

Research and Innovation Overview 2024

Department of Early Irish (Sean-Ghaeilge)

The Department of Early Irish remains a leader in the study of pre-modern Ireland's language, literature, and culture. In 2022/23, the department managed several major research projects, expanded its academic community with six new PhD students, and continued to produce world-class research.

Head of Department: Dr Deborah Hayden



Key Achievements

Research Outputs

The department produced a robust portfolio of publications, including a monograph, an edited volume, and 17 peer-reviewed journal articles. These works have advanced knowledge in the field of early Irish studies and have been widely cited in subsequent research.

Research Grants

The department secured over €1.7 million in research funding for seven major projects. This funding supports groundbreaking research in areas such as early Irish law, literature, and history, with results that are expected to influence both academic scholarship and public understanding of Ireland's cultural heritage.



Research Impact

Cultural and Academic Impact

The department's research has had a significant impact on the preservation and understanding of Ireland's early cultural heritage. Projects funded by prestigious grants have contributed to academic knowledge and have also informed cultural preservation efforts and educational curricula in Ireland and beyond.



Engagement and Outreach

Conferences and Seminars

The department organised several international conferences, including a major event on the Leabhar Breac manuscript and a commemoration of 1500 years of St. Brigit. These events have played a crucial role in bringing new research to a wider audience, including scholars, students, and the general public, thereby enhancing the cultural and historical understanding of early Ireland.

Public Engagement

Faculty members actively contributed to media outlets and public lectures, making complex historical and linguistic research accessible to a broader audience. This public scholarship has helped to deepen the public's appreciation of Ireland's early history and its relevance today.