, University of Essex, to undertake a feasibility study for an Irish Social Science Data Archive. This study has now been published and the results were presented by the consultant, Dr Kevin Schürer, at a half-day seminar entitled "An Irish Data Archive" on 9 March 1998 in Academy House. Professor Frances Ruane, Chairperson, National Statistics Board; Dr Michael Marsh, Trinity College Dublin; and Professor Brendan Whelan, Director, Economic and Social Research Institute, gave additional papers.

The full recommendations of the working party and the consultant's report were published by the Council in March 1998 as *The Irish Data Archive Feasibility Project: a report by the Data Archive, University of Essex*.

The Council welcomed the decision of the Minister for Education and Science, Mr Mícheál Martin, T.D., to seek a report from Dr Maurice Bric with regard to the establishment of a National Humanities and Social Science Research Council following the recommendation contained in the CIRCA Report commissioned by the Higher Education Authority. A submission is being prepared for Dr Bric by the SSRC.

The Social Science Research Council met six times.

## **NATIONAL COMMITTEES**

### **National Committee for Archaeology**

Three grants to a total of £1,500 were awarded from the Academy's Archaeological Research Fund for 1997. Recipients of excavation grants for 1997 presented the results of their work to the members of the Committee at the annual "Excavations Seminar" held on 18 November 1997 at Academy House. Four excavation grants and two post-excavation grants in respect of the 1998 season were approved in principle.

The publication record of excavators funded by the National Monuments and Historic Properties Service, Dúchas, Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands, on the Committee's recommendation continued to be monitored. The Committee also reviewed the research grants awarded from the Academy's Archaeological Research Fund for the period 1986 to 1995.

The Committee met three times.

### **National Committee for Astronomy and Space Research**

A most successful two-day Regional Astronomy Meeting of the Royal Astronomical Society was held in Birr and the University of Limerick on 30 June and 1 July 1997 and was attended by over 80 astronomers from Ireland, the UK and elsewhere. The meeting was held to celebrate the refurbishment of the six-foot Birr Telescope, the astronomical discoveries made with that instrument and the contribution being made to modern astronomy by Irish astronomers, North and South. The theme of the conference was "From nebulae to galaxies—reaching out".

The first part of the meeting, held in Birr, concentrated on the refurbishment of the telescope itself, its scientific context and important contributions to observational astronomy made with it, and the continued contribution to Irish (and British) scientific life of the Birr School—distinguished scientists who first made their mark as observers using the Birr Telescope.

The second part of the meeting, held in the University of Limerick, consisted of lectures illustrating the broad range and significance of current astronomical research on the island of Ireland. Contributions were made by speakers from the Queen's University of Belfast, Armagh Observatory and the National Universities of Cork, Dublin and Galway as well as by specially invited lecturers from the Universities of Cambridge and Durham and the South African Astronomical Observatory. Posters were presented from Armagh, the (London) Science Museum and Cork Institute of Technology.

The overall organisation of the meeting was headed by the Secretary of the National Committee for Astronomy and Space Research (Professor R.M. Redfern). The Local Organising Committee was headed by Mr P. Samways (University of Limerick) and the Scientific Organising Committee was headed by Professor M.E. Bailey (Armagh Observatory), both members of the National Committee.

In association with the Birr/Limerick meeting, and in furtherance of the general aim of the National Committee for Astronomy and Space Research to promote the public awareness of science, a public lecture was organised in the University of Limerick for the evening of 1 July 1997, at which Professor Sir Bernard Lovell talked on the topic "Cosmology: From Rosse to Hubble". This meeting was attended by some 250 members of the public.

The Committee began the development of curriculum material for a transition-year module in astronomy in order to encourage second-level teachers to incorporate astronomy into the school curriculum.

Professor R.M. Redfern was the Irish representative at the General Assembly of the

International Astronomical Union (IAU), which was held in Kyoto (Japan) from 18 to 27 August 1997. Professor P.A. Wayman was the special representative to the Finance Committee of the IAU. At the General Assembly Professor and Mrs Wayman were presented to the Emperor and Empress of Japan in recognition of Professor Wayman's role as a former Secretary-General of the IAU.

The Committee met twice.

#### **National Committee for Biochemistry**

The Committee spent considerable time in relation to the development of a meeting on the theme of "Ethics and molecular life sciences". Ideas are well advanced and it is envisaged that this will also involve other science-based committees within the Academy and will take place in 2000.

The winner of the National Committee for Biochemistry award was Dr J. Paul G. Malthouse, National University of Ireland, Dublin. He delivered his lecture entitled "Using nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) as a probe of protein structure and function" and received his award at the Academy on 6 November 1997. This award has been sponsored by the Kerry Group plc from its inception and their sponsorship is very gratefully acknowledged.

The Science Writing Competition was won by Gearóid Tuohy, Department of Genetics, Trinity College Dublin. The title of the paper was "Apoptosis—a message of death in the code of life?" and it will be published in the *Irish Times*. The runner-up was Siobhán Conroy, Department of Biochemistry, National University of Ireland, Dublin. This competition is a joint venture between the Academy, Yamanouchi Ireland Co. Ltd and the *Irish Times*. This year there was a great increase in interest with many more submissions.

Five grants were awarded in the Postgraduate Travel Bursary Scheme and there was great interest in this initiative. The sponsors were Biotrin International Ltd, Guinness Ireland and Sigma-Aldrich Ireland Ltd.

Dr Brian Wisdom, Chairman of the Committee, represented the Academy at the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular (IUBMB) General Assembly in San Francisco in August 1997. This was a major scientific meeting and a full report was presented by Dr Wisdom on the IUBMB.

The full Committee met three times. In addition, there were a number of sub-committee meetings in relation to selection of successful candidates in the various initiatives undertaken and the development of ideas for future meetings.

#### **National Committee for Biology**

The annual seminar entitled "Biodiversity: the Irish dimension" was held on 4 and 5 March 1998 and was very well attended. The subject had already been considered by the Committee, which had prepared a response to a request for views from the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands. The proceedings of the 1997 seminar on "Modern perspectives of zoonoses" were published and launched by the President at a reception on 11 December 1997.

Ireland's membership of the Tropical Biology Association had to be terminated at the end of 1997 owing to a shortfall in the external funding of the subscription.

The Chairman, Professor P.A. Whittaker, attended the General Assembly of the International Union for Biological Sciences as the Irish delegate and was elected to the Union's Executive Committee.

The Committee met three times.

#### *National Commission for Microbiology*

A seminar on "Enzymes in industrial and biotechnology" was held at Academy House on 21

April 1997 and attracted an audience of microbiologists from academia and industry. Planning of a seminar on "Microbial responses to stress" scheduled for 30 April 1998 was advanced. It was decided to hold a seminar on "The spread of food pathogens" in 1999.

Professor David Coleman of the School of Dental Science, Department of Microbiology, Trinity College Dublin, was selected for the 1997 National Commission for Microbiology award for young researchers. Professor Coleman will present a paper at Academy House and receive the award in April 1998.

The Commission met four times.

#### *National Commission for the Teaching of Biology*

The Commission organised seminars entitled "Biology practicals of the new syllabus" on 15 November 1997 at Galway Regional Technical College, the University of Limerick and the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. The seminars were attended by 182 teachers and there was a very favourable response. Dr D.W. Jeffrey, on behalf of the Commission, has prepared a booklet entitled "A teacher's guide to grassland ecology" for publication. The Commission has continued to follow the progress of the new Senior-Cycle Biology Syllabus. The Commission is also concerned with the lack of adequate facilities in some schools for the teaching of biology.

Mr F. Ó Ríordáin continued to act as Chairman and Dr K. Kavanagh agreed to act as Secretary to the Commission from 4 June 1997.

Mr T. McCloughlin of Ashbourne Community School was welcomed to the Commission.

The Commission met three times.

#### *National Commission for Hydrobiology*

Attention was drawn to the presence in Ireland of the zebra mussel *Dreissena polymorpha*, which, because of its invasiveness, was the focus of a conference in Galway.

The Commission's marine activities provided a major focus for discussion. Informal meetings were held with committee members of the Irish Marine Science Association on developing its links with the Commission, including the possibility of holding joint or separate research meetings.

The Commission discussed the European Science Foundation programme on terrestrial and groundwater pollution. It noted its strong focus on human health and drinking water, whereas biology and eutrophication were major concerns in the Irish context.

The annual meeting of the Freshwater Research Group was held on 25-26 March 1997 in Lee Maltings, National University of Ireland, Cork, convened by Dr Tom Cross.

The SIL (International Association of Theoretical and Applied Limnology) Congress Committee met regularly to plan for the 1998 international meeting, first mooted at a Freshwater Group Meeting in 1985 and in planning since 1987. The SIL Secretary-General, Dr Wetzel, visited in October 1997. First and second circulars had been issued, three books on Irish limnology were in preparation and the programme would have 78 special sessions and a number of associated tours. It was agreed that relevant National Committee for Biology seminar proceedings ("Eutrophication", "Conservation of aquatic systems", "Irish rivers") be made available for purchase at SIL.

The Commission met twice.

#### **National Committee for Chemistry**

The Committee has initiated discussions with the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland and the Irish Pharmaceutical and Chemical Manufacturers Federation (IPCMF) with regard to the funding of

the annual subscription to the International Union for Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC).

The Committee voiced strong support for the Science Research Committee and its response to the Government White Paper on Science, Technology and Innovation.

Professor T.B.H. McMurry resigned as Chairman and was replaced by Professor A.F. Hegarty.

Professor T.B.H. McMurry attended the General Assembly of IUPAC in Geneva in August 1997.

Dr J.M. Briody attended the EUCHEM (European Chemistry) Council meeting in Helsinki, Finland, in October 1997.

The Committee met twice.

### **National Committee on Economic and Social Sciences**

The Committee continued to operate its successful Research Network Scheme, under which small sums of money are made available to facilitate the networking of British and Irish scholars in particular areas. The scheme is supported by a grant of £7,500 from the British Council, matched by £7,500 from the Social Science Research Council.

It was decided to broaden the base of the scheme, and informal approaches were made to various potential sources. A favourable response was given by the German DAAD (London Office), and the possibility of adding a German element to the network scheme is being explored. Matching funds will also be required for this opportunity to be realised, however.

The Committee nominated a representative, Professor Michael Laver, MRIA, to the European Science Foundation's (ESF) Standing Committee for the Social Sciences (SCSS). The most important pieces of business for the SCSS are the Exploratory Research Grant Scheme and the Blueprint for a European Social Survey.

The Exploratory Research Grant Scheme funds a number of exploratory multinational research projects, to a maximum of FF 200,000. The opportunity for Irish scholars to apply to this scheme is especially valuable, given the absence of substantial research funding within Ireland. Funding arrangements for the scheme are being reviewed.

The Academy, using SSRC funding, has already made an *à la carte* contribution to the Blueprint for a European Social Survey project. This has been very successful and is nearing completion. The output will be a very high-quality application, with a realistic chance of success, for major social science funding as a large-scale facility under the EU's Fifth Framework Programme. Once more, given the dearth of research funding for the social sciences in Ireland, it is vital that the Academy keeps in touch with this process.

The Committee continued to maintain a close working relationship with the Social Science Research Council.

The Committee has been involved in discussions on the establishment of national social science and humanities research councils and has advised the Academy on this matter.

In order to be well prepared for any substantial change in the external research funding environment, the Committee has been seeking proposals for large-scale social science projects that have both a strong rationale and little hope of funding under present arrangements. Many good proposals were received, making it easier to take advantage quickly of any increase in research funding.

The Committee met four times.

### **National Committee for Engineering Science**

A major topic of discussion during the year was the relationship between engineering and science and the relative lack of recognition given to engineers and engineering in Ireland.

The Committee agreed to establish an award to be known as the Parsons Medal in honour of Charles Parsons. This award is to be given annually to a young researcher in Ireland for an outstanding contribution to engineering science. Details are still being finalised. The Committee also continued discussion on the organisation of a conference to explore the relationship between engineering and science, tentatively entitled “Engineering, science and technology”. It is hoped that this conference will be held in February 2000. The process of setting up a register of researchers in engineering science is continuing. This register will give a summary of their research interests and contact details.

The Committee met four times.

#### *URSI (International Union of Radio Science) Sub-Committee*

The Ninth Symposium on Radio-Science was held in Academy House on 17 April 1997 and attracted a total of 85 participants. The programme covered areas from electromagnetic fields to telecommunications and radio-astronomy. The keynote address, “Biological effects of wireless communications electromagnetic fields”, was presented by Professor Maria A. Stuchly (Canada), a Vice-President of URSI. Proceedings were not published. Copies of the abstracts of the various presentations were circulated.

Professor P.J. Clarricoats (UK), a Vice-President of URSI, and Professor G. Lucas (Australia), Chairman of Commission C (Signals and Systems), attended a meeting of the Sub-Committee to discuss matters of interest. In 1997 URSI had member committees in 47 countries, and the Radio-Science Bulletin is distributed worldwide to every committee. However, contact between members can be very informal, based on attendance at Commission conferences and general assemblies. The Sub-Committee accepts that there is a need for greater interaction and cooperation between national committees.

Professor P.J. Clarricoats (UK) gave a discourse on 29 January 1998 on “Satellites in the 21st century—what do they offer?”. The lecture was intended for a general audience and was well attended.

The 10th Symposium on Radio-Science will be a joint event with the UK Panel for URSI and is scheduled for 3–4 December 1998. The programme will be agreed from ranges of topics submitted by both organisations. Professor Michael C. Sexton, MRIA (NUI, Cork), is the conference organiser. Owing to the additional costs involved in hosting a two-day event, the Sub-Committee decided to seek sponsorship from a number of companies in the electronics and telecommunications areas. The response has been very positive. Members of URSI in the UK have expressed particular interest in the joint symposium.

The Sub-Committee met five times.

#### **Coiste Náisiúnta Léann na Gaeilge**

Bhuail ionadaithe an Choiste le hoifigigh ón Údarás um Ardoideachas an 22 Bealtaine d’fhonn a dheimhniú go gcuirfí an tuarascáil chuimsitheach a d’ullmhaigh an Coiste Teagmhála fé stádas na Gaeilge sa tréimhse oideachais fé bhráid an Údaráis. Go háirithe, pléadh ag an gcruinniú sin an phráinn atá le córas a bhunú chun na buntéacsanna agus na téacsleabhair atá riachtanach do Léann na Gaeilge a sholáthar.

Ar na nithe a bhí fé chaibidil sa tréimhse bliana so, bhí fionraí trí bliana ollúnacht na Ceiltise in Ollscoil na Ríona, deireadh mhaoiniú Scéim Logainmneacha Thuaisceart Éireann, folúntais ag leibhéal sinsearach a bheith gan líonadh in Oifig na Logainmneacha agus sa Ghúm, agus an Coimisún Logainmneacha a bheith gan chathaoirleach ó mhí Aibreáin 1996.

Fé dhó a tháinig an Coiste le chéile.

### **National Committee for Geodesy and Geophysics**

The Committee proposed a speaker and topic for an Academy discourse, which was accepted by the Academy. Dr Tony Hollingsworth, Head of Research at the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasting, addressed the Academy on 22 May 1997. The title of his discourse was “Long-range prediction for a chaotic atmosphere”. The discourse, considered by the Committee a great success, was well attended and generated favourable reaction in the media.

Preliminary planning for an Irish National Report, which will review activities in geophysics covering the last ten years, commenced during the review period. This report will be submitted to the next General Assembly of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics, which takes place in Birmingham in July 1999.

A Register of research scientists in geophysics, with e-mail addresses and a brief indication of research interests, was revised during the year. Annual Reports were prepared by the National Correspondents to the seven International Associations of IUGG.

A seminar on “Atmosphere–ocean dynamics” is currently being organised by the National Committee for Theoretical and Applied Mechanics. In view of the great interest in this symposium, the National Committee for Geodesy and Geophysics agreed to support the application to IUTAM (the International Union of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics) by requesting IUGG to co-sponsor the symposium.

The Committee met twice.

### **National Committee for Geography**

The Committee’s membership was extended by the addition of a representative of the Environmental Protection Agency, who presented an informative summary of the Agency’s purpose and activities, including its publications.

Liaison with the International Geographical Union (IGU) was enhanced. The names of 26 people who had agreed to act as contacts for IGU Commissions and Study Groups were published in *GeoNews*, no. 40 (May 1997), and the list was sent to secretaries of the appropriate IGU Commissions and Study Groups worldwide. Subsequently a survey revealed the extent to which links between the IGU bodies and scholars in Ireland working in their respective fields were functioning to mutual benefit. Reviews of the National Committee’s role and achievements were published in *GeoNews* and the Irish Planning Institute’s *Newsletter*.

In relation to other Academy Committees, approaches were made to formalise Geography’s broader participation in activities and consultations. Council agreed to the recommendation of the Board of Humanities that its membership should include a representative of the National Committee for Geography. Similarly, the National Committee for Economic and Social Sciences agreed that, if a vacancy arises, it will consider a geographer for nomination to its membership.

The working group that had been established to investigate the possible production of a new Atlas of Ireland met twice and was reconstituted with different personnel as an advisory group, convened by the Committee’s secretary, to offer more specific technical and editorial guidelines within which the project might be advanced.

The Committee expressed appreciation to its former chairperson, Professor W.J. Smyth (NUI, Maynooth) for his skill and energy in monitoring the Universities Bill. At the end of 1997 it was with particular sadness that the Committee learned of the death of the distinguished geographer, natural scientist and former President of the Academy, Professor G.F. Mitchell.

The Committee met four times.

*National Commission for the Teaching of Geography*

The Commission continued its examination of reports and other documents concerning forthcoming changes in Irish education. Because of the increasing emphasis on practical methodologies in the teaching of geography, the Commission plans to hold a symposium on the theme of field-work in primary schools. The symposium, which will be held in St Patrick's College, Drumcondra, is scheduled for 24 April 1999.

During the last year Ms Ann-Marie Duffy joined the Commission and Mr P. Kelly agreed to act as Secretary. The difficulties experienced by members who hold teaching posts in primary or post-primary schools in attending meetings of the Commission continue to be of concern. The Commission, through the Council of the Academy, has written on this matter to the Department of Education and Science and the Department of Education (Northern Ireland).

The Commission met four times.

**National Committee for Geology**

The current cycle of the National Committee for Geology commenced in January 1996 under the chairmanship of Professor M.J. Kennedy. It focused its work primarily on the organisation and publication of the John Jackson Memorial Fund and Lecture respectively, conservation of geological and other designated sites, publication of an information brochure, liaison with the International Union of Geological Sciences, and raising the public profile of geology through participation in the Irish Science Centres Association Network (ISCAN) and the Forfás Science and Technology Information Group.

The John Jackson Memorial Fund is administered jointly by the Academy and the RDS. This year's lecture was presented by Dr P. Kennan to a large audience in the Royal Dublin Society premises on 16 October 1997. The text of Dr Kennan's lecture, which was entitled "Granite: a singular rock", was published in the Occasional Series of the Royal Dublin Society and was available for sale prior to the lecture. Plans for the 1998 lecture are well in hand. Copies of the text of the 1997 and all previous lectures are for sale from either the Royal Dublin Society or the Royal Irish Academy.

The Committee published an information brochure listing the responsibilities, activities and membership of the Committee. Copies were circulated to the membership for onward distribution to each of the nominating agencies' members.

The Committee continues to monitor the proposed designation and protection of wildlife and certain categories of wild bird areas and the effects the protected status of such sites has on mineral exploration activity and general access by third-level students/lecturers for academic purposes. The Committee also continues to monitor the proposed designation and resultant protection of a network of geological sites that is well underway in Northern Ireland and is expected to be completed by the end of the century.

UNESCO, through the UNESCO Irish representative, has been lobbied to maintain at least the current level of funding of International Geological Correlation Projects. Dr Brett, the President of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), has been invited to Dublin to discuss funding and support for Irish participation in IUGS projects.

The NCG has endeavoured to raise the public profile of geology by participation in Irish Science Centres Association Network meetings and Forfás Science and Technology Information Centre meetings. The Chairman represented the Committee on the Academy's Board for Science, where applications for funding for academic exchanges were adjudicated.

The Committee met four times.



### **The National Committee for Greek and Latin Studies**

The annual series of colloquia was continued with a colloquium in February 1998 on the subject of “Ancient epic”. The keynote paper, entitled “Past, present and future: myth and ideology in Evander’s and Augustus’s Rome”, was presented to a large and appreciative audience by Dr Denis Feeney, New College, Oxford.

Summer schools in 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 a representative on the Managing Committee of the Irish Institute of Hellenic Studies at Athens.

The Committee met four times.

### **National Committee for the History and Philosophy of Science**

At the invitation of Lord Rosse, the Committee visited Birr Castle on 2 July 1997 and discussed ways of promoting the use of the archives there.

Dr Wyse Jackson attended the 20th International Congress of the History of Science held at Liège, 20–26 July 1997, and represented the Committee at the meeting of the International Union of the History of Science.

A one-day symposium on the theme “Celebration: three centuries of Irish chemistry” was held on 12 September 1997 in conjunction with the Institute of Irish Chemistry to mark the Institute’s 75th anniversary. The proceedings are to be published in a special edition of *Irish Chemical News*.

Dr Wyse Jackson gave the Committee’s annual lecture on 18 November 1997 entitled “The Reverend George Graydon (c. 1753–1803): cleric and geological traveller”. The text of the lecture has been published by the Academy, as has Dr Davis’s lecture from the previous year, “Professor Robert Perceval (1756–1839): first Professor of Chemistry at Trinity College Dublin”.

Work on the text of *People and places in Irish science and technology* has continued and sponsorship for publication is being sought.

Dr Davis has taken over responsibility for the publication of *HISTM Newsletter*.

The Committee has made plans for a symposium on “Science in Ireland in 1798: a time of revolution” to be held on 4 November 1998 and obtained funding for publication of the proceedings.

The Committee met three times.

### **National Committee for the Study of International Affairs**

The Committee’s seminar series continued with papers from Dr Judith Devlin, National University of Ireland, Dublin: “The 1996 Russian presidential elections in political context”; Professor Eunan O’Halpin, Dublin City University: “Irish internal security and external relations 1945–1992”; Dr Barrie Wharton, University of Limerick: “Islamist resurgence and paradigms of political stability and societal disintegration”.

The 19th Annual Conference on the theme “Small states and European security” was held in Academy House in association with the Finnish Institute in London on 20–22 November 1997. Dr Garret FitzGerald, MRIA, gave a keynote address. Other principal speakers included Dr Teija Tiilikainen, Dr Pertti Joenniemi, Professor Patrick Keatinge, MRIA, Professor Clive Archer, Professor Brigid Laffan, Dr Heikki Patomaki, Dr Jeff Huysmans, Dr Sergi Medvedev, Professor David Arter, Professor Heinz Gärtner and Professor Ronan Fanning, MRIA. Ms Liz O’Donnell, T.D., Minister of State at the Department of Foreign Affairs, and Mr Ole Norrback, Minister for European Affairs and Foreign Trade, Finland, also addressed participants. The Committee is very grateful to the Finnish Institute in London, the Finnish Embassy and the Department of Foreign Affairs for financial support.

Volume 8 of *Irish Studies in International Affairs* was launched at the 1997 conference.

The Committee's second Graduate Research Seminar in International Relations was held in Academy House on 20 November 1997. Mr Aengus Nolan, Mr Garry O'Brien, Mr Vincent Durac and Ms Anne McCluskey delivered papers.

Dr Michael Kennedy was appointed assistant editor for the first volume in the series entitled Documents on Irish Foreign Policy. Work on the publication progressed rapidly throughout the year.

The Committee met six times.

#### **National Committee for Mathematics**

The Committee continued to prepare for World Mathematical Year 2000. Work commenced on the compilation of a book of biographies of Irish mathematicians and mathematicians with Irish connections, with Professor S.K. Houston as editor.

Various other ways of marking the year have been proposed to An Post (concerning a postage stamp), Telecom Éireann (concerning a callcard) and the Bank of Ireland (concerning a calendar) and decisions are still awaited.

A brochure on careers and courses in mathematics is being prepared, mainly for circulation to schools.

The entry for the eleventh edition of the *World Directory of Mathematicians* was submitted as required to the American Mathematical Society.

Professor Houston, as Chairman of the National Committee for Mathematics, was nominated to Council as a delegate to the General Assembly of the International Mathematical Union to be held in Dresden during August 1998.

The Committee met twice.

#### **National Sub-Commission for Mathematical Instruction**

The Sub-Commission was active in supporting the preparation and participation of the Irish team in the 1997 International Mathematics Olympiad, which was held in Argentina. In response to a request made by the Academy to the Minister for Education, the Department of Education provided a grant of £7,500 towards the expenses involved in Ireland's participation. This was a 50% increase on the grant awarded the previous year and indicates the seriousness with which both the Minister and the Academy regard this competition. Support from the university departments that run training courses for the Olympiad was acknowledged by the Sub-Commission.

Items discussed by the Commission included the difficulties being encountered at the school–university transition level as a result of changes to the Leaving Certificate syllabus and increasing access to third-level education. The quality of mathematical achievement at primary-school level was also raised; this is an issue that the Sub-Commission will return to in 1998.

The Sub-Commission met twice.

#### **National Committee for Modern Language Studies**

The main activity of the Committee was the organisation of the 24th Annual Research Symposium in Trinity College Dublin on "Intertextuality: continuities and discontinuities" on 7–8 November 1997. The keynote address entitled "Foreign bodies and household words: intertextuality and interdiction" was given by Professor J. Tambling, University of Hong Kong. Planning for scheduled meetings in Belfast (Queen's University Belfast) in 1998 and Dublin (National University of Ireland, Maynooth) in 1999 is currently in progress.

Plans are being made to mount an extraordinary symposium on social and economic aspects

of culturally-informed language study programmes to heighten public awareness of language-learning issues. A small working group was set up for this purpose.

The Committee met three times.

#### *National Commission for the Teaching of Modern Languages*

The Commission continued its work under Dr Sheila Watts as Chairperson.

The Commission pursued its plan for focused meetings throughout the year. Discussions covered CALL (Computer Assisted Language Learning) and the preparation of a survey concerning the introduction of modern languages at primary level.

The Commission met four times.

#### **National Committee for Nutritional Sciences**

The Nutritional Conference organised by the Committee was held on 5 December 1997. The conference was entitled “Nutrition and elderly people” and sponsorship was received from the Department of Health and Children, Bord Bia, Nestlé Ireland Limited, Yakult UK Limited, Abbott Laboratories, Dairygold Co-operative Society Limited and Van den Berg Foods Limited.

The Secretary, Ms Julie Dowsett, represented the Committee at the IUNS General Assembly in Montreal in July 1997. It is hoped that the first Nutritional Sciences award to a talented young nutritionist will be awarded later in 1998.

Dr Helen Roche was appointed as the replacement to Dr Albert Flynn to represent the Irish Section of the Nutrition Society on the Committee. Professor Ciaran F. McCarthy, the representative of the National University of Ireland, Galway, resigned.

The Committee met three times.

#### **National Committee for Philosophy**

The Committee’s seventeenth annual conference, on “Liberalism and pluralism”, was held at Academy House on 15–16 May 1997. It was organised in association with the Faculty of Arts Pluralism Project of NUI, Dublin. The principal speaker was Professor J. Gray (Jesus College, Oxford), who delivered a lecture on “Where pluralists and liberals part company”. Other speakers were: Dr P. Cole (Middlesex University) on “Against citizenship”, Ms. C. McKinnon (University College, London) on “Self-respect and cultural diversity”, Dr C. Jones (NUI, Cork) on “Liberalism, pluralism and the world”, Professor J. Riley (Tulane University) on “Crooked timber and liberal culture”, Mr C. Blattberg (Hertford College, Oxford) on “State and society in pluralist liberalism”, Dr I. Honohan (NUI, Dublin) on “The public–private distinction: a pluralist approach”, Professor L. Lomasky (Bowling Green University) on “Liberty and welfare goods: reflections on clashing liberalisms”, Dr A. Ingram (NUI, Dublin) on “Recognising pluralism” and Dr R. Cohen-Almagor (Haifa) on “Ethnocultural minorities in liberal democracies”.

The Committee is planning the eighteenth annual conference (1998) on the theme of “The human mind”.

Topics discussed during the year included the introduction of philosophy as a subject on the curriculum of secondary schools.

The Committee met three times.

#### **National Committee for Physics**

The following changes in Committee membership occurred:

Professor J. McGilp and Dr M. Cawley offered their resignations from the Committee in order

to facilitate new officers of the Institute of Physics, Irish Branch, namely Dr R.W. McCullough and Dr J. McLaughlin.

Dr G. O’Sullivan and Dr R.W. McCullough resigned as Academy nominees and the Committee agreed to nominate Dr C.H. Patterson and Professor D. O’Sullivan to fill the Academy nominee vacancies.

Professor J. McInerney replaced Professor P.K. Carroll as Irish contact person for the International Commission for Optics.

The Chairman, Professor J.A. Slevin, MRIA, attended the Council meeting of the European Physical Society in March 1997, in Mulhouse France.

The Chairman, as Secretary of the Academy’s Science Research Committee, was principal author of its response to the White Paper on Science, Technology and Innovation on behalf of the Academy.

At Professor L. O’C. Drury’s suggestion, Professor Alan Watson was invited by Council to give an Academy discourse on the topic of cosmic rays in autumn 1998.

The Secretary, Dr V. Toal, attended the Board for Science, which met and made recommendations regarding exchange schemes.

The Committee met twice.

#### *National Commission for the Teaching of Physics*

The Commission organised two seminars for post-primary teachers on the theme of “Transition-year physics”. One seminar was held at the University of Limerick on 20 September 1997 and the other at Mount Temple Comprehensive School, Dublin, on the same date. The fifty participants responded very positively to both seminars. Comprehensive manuals were provided to accompany course materials. As the two seminars were heavily oversubscribed, it was decided to run both again next year.

Other matters dealt with by the Commission during the year were:

1. a review of 1997 Leaving Certificate Physics papers;
2. safety in the science laboratory;
3. the training and supply of physics teachers.

The Commission met three times.

#### **National Committee for Theoretical and Applied Mechanics**

The Chairman, Professor P.F. Hodnett, and Dr P. Lynch have developed and submitted a proposal to the International Union for Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (IUTAM) to host a symposium on “Advances in mathematical modelling of atmosphere and ocean dynamics” at the University of Limerick in October 1999. The proposal is co-sponsored by the International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Ocean (IAPSO).

The Secretary, Dr J.J. Grannell, has made further progress with the compilation of a register of researchers working in theoretical and applied mechanics in Ireland, North and South, to be published as an Academy web page.

Dr Ray Bates, University of Copenhagen, has accepted an invitation to present an Academy discourse early in 1999.

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 before publication in November 1998.

## 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	B. Raftery
F.X. Martin	P.F. Wallace
Mr R. Ó Floinn ( <i>Secretary</i> )	

### 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 ( <i>Secretary</i> )
Dr M. McCarthy	Dr F. Ó Fearghail
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 P. Buckley	Mr C. Manning
Dr D. Cabot	Professor A. Myers
Dr G. Doyle ( <i>Secretary</i> )	M.W. Steer
Dr J.R. Graham	

**Dictionary of Irish Biography**

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

*Editorial Committee*

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

*Consultative Committee*

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

**Editorial Board of the Dictionary of Medieval Latin from Celtic Sources 400–1200**

Dr D. Howlett ( <i>Consultant Editor</i> )	D. Ó Corráin
P. Mac Cana ( <i>Chairperson</i> )	D. Ó Cróinín
Professor M. McGann	A.B. Scott
T.N. Mitchell	F.J. Smith

*Royal Irish Academy/Irish Biblical Association Brepols Editorial Advisory Committee*

Dr D. Howlett	Mr T. O'Loughlin
M. McNamara	A.B. Scott
D. Ó Cróinín	

*Observers*

Mr L. Bols	Dr R. Vander Plaetse
Professor L. de Coninck	

**Documents on Irish Foreign Policy Project**

*Editors*

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

**Irish Historic Towns Atlas**

*Editors*

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

*Editorial Committee*

Dr T.B. Barry	Mr R. Kirwan
Mr J. Bradley	G. Mac Niocaill
Mr M. Brand	Dr P. Robinson
Dr R. Gillespie	Dr M.K. Simms
Mr R. Haworth	Dr K. Whelan
Dr A.A. Horner	

**Humanities Research Committee**

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

*Humanities Research Steering Committee*

The Secretary	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> )
Mr P.L. Chambers	Dr I. Pratt ( <i>Secretary</i> )
Dr D. Johnston	Dr D.M. Pugh
Dr J. Kelly	Professor J. Waddington
Dr J.G. Kelly	

**Praeger Committee for Field Natural History**

The Treasurer	A. MacFadyen
Dr G. Doyle ( <i>Chairperson</i> )	Dr D. Murray
J.S. Fairley	Dr J. Reynolds
Mr J.M.C. Holmes	Mr P. Smiddy

**Science Research Committee**

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



**Social Science Research Council**

Royal Irish Academy	M. Laver Professor D. Dineen Professor J.A. Jackson ( <i>Chairperson</i> ) Professor B. Nolan Mr K. Hannigan
Irish Economics Association	Professor P.T. Geary Dr K. Denny
Political Studies Association	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	Dr 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
Forbairt	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. Hannan 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
Forbairt	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	Miss M. Scannell
Wildlife Service, Office of Public Works	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
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 ( <i>Secretary</i> )	

*National Commission for Microbiology*

Dr R. Bishop ( <i>Chairperson</i> )	Dr A. McHale
Dr E. Bourke	Dr A.P. Moran
Dr J.F. Dempster	Dr M. O'Connell ( <i>Secretary</i> )
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
Dr K. Kavanagh	Dr P. Wall
Dr U. MacEvilly	

*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
Forbairt	Mr D. Carroll

**National Committee for Economics and Social Sciences**

Royal Irish Academy	Professor M. Laver ( <i>Secretary</i> )
	Professor D.F. Hannan
	Mr C. McCullagh
	Professor B. Roche
	Dr M. McLachlan
	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
Forbairt	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	Professor R.J. Crawford
University of Ulster	Dr S. Laverty
Dublin City University	Dr D. Cameron ( <i>Secretary</i> )
University of Limerick	Professor K. Ryan

*U.R.S.I. Sub-Committee*

Professor T. Brazil	Dr B. McArdle ( <i>Secretary</i> )
Mr J. Colgan	Dr P. Murphy
Mr C. Curley	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 J. Kilmartin	Dr S.S. Swords

**Coiste Náisiúnta Léann na Gaeilge**

Acadamh Ríoga na hÉireann	An tOllamh P. Mac Cana
	An tOllamh M. Ó Murchú
	An Dr L. Mac Mathúna
Ollscoil Náisiúnta na hÉireann, Corcaigh	An Dr B. Ó Conchúir ( <i>Cathaoirleach</i> )
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 Dr 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 Dr R.J. Devoy
National University of Ireland, Cork	Dr C. Bean
National University of Ireland, Dublin	Dr A. Ó Rodaighe
National University of Ireland, Galway	Dr J. Sweeney
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	Mr B. Murphy
Trinity College Dublin	Dr G. Leslie
The Queen's University of Belfast	Dr J. McCloskey
University of Ulster	Professor A.W.B. Jacob ( <i>Chairperson</i> )
Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies	Mr D. Inamdar
Geological Survey of Ireland	<i>vacant</i>
Northern Ireland Meteorological Office	Mr M. Cory
Ordnance Survey	Dr K. Rybaczuk
Forbairt	

**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
	<i>vacant</i>
	Dr C. Morris
	Dr R. Finnegan
National University of Ireland, Cork	Dr P.A.J. Cronin ( <i>Secretary</i> )
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 M. Crudden
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)

Council	Professor D.T. Burns Professor J.J. McEvoy Dr C. Mollan
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	Professor D. MacHale
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 R. Fanning Professor J.C.I. Dooge Dr J. Devlin ( <i>Secretary</i> ) Lt Col. O.A.K. MacDonald 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
	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. Critchley ( <i>Secretary</i> )
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 Professor A. O’Healy Professor T. O’Reilly Professor C.E.J. Caldicott ( <i>Chairperson</i> ) Professor J. Bradley Dr A. McTigue Professor C. Lonergan Dr R.M. Bales Dr R.J. McKee Professor M. Townson ( <i>Secretary</i> ) Professor S. Rivière Mr E. Mac Aogáin
National University of Ireland, Cork	
National University of Ireland, Dublin	
National University of Ireland, Galway	
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	
Trinity College Dublin	
The Queen’s University of Belfast	
University of Ulster	
Dublin City University	
University of Limerick	
Institiúid Teangeolaíochta Éireann	

*National Commission for the Teaching of Modern Languages*

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> )
Ms D. Creagh	Ms S. Supple ( <i>Chairperson</i> )
Mr J. McCarthy	Dr M. Wall
Ms H. O’Connell	

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

**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 C.H. Patterson Professor D. O’Sullivan
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> )
Forbairt	<i>vacant</i>
Institute of Physics, Irish Branch	Dr R.W. McCullough Dr J. McLaughlin

*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 Elizabeth 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)

Council	Professor M.A. Hayes Professor P.F. Hodnett ( <i>Chairperson</i> ) Professor M.F. McCarthy 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 1997

**GENERAL PURPOSES CURRENT ACCOUNT \***

<b>Receipts</b>	<b>IR£</b>
H.E.A. Grant for current purposes (including a grant of £100,000 for the Social Science Research Council)	1,305,000
Fees, subscriptions and deposit income	38,659
Sale of publications	46,969
Sale of proceedings	11,294
Subventions	16,000
Brought forward from 1996	15,448
H.E.A. capital grant	<u>30,000</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>1,463,370</u></b>
<b>Direct Expenditure</b>	
Audit, law and bank charges	14,831
Incidentals (petty cash)	1,833
Miscellaneous	14,307
Postage and telephone	34,113
Fuel and light	11,784
Furniture, equipment and household	10,499
General insurances	6,933
Printing (administrative)	5,065
Salaries and wages	334,060
Stationery and office equipment	13,346
Supplementary pensions	34,047
Capital equipment	<u>56,961</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>537,779</u></b>
<b>Allocations to Special Accounts</b>	
International Unions and General Assemblies account	36,624
Library account	113,922
Printing Proceedings account	91,832
General Publications account	31,020
Foclóir na Nua-Ghaeilge account	228,479
Celtic Latin Dictionary account	45,849
International Exchanges and Fellowships account	12,073
Atlas of Historic Towns account	25,417
Dictionary of Irish Biography account	225,533
Social Science Research Council	<u>90,000</u>
<b>Total of Allocations</b>	<b><u>900,749</u></b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b><u>1,438,528</u></b>
Income	£1,463,370
Expenditure	£1,438,528
Surplus	<u>£24,842</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 had not been received by the Academy from the C&AG's Office up to 14 November 1998.