

## The Ireland Institute Welcomes our 2005 Wider Horizons Groups



*Armagh, Down, Louth Wider Horizons Participants*

The International Fund for Ireland Wider Horizons Programme offers young people from Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland the opportunity to improve their employment prospects through internships and classroom training in the U.S. Participants are drawn from both traditions, Catholic and Protestant. During their time in Pittsburgh they complete internships with local organizations and stay with local host families for a portion of the program.

The Ireland Institute welcomes two International Fund for Ireland Wider Horizons groups this spring. In late

March, a group of twenty participants arrived from the Counties of Armagh, Down, and Louth. In late May, a group from Fermanagh, Sligo, and Leitrim will arrive. Both groups will stay in Pittsburgh for eight weeks.

We would like to thank the following organizations for sponsoring work placements for the Armagh, Down, and Louth participants: Allegheny County Prothonotary, Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania, Avon, DSC Wireless World, Goodwill Industries, Hometown Coffee, LeMont Restaurant, Mullen Advertising, Omni William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh Magazine/WQED, Pittsburgh Public Theater, ProKnitwear, Sestili Nursery, Sojourner House, United Way, UPMC Sports Medicine, Westin Convention Center, WYEP-FM, YMCA-East Communities.

Interested in serving as a work placement or host family in the future? Please contact the Ireland Institute or check out our website for more information.

## Life Sciences Delegation Visits Pittsburgh

Early this spring, a delegation of life sciences researchers from Queen's University, Belfast, and representatives of Invest Northern Ireland visited Pittsburgh to identify collaborative projects with local research and education institutions. Queen's University representatives included Trevor Newsom and Drs. Glenn Dixon, Paddy Johnston, and Robert Brown. Invest Northern Ireland was represented by Mr. Nigel Sands.

Pittsburgh's life sciences sector was represented by Dr. Ron Herberman from the Hillman Cancer Center, the Pittsburgh Tissue Engineering Initiative, Pittsburgh Life Sciences Greenhouse, the McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine, and various researchers at Carnegie Mellon University.



*From left: Drs. Glenn Dixon and Paddy Johnston, Queen's University Belfast; Jim Lamb, Ireland Institute of Pittsburgh; Trevor Newsom, Queen's University Belfast*

## Thanks to our Interns

The Institute would like to thank our spring interns: Stephanie Rovito and Brittany Rexroad from Duquesne University, and Rebekah Harada from Chatham College. We are grateful for your time and talents, and wish you the best in your future endeavors.

## John O'Donohue, 2005 Mel Madden Memorial Lecture



*The Madden Family with John O'Donohue*

John O'Donohue, author of the best-selling *Anam Cara: A Book of Celtic Wisdom*, and other works including *Echoes of Memory*, *Eternal Echoes: Exploring Our Yearning to Belong*, and *Beauty*, spoke at this year's Mel Madden Memorial Lecture. O'Donohue is a poet, priest, philosopher and scholar from Connemara, Ireland. Born and raised in County Clare, he was awarded a Ph.D. in Philosophical Theology from the German University of Tübingen in 1990. In keeping with the mutual understanding mission of the Ireland Institute, theme of his talk was "In A World of Conflict; A Moment of Peace." O'Donohue spoke of using creativity in resolving conflict, and how individuals can tap into creativity. It was a delightful evening, and we thank everyone who attended this stimulating, reflective event.

The Mel Madden Memorial Lecture Series honors the memory of Dr. Mel Madden. Co-founder of the Ireland Institute in 1989, Mel spent his life promoting peace and mutual understanding in the global community. He was responsible for the design and curriculum of the Ireland Institute's very successful mutual understanding program and touched the lives of over 1,000 participants from Ireland and Northern Ireland during his ten years with the Institute. We look forward to welcoming you to future Mel Madden Memorial Events.

## St. Patrick's Season Brings Visitors to Pittsburgh

The Mayor of Newry, Northern Ireland, Henry Reilly, visited Pittsburgh in mid-March. Among other activities, Mr. Reilly met with local politicians and conducted a brief visit to Beaver County, where a great-uncle of his lived before joining the Army during WWI and earning a Congressional Medal of Honor. Mr. Reilly also met with Laura Allison, a Pittsburgh-area resident who won this year's Maiden of the Mournes contest, held annually in the town of Warrenpoint, near Newry.

Patricia Lewsley, a member of the Northern Ireland Assembly, also visited Pittsburgh to participate in this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade. Ms. Lewsley is also active in promoting women's involvement in politics, and was able to meet with local activists with similar interests. Mr. Reilly and Ms. Lewsley were also able to attend the American Ireland Fund dinner, thanks to the Rooney family.



*Patricia Lewsley, Sr. Michele O'Leary, and Henry Reilly*

## Save a Tree...Sign up to Receive Our Newsletter via E-Mail



Don't forget that our semi-annual newsletter is available via email. Simply send your name and email address to: [info@iiofpitt.org](mailto:info@iiofpitt.org).

## Common Ground Update

The Institute is pleased with the success of its “e-publication,” *Common Ground*. In less than a year, we already have a substantial circulation. This publication is aimed at readers in the tri-state (PA, WV, OH) area with an interest in Ireland, North and South. The *Common Ground*, which began publication last fall, focuses on news about Northern Ireland and the Republic, cultural events in the tri-state area, and commentary from vital voices on issues aligned with the mission of the Institute.

We welcome submissions to the events section. Please send your event information to [info@iiofpitt.org](mailto:info@iiofpitt.org), and be sure to include details such as date, time, location, and admission cost. If you are interested in signing up to receive this new publication, please send an email including your name and return email address, to [info@iiofpitt.org](mailto:info@iiofpitt.org), or call the Institute at 412-394-3900.

## 2004 Christmas Concert a Success

Thanks to all who attended our 2004 Christmas Concert. A grand evening, the event included entertainment by Hooley, Burke Irish Dancers, a reading by local clergy, and of course Christmas carols to round out the evening. Anne Burnham served as Mistress of Ceremonies. See you next year!



*Burke Irish Dancers*



*Hooley*

## Walsh Visa Program Renewed

Thanks to all who lobbied on behalf of the Walsh Visa Program. The U.S. Congress has renewed the Program, and Pittsburgh will soon begin welcoming new participants. Keep your eyes peeled for updates. If you are interested in helping out with employment opportunities, housing, or furniture donation, please contact the Ireland Institute for further information.

### Coming Soon: A New Website!

This summer, the Ireland Institute will unveil its new website. New, interactive features will enhance the new look of the site. These include more photos, information about how to become more involved with the work of the Institute, greater details about our programs, event listings, new and email updates – all in a more user-friendly format.

## As Spring Turns to Summer, Our Thoughts Turn to...Golf!



*2004 Golfers*

Our Ninth Annual Golf Outing will be held Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at Fox Chapel Golf Club. The day includes green fees, cart, brunch, refreshments, dinner, prizes, and plenty of fun. As our primary fundraiser each year, support of this outing helps us to further our mission of promoting peace in Northern Ireland and economic development throughout all of Ireland.

If you're not a golfer, support opportunities include tee signs and golf program ads. For more information, visit our website at [www.iiofpitt.org](http://www.iiofpitt.org) or give us a call 412-394-3900.

Golf Outing Sponsorships are still available at the following levels:

**DIAMOND SPONSOR– MAJOR SPONSOR**

- Exclusive advertising ● 4 complimentary golf tickets
- Full-page program ad on front-inside cover ● On-course tee sign
- Sponsorship Acknowledgement in program book

**PLATINUM SPONSOR**

- 4 complimentary golf tickets ● On-course tee sign
- Full-page program ad ● Sponsorship Acknowledgement in program book

**GOLD SPONSOR**

- 2 complimentary golf tickets ● On-course tee sign
- Full-page program ad ● Sponsorship Acknowledgement in program book

Please contact the Institute at 412-394-3900 for further information.

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If you would like to support the important work of the Ireland Institute of Pittsburgh in its mission of reconciliation in Northern Ireland and economic development throughout all of Ireland you can do so by making gifts of time or money. For more information on how to contribute or how to become involved with our work as a volunteer or host family, please call 412-394-3900. Ask to speak to Jim Lamb or visit our website at [www.iiofpitt.org](http://www.iiofpitt.org).

To designate your United Way gift for the Ireland Institute of Pittsburgh, please mark **4534** on your United Way pledge form.