

# UCD IRISH CENTRE for NURSING & MIDWIFERY HISTORY

# **Annual Report**

for the year ending 30 September 2010

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The IRCHSS Stimulator Grant was taken up on 20 December 2009 and expires on 31 December 2010. The Grant was sought to fund the establishment of the Irish Centre for Nursing & Midwifery History, a national academic centre for the study of nursing and midwifery history, to be located at UCD. In proposing the establishment of the Centre, the research team envisaged a national centre that would be a locus for new research into aspects of nursing and midwifery history in Ireland and in which materials and artefacts related to the history of nursing and midwifery would be preserved. This report presents progress on the Centre's research and activities and development up to 30 September 2010.

# 1.1 Constitution and governance

The UCD Irish Centre for Nursing & Midwifery History was formally constituted as an academic centre of University College Dublin by the UCD Academic Council in February 2009, following a formal application to the Council. The Centre is based at the UCD School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health Systems and is aligned with the Centre for Medical History in Ireland. Gerard Fealy is Director of the Centre. The Centre is governed by an Advisory Board, appointed by UCD to 'act in an advisory capacity to promote and advance the Centre's aims and objectives' and is composed of key internal and external stakeholders. In addition, a three-member International Advisory Group (IAG) advises on international dimensions of the Centre's aims and activities. The members of the IAG are Professor Julie Fairman, Director, Barbara Bates Center for Nursing History, University of Pennsylvania; Professor Tom O'Donoghue, Professor of Education, University of Western Australia; and Professor Christine Hallett, Professor of Nursing History and Director UK Centre for the History of Nursing & Midwifery, University of Manchester.

#### 1.2 Centre infrastructure

The IRCHSS Stimulator Grant funding schedule provided for the establishment of infrastructure to support the Centre. This included a website and a physical space. The Centre's website was launched in autumn 2009 and is supported on the UCD website platform. The Centre's website is currently undergoing a transfer to the UCD's new Content Management System, aligning the website with the standard UCD site format. This will impact positively both on the management of the site and technical support from UCD Web Services. The website provides information on the Centre's activities and it functions as a portal to online collections and resources. It is anticipated that the website will grow to become a repository for online digital archival materials for researchers. The website manager is Research Assistant Ms Ruth Geraghty. See: <a href="http://www.ucd.ie/icnmh">http://www.ucd.ie/icnmh</a>

A designated room has been provided in the Research Unit of the UCD School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health Systems to house the physical space of the Centre. This space was developed in consultation with UCD Archivist Seamus Helferty and to date basic preparations have been made, including the purchase of items of equipment, such as computer, printer and scanner, along with the procurement of some archival materials.

A national scoping project among Irish hospitals has been undertaken in early 2010. This involved a survey of the major Irish hospitals, seeking information on catalogued and non-catalogued materials and artifacts retained by them. To date, nineteen hospitals have returned the completed survey questionnaire and from returned questionnaires, an inventory of historical, documentary and other materials currently retained by hospitals in Ireland has been prepared. The survey was a prelude to securing materials and artifacts associated with the history of nursing and midwifery in Ireland for the Centre. Following consultation with the UCD Archivist, it is proposed to focus on procuring complete collections of materials and artifacts from a targeted number of exemplary hospitals, in order to secure each collection in its entirity.

A subsidiary outcome of the scoping project has been to raise awareness among hospital officials of the need to preserve historical materials and the Centre has received a number of informal contacts from interested individuals as a result of the survey.

#### 2. PROGRAMME OF RESEARCH

A programme of research is being conducted in the two-year grant period 2009–2010, comprising three distinct projects, as follows:

- Project 1: A history of hospital sanitation and sanitary reform in Ireland
- Project 2: Health care disciplines in Ireland: Historical development, identity, and subject areas
- Project 3: Institutional history: The General Nursing Council for Ireland, 1920–1950

At the time of reporting, the research team has completed the major elements of all three projects and the remaining time of the grant period is dedicated to manuscript preparation and dissemination, as per the schedule proposed in the grant application. Progress in all three projects is briefly summarised here.

# 2.1 Project 1 A history of hospital sanitation and sanitary reform in Ireland

Study 1: 'Sanitary arrangements and sanitary reform in the Dublin hospitals, 1858–1898' (Lead researcher: Gerard Fealy)

This study examines hospital sanitary reform in the second half of the nineteenth century and is based on the archives of the Board of Superintendence of Dublin Hospitals and the archives of two Dublin hospitals. Study 1 was completed in July 2009.

Study 2: 'Cultures of control: A historical analysis of the role of the infection control nurse in Ireland' (Lead researcher: Martin McNamara)

This study examines the history of the infection control nurse in Ireland and is based on the testimonies of seven of the first cadre of infection control nurses in Ireland, generated by the biographic-narrative-interpretive method (BNIM). In preparation for this work, Dr McNamara undertook a five-day intensive training course in the BNIM method, faciliated by Wengraf and Chamberlayne. Data collection for Study 2 was completed in early 2010.

The projected outputs for Study 1 and Study 2 are two peer-reviewed journal articles and two conference abstract. At the time of reporting, one journal article was in press, one is in preparation, two peer-reviewed conference abstracts have been presented and one seminar has been conducted. Additional outputs are planned (See Section 4).

# 2.2 Project 2: Health care disciplines in Ireland: Historical development, identity, and subject areas

Study 1: 'Where is nursing in academic nursing?: The visibility of the discipline on the websites of higher education institutions' (Lead researcher: Martin McNamara)

This study examines the visibility of nursing as a distinctive, autonomous and specialised academic discipline through an analysis of the websites of higher education institutions in Ireland and locates nursing's disciplinary presence within the context of its historical development. Data collection for Study 1 was completed in early 2010.

Study 2: 'Nursing an academic discipline? Tutors' tales of transition' (Lead researcher: Martin McNamara)

This study examines the emergence of academic identity and the place of nursing in the academy. Using the BNIM method, it investigates the experiences of neophyte nursing academics as they negotiated a new career trajectory and a new identity within the academy in the period 2002 to 2006. At the time of reporting, thirteen interviews were completed and data analysis was ongoing.

The projected outputs for Study 1 and Study 2 are two peer-reviewed journal articles and two conference abstract. At the time of reporting, one book chapter was published, one journal article was under review, one conference abstract was presented and one conference abstract was accepted. Additional outputs are planned (See Section 4).

#### 2.3 Project 3: Institutional history

Study 1: The General Nursing Council for Ireland: The first thirty years of professional self-regulation (Lead researcher: Gerard Fealy)

This study examines the history of the General Nursing Council for Ireland from its inception in 1920 until 1950, when it was replaced by a new regulatory authority, An Bord Altranais. It

examines the development of professional self-regulation of nursing in Ireland and the challenges faced by the new regulatory authority in establishing and consolidating professional self-regulation. The research is being conducted mainly at the UCD Archives, where the General Nursing Council's archives are preserved.

A monograph history of c.40-50,000 words is in preparation and will be completed on or before the end of the grant period. At the time of reporting three chapters (c.20,000 words) have already been completed.

#### 2.4 Related activities

INMO Scholarship Award 2011

Following discussions with the Irish Nurses & Midwives Organisation (INMO), the research team secured the agreement of the INMO Executive to institute the *INMO Scholarship Award 2011* and in August 2010, the Scholarship was launched. The INMO Scholarship Award will enable a suitably qualified graduate to study for a PhD degree at the Centre and will provide course fees and a student stipend for the duration of the doctoral training programme. Through the doctoral training, the successful applicant will prepare a research thesis detailing an authoritative history of the INMO.

At the time of reporting, one graduate research student had commenced a PhD in association with the Centre.

INMO SCHOLARSHIP AWARD 2011

The Irish Nurse's & Midelave's Organisation (NMO) is the main representative association for nurses and midelave's in Internal. Organity Founded in 1919 as the Nurse (No. 1900), the Organisation is now in its fresh docked and will see the Nurse (No. 1900), the Organisation is now in its fresh docked and will see the Nurse (No. 1900), the Organisation is now in its fresh docked and will see the Nurse (No. 1900), as one or included, now in the Nurse (No. 1900), and its children is now in the Nurse (No. 1900). The Nurse (No. 1900) is not in the Nurse (No. 1900) is not in the Nurse (No. 1900), and it is not in the Nurse (No. 1900). The Nurse (No. 1900) is not in the Nurse (No. 1900) is not in the Nurse (No. 1900) is not in the Nurse (No. 1900). The Nurse (No. 1900) is not of Philosophy (Ny) at Universely (Oslepe Dublin. The Scholarship Award will provide come fees and a shaderst stepred for the durstin of the doctoral training programme. The successful application of Registers as a productive stepred in the Nurse (No. 1900) is not in the Nurse (No. 1900). The Nurse (No. 1900) is not in the Nurse (No. 1900) in the Nurse (No. 1900) is not in the Nurse (No. 1900) in the Nurse (No. 1900) is not in the Nurse (No. 1900) in the Nurse (No. 1900) is not in the Nurse (No. 1900) in the Nurse (No. 1900) is not in the Nurse (No. 1900) in the Nurse (No. 1900) is not in the Nurse (No. 1900) in the Nurse (No. 1900) is not in the Nurse (No. 1900) in the Nurse (No. 1900) is not in the Nurse (No. 1900) in the Nurse (No. 1900) is not in the Nurse (No. 1900) in the Nurse (No. 1900) is not in the Nurse (No. 1900) in the Nurse (No.

The subject of the student's doctoral thesis is a history of infant feeding practices in the West of Ireland.

The American Association for the History of Nursing (AAHN) and the European Nursing History Group (ENHG), of which the UCD Irish Centre for Nursing & Midwifery History is a constituent member, hosted a landmark international nursing history conference at Royal

Landmark nursing history conference

Holloway University of London from 13–16 September, 2010. The *International* 

Perspectives on Nursing History Conference was

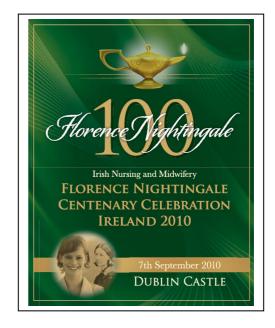
attended by over 300 delegates from across the globe. This included scholars of nursing history from Central and South America, Australasia, South Africa and many European countries, including the UK, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Denmark, Germany and Turkey. The

keynote speakers were Dr Afaf Meleis, Margaret Bond Simon Dean of Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, and Mark Bostridge, author of *Florence Nightingale: The woman and her legend*. The conference social events included Evensong at St Paul's, incorporating the laying of a wreath at the tomb of Nightingale, and a visit to the Nightingale Museum at St Thomas' Hospital.

http://www.nursesvoices.org.uk/conference/index.html

National Florence Nightingale Centenary Celebration Ireland 2010

Gerard Fealy was a member of the Conference Planning Committee for the *National Florence Nightingale Centenary Celebration Ireland 2010* held at Dublin Castle on 7 September 2010. The conference was one of a number of events held to coincide with the centenary year of the death of Florence Nightingale and was attended by upwards on 300 delegates. The conference was addressed by the Minister for Health & Children and by the new CEO of the HSE Mr Cathal Magee. International speakers included Dr Beverly Malone, CEO of the National League for Nursing, USA and Marie Manthey, President Emeritus of Creative HealthCare Management.



Proposed European Association for the History of Nursing (EAHN)

Plans have been instituted for the formation of a European Association for the History of Nursing, involving nursing history centres in a number of European countries. To date, Gerard Fealy and Martin McNamara have attended two preliminary exploratory meetings, one in Manchester and one in London. A further meeting is planned for Denmark in spring 2011.

## Grant application

An application under IRCHSS Strand 5 Co-fund scheme was made in November 2009 in partnership with the Irish Nurses & Midwives Organisation (INMO) and the Irish Research Virtual Library and Archive (ITVLA); the proposal was for a digitising project and a monograph history of the INMO. Six IRCHSS co-fund awards were made and the application was ranked 8<sup>th</sup> among 18 applicants.

#### **3 OUTPUTS**

# 3.1 Outputs and dissemination, Project 1

#### Journal article

Fealy GM, McNamara MS, Geraghty R (2010) 'The health of hospitals and lessons from history: Public health and sanitary reform in the Dublin hospitals, 1858–1898' *Journal of Clinical Nursing* (In press, manuscript ref. JCN-2009-0430).

#### Conference abstracts

Fealy GM, McNamara MS, Geraghty R (2010) 'Perfect ventilation, good sewerage and effective water closets: Urban factors in the development of modern nursing in Dublin, 1858–1898'. Concurrent paper, *European Association of Urban Historians:* 10<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Urban History: City and Society in Urban History, Ghent, 1–4 September 2010.

See: http://www.eauh2010.ugent.be/sessions?sess\_code=S07)

McNamara MS, Fealy GM, Geraghty R (2010) 'Cultures of control: A historical analysis of the role of the infection control nurse in Ireland'. Concurrent paper, *International Perspectives in the History of Nursing* conference, Windsor, UK, 14–16 September 2010. See: <a href="http://www.nursesvoices.org.uk/conference/">http://www.nursesvoices.org.uk/conference/</a>

## Seminar

Fealy GM 'Pure air, pure water and good light: Sanitary reform in the Dublin hospitals, 1858–1898'. *Irish Centre for Nursing & Midwifery History's Spring-summer Seminar Series*, 29 April 2010, Dublin.

See: http://www.ucd.ie/icnmh/news.html

#### 3.2 Outputs and dissemination, Project 2

#### Book chapter

McNamara MS and Fealy GM (2010) 'A little nurse running around college: Legitimating nursing in the Irish academy', In Judith Harford and Clare Rush (eds) *Have Women Made a Difference?*: Women in Irish Universities, 1850–2010 (Foreword by Mary O'Dowd) Oxford: Peter Lang ISBN 978-3-0343-0116-9 (hardback).

See: http://www.peterlang.com/Index.cfm?vID=430116&vLang=E

#### Guest editorial

Hallett C, Fealy GM (2009) 'Nursing history and the articulation of power' (Guest Editorial) *Journal of Clinical Nursing* 18 (19), 2681–3.

See: http://www3.interscience.wiley.com.eproxy.ucd.ie/journal/122591193/issue

#### Conference abstract

McNamara MS, Fealy GM, Geraghty R 'Where is nursing in academic nursing? The visibility of the discipline on the websites of higher education institutions'. Concurrent paper, *NETNEP 2010 Nursing Education in a Global Community: Collaboration and Networking for the Future: 3rd International Nurse Education Conference*, 11–14 April 2010, Sydney, Australia.

See: <a href="http://www.netnep-conference.elsevier.com/">http://www.netnep-conference.elsevier.com/</a>

## 3.3 Outputs envisaged to the end of funding period

# Project 1: Journal article

McNamara MS, Fealy GM, Geraghty R (2010) 'The first of the clipboard nurses: testimonies of the first infection control nurses in Ireland'. *Nursing History Review* (Manuscript in preparation at time of reporting).

# Project 2: Journal article

McNamara MS, Fealy GM, Geraghty R 'Click where for nursing': The visibility of the discipline on the websites of higher education institutions' *Nurse Education Today* Special NETNEP 2010 Conference Edition (Manuscript with Editor; manuscript reference no: NET-D-10-00228)

McNamara MS, Fealy GM, Geraghty R 'Creating a space in the academy: the case of nursing' (working title) *International Journal of Nursing Studies*.

#### Project 2: Conference abstracts

McNamara MS, Fealy GM, Geraghty R (2010) 'Nurse tutors' tales of transition: a clash of legitimation codes'. *Society for Research in Higher Education (SRHE) Annual Research Conference* (Conference theme: 'Where is the wisdom we have lost in knowledge?': Exploring Meaning, Identities and Transformation in the Academy) Newport, Wales, 14–16 December 2010. (Abstract accepted)

See: http://www.srhe.ac.uk/conference2010/

#### Project 3: Monograph history

A monograph history of c.40-50,000 words is in preparation and will be completed by 31 December 2010. Research for this study is ongoing and at the time of reporting three out of five chapters (c.20,000 words) were completed.

#### Project 3: Conference abstract

Fealy GM, McNamara MS, Geraghty R (2011) 'A decided advantage to all: The first thirty years of state regulation in Ireland, 1920–1950' Abstract submitted to International Council of Nursing (ICN) Conference, Malta, 2–8 May 2011.

See: <a href="http://www.icn2011.ch/">http://www.icn2011.ch/</a>

#### Project 3: Seminar

Fealy GM 'Professional self-regulation: The case of the General Nursing Council for Ireland, 1920–1950' *Irish Centre for Nursing & Midwifery History's Autumn-winter Seminar Series*, November 2010, Dublin.

# 3.4 Outputs envisaged post funding period

#### Project 2: Journal article

McNamara MS, Fealy GM, Geraghty R 'Biographical narrative interpretive method and oral history: a powerful method of eliciting nurses' stories' (working title). *International Journal of Nursing Studies*.

McNamara MS, Fealy GM, Geraghty R 'Nurse tutors' tales of transition: a clash of legitimation codes' (working title). *Studies in Higher Education* 

# Project 2: Conference abstract

McNamara MS, Fealy GM, Geraghty R 'Struggles for legitimacy: nurse tutors' experiences in the Irish academy 2002–2010' (working title). *American Association for the History of Nursing, Fall Conference 2011*, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas, September 2011.

## Project 3: Published monograph

Fealy GM, McNamara MS, Geraghty R *The General Nursing Council for Ireland: The first thirty years of professional self-regulation* (working title).

Prepare a book proposal and secure publisher for monograph history and publish monograph in 2011.

Fealy GM, McNamara MS, Geraghty R (2010) 'Sturdy independence or state regulation?: Voluntary hospitals and the General Nursing Council for Ireland, 1920–1950' (working title). *American Association for the History of Nursing, Fall Conference 2011*, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas, September 2011.

#### 4. THE NEXT STEPS

# 4.1 Project completions and dissemination

In the final months of the funding period, the following will be completed: data analysis of Project 2, Study 2; data collection and analysis for Project 3 and the preparation of completed monograph history.

#### 4.2 Linkages with researchers in other countries

Linkages with researchers in other countries will continue to be strengthened and new linkages will be established. Linkages will be utilised in two principal ways, namely through collaboration in the preparation and submission of grant applications and cooperation in advancing historical scholarship in the field through the establishment of a European Association for the History of Nursing. In addition, the formal linkages made through the International Advisory Group will continue to be used to ensure that the work of the Centre has international relevance.

### 4.3 Additional funding

A preliminary submission was made to the Wellcome Trust on 30 September 1010, under the programme grants scheme. The submission proposed a five-year programme of research that will build on the work of the Centre to date. Entitled 'Programme 2016', the application included multiple projects and involved co-applicants and collaborators from the UK, Australia and the United States The overall aims of the planned five-year programme of research are:

- 1. To further develop and advance critical scholarship in the field of nursing and midwifery history in Ireland through sustaining the UCD Irish Centre for Nursing & Midwifery History
- 2. To provide research training opportunities for nursing, midwifery, medical and history graduates, and thereby grow research capacity in the field in the longer term
- 3. To yield high-quality outputs in the form of monograph histories, peer-reviewed papers, conference abstracts and web publications.