

15th Cleraun  
Media Conference  
Dublin

Friday 17th, Saturday 18th, Sunday 19th October 2014

# Getting it right next time

DEVELOPING AN INVESTIGATIVE TOOLKIT TO HELP FILMMAKERS  
AND JOURNALISTS DEAL WITH FINANCIAL COMPLEXITY,  
CORRUPTION, BRIBERY, AND WHISTLEBLOWING

**Masterclass in documentary filmmaking**

**CLERAUN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING  
CONTRIBUTION TO JOURNALISM**

Cover picture:  
Anglo Irish Bank  
headquarters



ÚDARÁS  
CRAOLACHÁIN  
NA hÉIREANN

BROADCASTING  
AUTHORITY  
OF IRELAND



THE IRISH TIMES



THE IRISH NEWS



## GETTING IT RIGHT NEXT TIME

### Friday

**19.30 Masterclass: dealing with the challenges in making an investigative documentary film**

Screening of *Sean Quinn's Missing Millions*  
(2013 IFTA Best Current Affairs Programme for BBC NI *Spotlight*)

Interactive session with its reporter and presenter,  
Jim Fitzpatrick

Chair: Gavin Daly, Deputy Business Editor, *The Sunday Times*; co-author of  
*Citizen Quinn - A Man, an Empire, and a Family*

### Saturday

**10.00 The whistleblower and the journalist: a reflection**

Elaine Byrne

Chair: Barry Finnegan, Lecturer, Faculty of Journalism, Griffith College Dublin

**11.00 From the 2002 Ansbacher Report to the 2014 Banking Inquiry: some lessons for journalists**

Colm Keena

Chair: John Walsh, Business Editor, *The Irish Examiner*, and former Editor,  
*Business & Finance*

**12.00 Investigative journalism and stress — some advice based on personal experiences**

Angelina Fusco

Chair: Senator Susan O'Keeffe

**13.00 Lunch**

**14.00 Irish housing bubble: did the media reflect the views and interests of those in power?**

Julien Mercille

Dan O'Brien

Chair: Laura Lynott, Senior Journalist, *The Irish Daily Mail*

**15.00 The Mahon Tribunal and Tom Gilmartin**

Frank Connolly

Chair: Stephen Desmond, Senior Lecturer in Film & Television, Southampton  
Solent University

**16.00 Coffee**

**16.30 Critical components of a must-have investigative toolkit**

Rita O'Reilly

Chair: Nick Webb, Business Editor, *The Sunday Independent*, and co-author with  
Shane Ross TD of *The Untouchables* (2012) and *Wasters* (2010)

**17.30 Roundtable to develop a set of recommendations**

**18.00 Finish**

Developing an investigative toolkit to help filmmakers and journalists deal with financial complexity, bribery, corruption and whistleblowing

### Sunday

**11.00 Whistleblowing legislation: implications for media professionals**

Lauren Kierans

Chair: Gráinne Madden, Chair, Transparency International Ireland

**12.00 NAMA and transparency**

Gavin Sheridan

Chair: Gavan Reilly, Political Correspondent, Today FM

**13.00 Lunch**

**14.00 Carnegie Trust Roundtable: Finance and economics, national and global: do journalists and citizens need more education and training?**

Chair: Paul McNamara, Lecturer, School of Communications, Dublin City  
University

Stephen Kinsella

Carmel Crimmins

Brian O'Donovan

Kate Shanahan

Seamus Dooley

Julia Paul

Margaret E Ward

Reynaldo Rivera

DIT media students survey group

**15.30 Editors' Forum: Squaring the Resources' Circle**

Chair: Peter Feeney, Press Ombudsman

Kevin O'Sullivan

David Nally

Pádraic Ó Ciardha

Pat Leahy

Paul Drury

Noel Doran

**17.00 Keynote address:**

**Why investigative journalism is entering a new golden age**

Gerard Ryle

Chair: Ian Kehoe, Business Editor, *The Sunday Business Post*; 2013 Business &  
Economics Journalist of the Year; co-author of *Citizen Quinn - A Man, an Empire,  
and a Family*

**18.00 Presentation of the 2014 Cleraun Award for Outstanding Contribution to Journalism**

# SPEAKERS

**Jim Fitzpatrick** is an award-winning independent broadcaster and journalist with a specialist interest in Ireland's economics and politics. Until recently he held the post of Economics and Business Editor for the BBC in Ireland. Previously, he fronted much of BBC NI's political coverage as the presenter of *The Politics Show*, Stormont programming, and party conferences. He has also led investigations for BBC current affairs flagship, *Spotlight*. His investigation into the collapse of Sean Quinn's business empire and hunt for missing assets won the programme the 2013 Irish Film and Television Award for best current affairs programme. He has also worked as part of BBC Northern Ireland's presenting team during election coverage and has regularly presented on Radio Ulster. Prior to joining the BBC, he worked as an investigative reporter with UTV from 2000. His other positions included Corporate PR Director, Drury Communications, 1999–2000; Business Editor and other positions with *The Irish News*, 1996–1999; News Editor, Townland Radio, Cookstown, 1995–1996. He also has experience of independent production and was part-owner of one of Northern Ireland's leading production companies before it was acquired by Ten Alps Plc.



**Dr Elaine Byrne** ([www.elaine.ie](http://www.elaine.ie)) writes for *The Sunday Independent* and is an associate researcher with the Global Irish Studies Centre at the University of New South Wales. Before moving to Australia in 2013, she was a political columnist with *The Irish Times*, *The Sunday Business Post*, and *The Guardian*, and was nominated for three national media awards for investigative journalism. In 2014 she was awarded a Simon Cumbers grant and reported from the Pacific Islands. Author of *Political Corruption in Ireland 1922–2010: A Crooked Harp?*, which in 2014 was included in *The Books That Define Ireland*, she was appointed in 2012 as the Irish expert on corruption to the European Commission. She was a lecturer on politics in Trinity College Dublin, and her research has been published in international academic publications. She is an editor with [www.politicalreform.ie](http://www.politicalreform.ie) and a founder of the Irish deliberative democracy project "We the Citizens", which served as the template for the Constitutional Convention. From Carlow, she was educated at the University of Limerick.



**Colm Keena** is public affairs correspondent with *The Irish Times*. He has reported on the McCracken, Moriarty and Mahon tribunals; the personal financial affairs of the former Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern and the late Charles Haughey; Sean Quinn family's battles with Anglo Irish Bank; the taxation of multinationals; and numerous other topics. In 2011 he and the former editor of *The Irish Times*, Geraldine Kennedy, won an important case in the Supreme Court concerning the right to protect journalistic sources. The case arose from his report on the Mahon Tribunal's investigation into Bertie Ahern's finances and the tribunal's order, which he and Geraldine Kennedy refused to comply with, namely that they co-operate with an inquiry into the sources for that report. He is the author of books on Bertie Ahern, Charles Haughey, the Ansbacher Deposits, and Gerry Adams. He won the 2013 UCD Smurfit Business School Journalist of the Year Award in the economic and business commentary category.



**Angelina Fusco** was Editor of TV News at BBC Northern Ireland until June 2013. She spent over 30 years as a journalist with the BBC — covering the Troubles and the Good Friday Agreement — and was Editor of its IFTA award-winning flagship BBC *Newsline* programme for 15 years, delivering live programmes and special half-hour documentaries on occasions. She introduced the bite-size investigations for tea time audiences, covering First Minister Peter Robinson's land sale; Policing Board chairman Barry Gilligan's building developments; badger-baiting; cockfighting; and child prostitution. In 2012 she was awarded an Ochberg Fellowship by the Dart Centre for Journalism and Trauma at Columbia University in New York, and was appointed a Senior Fellow in 2014. Its programmes allow senior journalists to deepen their knowledge of emotional trauma and psychological injury, while improving the quality of reporting on violence, conflict and tragedy. She began her career as a reporter with *The Irish News* in Belfast. She now works as an independent consultant, helping individuals and groups tell their stories more effectively on traditional and digital platforms.



**Dr Julien Mercille** is a lecturer in the School of Geography, Planning and Environmental Policy at University College Dublin. He specialises in US foreign policy, and in the role of the media in the ongoing economic crisis. His latest book, *The Political Economy and Media Coverage of the European Economic Crisis: the Case of Ireland* (Routledge), was released in August 2014. He is a regular contributor to news media outlets like *Truthout*, *Social Europe Journal*, *Asia Times*, and *CounterPunch*, and acts as an expert on shows such as TV3's *Tonight with Vincent Browne* and radio programmes on RTÉ and elsewhere. His academic publications have appeared in the *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, *New Political Economy*, *Third World Quarterly*, and many other journals and books. He is currently writing a book on the Irish economy after the crash. Originally from Canada, he has degrees from UCLA, the University of Kentucky, and McGill University in Montreal.



**Dan O'Brien** is Chief Economist at the Institute of International and European Affairs, one of Ireland's leading think tanks, and a columnist and economics analyst for the Independent Newspaper group. For three years from mid-2010, he was Economics Editor of *The Irish Times*, analysing and commenting on a wide range of Irish, European and global issues. He is Adjunct Senior Research Fellow at the School of Politics and International Relations at University College Dublin. Earlier, he spent a dozen years, based in London and Geneva, as senior economist and editor at the Economist Intelligence Unit, an arm of The Economist Newspaper Group. He has also worked for the European Commission and as a consultant for the United Nations and Forfás. During his career, in which he has lived and worked in seven European countries, he has commented frequently in the domestic and international media, for broadcasters such as CNN and the BBC and in print, for newspapers such as *The International Herald Tribune* and *The Financial Times*. His book *Ireland, Europe and the World: Writings on a New Century* was published in 2009.



**Frank Connolly** is a distinguished investigative journalist who has worked for most Irish national newspapers. While with *The Sunday Business Post*, he broke the story on planning corruption which led to the establishment of the Flood / Mahon Tribunal on planning and payments, and his reports on Garda corruption in Donegal led to the establishment of the Morris Tribunal. He also served as Northern Ireland editor of that paper during the years leading up to and following the Good Friday Agreement of 1998. His recent book, *Thomas Gilmartin — the Man who brought down a Taoiseach* (Gill & Macmillan, 2014), has been on the best seller list in Ireland for several months. He is currently Head of Communications with SIPTU, Ireland's largest trade union, and is a regular contributor to *Village Magazine* and to other media publications and broadcasters.



**Rita O'Reilly** is the reporter behind several *Prime Time* and *Prime Time Investigates* documentaries, amongst them the highest ever rating *Prime Time Investigates — Carry on Regardless*, on Irish developers, and a report by *Prime Time* into the Stardust fire. Her work has helped contribute to political and legislative change. Her first programme, *Prime Time Investigates internet child pornography*, won TV Documentary of the Year (ESB National Media Awards, 2003). Her reporting on the May 2013 documentary on suicides in the Irish army and anti-malarial drug Lariam won her Journalist of the Year at the Irish Medical Media Awards (RTÉ Investigations Unit, 2013) and she picked up two prizes at the 2014 Justice Media Awards. Her latest documentary was *The Torture Files* (RTÉ Investigations Unit, June 2014) on interrogation methods used during internment in Ireland and sanctioned by the British State. A former press and court reporter who co-authored an award-winning bestseller on the Catherine Nevin murder trial, she is from Co. Galway.

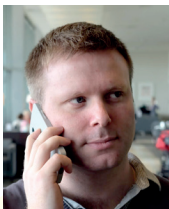


## SPEAKERS

**Lauren Kierans** is a practising barrister who specialises in whistleblowing law and is undertaking a PhD in this subject. She made a submission before the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Finance Public Expenditure and Reform on the Draft Heads of the Protected Disclosures in the Public Interest Bill 2012. On the subject of whistleblowing law, she has produced two country reports, presented a number of conference papers, and published articles in *The Irish Business Law Review*, *The Law Society Gazette* and *The Sunday Business Post*. She has been interviewed often on radio about whistleblowing legislation, most recently on *Drive Time* and *Morning Ireland* on RTÉ Radio 1. She is currently writing a textbook on whistleblowing law. She is a graduate of NUIG and TCD.



**Gavin Sheridan** was the first employee at Storyful (<http://storyful.com>) as its Director of Innovation from its inception in 2010 until after its acquisition by News Corp in December 2013 for €18m. There, he developed the core editorial techniques and web technologies that drove the discovery, verification and delivery of tens of thousands of videos (from user-generated sources) to global newsrooms — in events ranging from the Arab Spring to the London riots, the Boston bombing, the Ukraine revolution and indeed 'cat videos'. In his spare time he co-founded TheStory.ie, a website which focuses on using access to information laws to obtain data and documents from governments. Efforts there led to him to train hundreds of journalists from around Europe on access to information strategies and techniques. That website has published dozens of front page stories, and carried out several successful Information Commissioner and High Court appeals regarding the public's right to know, utilising the Aarhus Convention and multiple FOI regimes internationally. His efforts to get information from NAMA led to a High Court case which decided in 2013 that NAMA was subject to the Access to Information on the Environment (AIE) Regulations. That case was appealed to the Supreme Court and is awaiting a decision. He is also co-founder of KildareStreet.com, Ireland's open parliament platform.



**Stephen Kinsella** is a Senior Lecturer in Economics at the Kemmy Business School, University of Limerick and a Research Fellow at the Geary Institute at UCd. He is a weekly columnist for *The Irish Independent*, and regularly briefs the Irish and international print, radio, and TV media on [Irishconomy.ie](http://Irishconomy.ie). He has written four books, *Ireland in 2050: How we will be Living*; *Understanding Ireland's Economic Crisis: Prospects for Recovery*; *QuickWin Economics*; and *Computable Economics*, and some 25 journal articles. In addition to testimony before the Oireachtas, he has written policy pieces for publications like *The New York Times*, *Harvard Business Review*, *Foreign Affairs*, and *VoxEU*. He has a PhD from NUIG and a PhD from the New School for Social Research, New York.



**Carmel Crimmins** is a foreign correspondent with over a decade of experience working for Reuters news agency in Europe and Asia. Currently, as a senior financial services writer for Europe, Middle East and Africa, she helps steer coverage of the financial services sector across these regions. Before taking on the financial services beat in November 2012, she led Reuters in Ireland, helping to cover the country during its financial crisis. She was deputy bureau chief in the Philippines from 2006-2008 and was part of an award-winning Reuters' multi-media team that reported from Myanmar in 2007 on the pro-democracy protests. She also reported on a devastating cyclone that hit that country in 2008. In both cases, she had to work incognito and with a high degree of risk because of the restrictions on reporting in Myanmar. Earlier this year, she was the Mary Raftery Journalism Fund's nominee on an RTÉ Investigative Journalism course. She is a graduate of Trinity College Dublin and of the London School of Economics and Political Science.



**Brian O'Donovan** has been TV3's Finance Correspondent since 2009 and has covered the country's economic collapse and banking crisis as well as reporting on all the major business and finance stories for the station. Prior to being appointed to the role of Finance Correspondent, he worked as a news reporter for TV3, covering a variety of breaking stories at home and abroad. He has produced and presented several documentaries. He won a TV Now Award in 2009 for a crime series called *Lawless Ireland* which used undercover filming to expose criminal activities such as drug dealing, football hooliganism and late night street violence. He won a Justice Media Award in 2010 for a series of news reports on home repossessions, and again in 2011 for his coverage of the bankruptcy courts.



**Kate Shanahan** is Head of Journalism and Communications, DIT School of Media, and an award-winning journalist and radio and TV producer. She has worked as a facilitator on the Council of Europe MEDIANE programme which is researching training tools around diversity in media. She began her career in *The Irish Press* and then moved to RTÉ Radio One where she worked as a senior / series producer across a wide range of programmes including *Today with Pat Kenny*, *Liveline*, *Saturday View*, *Drivetime*, *Tonight with Vincent Browne*, *The Sunday Show* and *The Arts Show*. Moving to the independent television sector, she worked as a producer, series producer and later executive producer in lifestyle and current affairs strands. She worked as senior producer on Election 2002 and Election 2007 for RTÉ Radio One as well as the 2007 Northern Ireland elections. She was series producer on *The Big Bite* with David McWilliams and *Crimecall* on RTÉ 1 TV. Her book *Crimes worse than death* (Cork University Press), an analysis of violence and social change in Irish society, won a Justice and the Media award. At DIT she lectures in both the taught MA and undergraduate journalism degree programmes. She has a BA from UL and an MPhil from TCD.



**Séamus Dooley** is Irish Secretary of the National Union of Journalists and served as a member of the Press Industry Steering Committee which laid the foundations for the Press Council of Ireland (PCI) and the Office of Press Ombudsman. He is a member of the PCI Code committee and of the administrative committee of the council. A native of Ferbane, Co Offaly, he is a graduate of the College of Commerce, Rathmines. He worked as a reporter with *The Tullamore Tribune*, was Editor of *The Roscommon Champion* and later a sub editor with *The Irish Independent* before his appointment as a full-time official with the NUJ. He is the official spokesperson for the union on industrial and professional issues and was a member of the union's steering committee which drafted the NUJ submission to the Levenson Inquiry. He is a member of the Executive Council of the Irish Congress of Trade Union.



**Margaret E. Ward** is an entrepreneur and financial journalist. Over a 25-year career in journalism with *The Irish Times*, *The Sunday Times* and Newstalk 106-108FM, she demystified financial and economic concepts for audiences through the use of clear English, visual thinking, and humour. In recent years she established several voluntary groups to help journalists improve their skills: MediaThink, a peer-to-peer training network for journalists; the website [journalist.ie](http://journalist.ie), a shop-front for the work of freelance journalists; and Women on Air, a networking group and media resource tool that helps increase diversity on the airwaves. She began her career working in investment banking in New York City and moved to Dublin in 1995. Today, she is CEO of Clear Ink (<http://clearink.ie>) and Broadly Speaking (<http://broadlyspeaking.ie>).



# SPEAKERS

**Julia Paul** is a lecturer in the practice of broadcasting at Queen's University Belfast, and an award-winning broadcast journalist, who has worked as a reporter and producer for BBC television and radio for nearly 20 years. As well as reporting for the BBC News Channel, Radio Five Live, Radio Four, and the World Service, she has also worked as a fixer/producer for Al Jazeera English and reported for *The Mirror*. In Northern Ireland she was the assistant producer and reporter for the influential television programme *Hearts and Minds*, which introduced new ways of covering politics as Northern Ireland moved to a post-conflict society. An analysis of her work for this programme will form the basis of her PhD. She also has extensive international experience in training journalists, specialising in countries emerging from conflict. She is currently working with women's writing groups in Kabul in Afghanistan to collect oral histories and creative stories, as part of a research project funded by the British Council.



**Reynaldo Rivera** is Director of InterMedia Social Innovation ([www.intermediasocialinnovation.org](http://www.intermediasocialinnovation.org)), an international NGO that designs and manages social innovation projects which promote the rights and development opportunities of children and young people, and of Interaxion ([www.interaxiongroup.org](http://www.interaxiongroup.org)), a social media education programme for teenagers. He is Director of the Online Diploma in Human Rights ([www.humanrightscourses.org](http://www.humanrightscourses.org)), and lectures on scientific journalism at Istmo University in Guatemala. He is the main researcher for Safe Social Media ([www.safesocialmedia.eu](http://www.safesocialmedia.eu)), which is funded by the EU, and is a director of the Institute for University Cooperation ([www.icu.it](http://www.icu.it)), an Italian NGO which carries out development projects in Africa, Latin America and Asia, and which is an ECHO (European Community Humanitarian Office) partner for emergency relief programmes. He was born and educated in Argentina.



**Kevin O'Sullivan** was appointed Editor of *The Irish Times* in June 2011. He had previously been News Editor (2006-2011), Night Editor (2005-2006), Founding Editor of *Healthplus* supplement (2004-2005), Special Projects Editor (2000-2004), Deputy/Assistant News Editor (2000-2001), and Environmental & Food Science Correspondent (1997-1999). Before joining *The Irish Times*, he worked with *The Connacht Tribune* and *The Tuam Herald*. He has a degree in microbiology and biochemistry from UCD, and a graduate diploma in journalism from DCU. He has a particular interest in the environment, science and technology. He directed a theatre production in Galway to mark the 75th anniversary of 1916.



**David Nally** has been Managing Editor, RTÉ Current Affairs (TV), since 2012. He produced the coverage of the visits of Queen Elizabeth and President Obama to Ireland in 2011, as well as *Battle Station*, a TV History of RTÉ Television, with John Bowman in 2012. He was Editor, *The Frontline*, from 2009 to 2011; Editor, RTÉ Current Affairs (TV), from 2003 to 2008; Executive Producer, *Prime Time*, from 2002 to 2003; and a reporter with RTÉ Current Affairs from 1994 to 2001. Before joining RTÉ, he was a reporter with *The Sunday Tribune* from 1989 to 1994. He studied Economics and Maths in TCD, obtained a Graduate Diploma in Journalism from DCU, and has a Masters in Business Studies from UCD.



**Pádraic Ó Ciardha** is Leascheannasaí (Deputy Chief Executive) of TG4. He has been a senior executive with the station since its inception, almost twenty years ago. He has extensive experience in broadcasting policy and journalism, and was a central figure in the establishment and development of the Irish language television service. His earlier career had been in journalism and academics. His broadcasting career began when he established the Raidió na Gaeltachta bureau in Dublin. He went on to become a member of the team which devised and established the flagship breakfast time radio news programme *Morning Ireland* on RTÉ Radio 1 in the mid 1980s and was subsequently Programme Editor (radio and TV) with RTÉ's Irish language *Nuacht* service. His current TG4 responsibilities include corporate affairs, compliance and complaints and public relations.



**Pat Leahy** is Acting Editor of *The Sunday Business Post*, and its Political Editor. He joined the paper in 1999 and has worked on its political staff since 2002. His first book, *Showtime: the Inside Story of Fianna Fáil in Power*, was published by Penguin in 2009 and became a best seller. In 2011 he made a two-part television documentary on the fall of the Fianna Fáil-Greens coalition, *Crisis: Inside the Cowen Government*, which was broadcast by RTÉ 1 TV. Last year, his second book, *The Price of Power: Inside Ireland's Crisis Coalition* was also published by Penguin. From Clonmel, he attended school at Rockwell College, holds a degree in law from University College Dublin, and was a Reuters fellow at Oxford University. While studying at UCD, he founded the weekly newspaper, *The University Observer*, with comedian Dara O'Briain.



**Noel Doran** is the Editor of the *Irish News*. He was appointed to the post in 1999, and is now the longest serving editor of any Irish daily newspaper, north or south. He joined the paper as deputy editor in 1993, having previously been duty news editor with Downtown Radio, local government correspondent of the *Belfast Telegraph*, and a news reporter with the same paper in both Belfast and Derry. His journalistic career began with the *Antrim Guardian* in 1978.



**Paul Drury** served as Managing Editor of Associated Newspapers Ireland from 2008 until 2011 and now works as a freelance columnist and commentator. He is a member of the Press Council of Ireland. A native of Dublin, he was the launch editor of the *Irish Daily Mail* in 2006. In a journalistic career spanning more than 30 years, he also served as editor of the *Irish Mail on Sunday*, *Ireland on Sunday*, the *Evening Herald*, the *Irish Daily Star* and the weekly Irish language newspaper, *Amárach*, as well as holding a number of senior editorial positions with *The Irish Independent*. He has a BA in Journalism and an MA in Applied Irish from DIT.

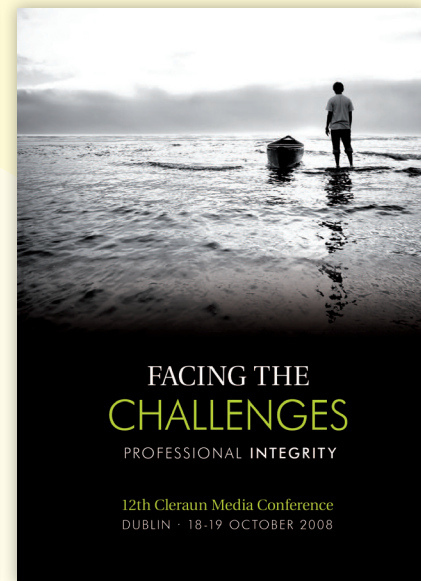
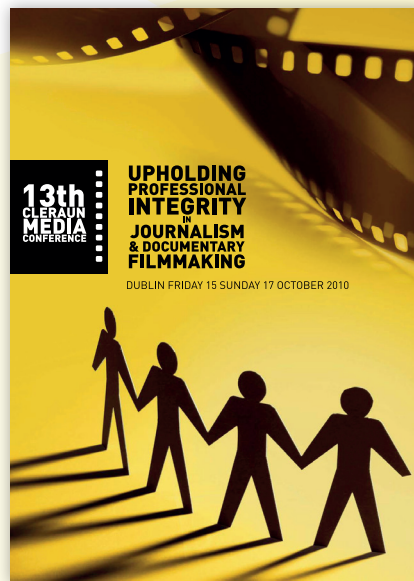
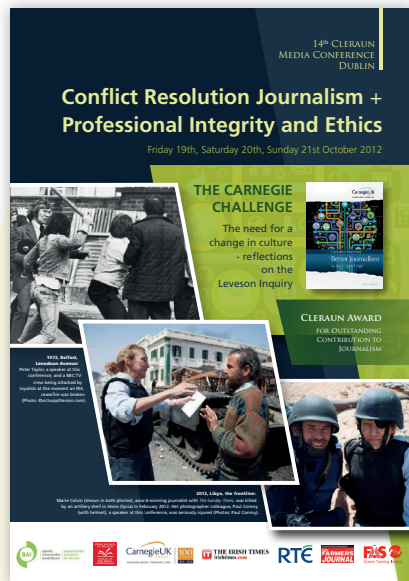


**Gerard Ryle** is the director of the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists ([www.icij.org](http://www.icij.org)) in Washington, an organization that brings investigative reporters from around the world to work on major cross-border projects. In 2013 and 2014, ICJ brought together 112 journalists from more than 50 countries to work on a massive leak of tax haven data. It made headlines around the world and led to resignations, changes in law, and other government actions on four continents. It was described as perhaps the biggest cross-border collaboration in journalism history. Before joining as the ICJ's first non-American director in September 2011, he spent 26 years working as an investigative reporter, author and editor in Australia and in his native Ireland. He won Australia's top journalism prize five times and has numerous other awards, including honours from the Overseas Press Club of America, Investigative Reporters and Editors, Harvard, and the University of Liege. He is a graduate of the College of Commerce, Rathmines and a former Knight-Wallace Journalism Fellow at the University of Michigan. His first jobs in journalism were at *The Sligo Champion*, *The Longford Leader* and *The Longford News*. In May 2014 he was named one of 100 "Information Heroes" in honour of World Press Freedom Day by Reporters Without Borders, where his work with ICJ was described as "the future of investigative journalism worldwide."



# CLERAUN MEDIA CONFERENCES

Scheduled to take place every two years, the Cleraun Media Conferences began in 1986 and have gradually grown in stature. They now constitute an important forum where media practitioners can address and discuss ethical and professional issues which arise in the course of their work in a positive and constructive way. The Cleraun Media Forum, with its evening seminars between conferences, helps to make this an on-going process.

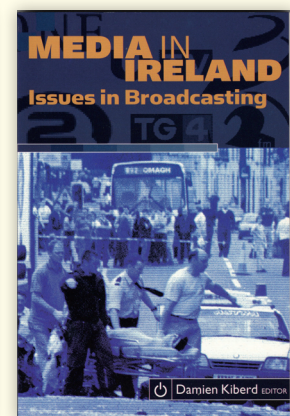
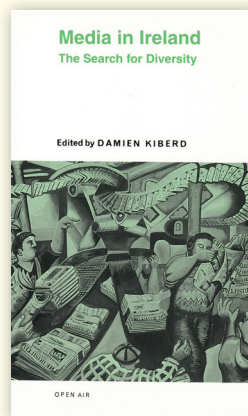


Earlier conferences led to the publication of the following books:

*Media in Ireland: the search for diversity*  
(ISBN 1-85182-315-8)

*Media in Ireland: the search for ethical journalism*  
(ISBN 1-85182-509-6)

*Media in Ireland: issues in broadcasting*  
(ISBN 1-85182-624-6)



Speakership from Ireland at the Cleraun Media Conferences and Cleraun Media Forum have included: (in alphabetical order)

David Adams, Tony Allwright, Rolande Anderson, Kevin Bakhurst, Michael Beattie, David Begg, Trevor Birney, Conor Brady, Mark Brennock, John Burke, Jack Byrne, Anne Cadwallader, Colman Candy, Sarah Carey, Marc Coleman, Bob Collins, Tim Pat Coogan, Farrel Corcoran, Carol Coulter, Paul Cullen, Noel Curran, Mary Curry, Jim Cusack, David Davin-Power, Jamie D'Alton, Jamie Delargy, Richard Delevan, Noel Dempsey, Stephen Desmond, Noel Doran, Jim Dougal, Richard Downes, Joe Duffy, Roisín Duffy, Clare Duignan, Sean Duignan, Martina Durac, Ryle Dwyer, Rachael English, Mick Fealty, Brian Feeney, Peter Feeney, Mary Fitzgerald, Martin Fitzpatrick, Philip Gallagher, Alan Gilsenan, Cathal Goan, Leo Goodstadt, Bernie Grogan, Ursula Halligan, Hugh Hannigan, Noirín Hegarty, Mark Hennessy, Peter Johnston, Peter Kelly, Mary Kenny, John Kerry Keane, Colm Keena, Damien Kiberd, Ian Kirk-Smith, Tom Kitt, Pat Leahy, George Lee, Joe Lee, Matt Leigh, Hugh Linehan, Andrew Lynch, Alf McCreary, Dearbhail McDonald, Michael McDowell, Juno McEnroe, Eugene McGee, Louis McRedmond, Adrian Moynes, Joe Mulholland, Mags Murphy, Paddy Murray, Breda O'Brien, Mark O'Brien, Ciaran O'Connor, Rory O'Connor, Maggie O'Kane, Emily O'Reilly, Barbara O'Shea, Tomás Ó Síocháin, Kevin O'Sullivan, Andy Pollak, Martina Purdy, David Quinn, Kevin Rafter, Colm Rapple, Richard Roche, John Rosborough, Des Rushe, Stephen Ryan, Kate Shanahan, Helen Shaw, Maurice Sweeney, Ronan Tynan, Mary Wilson, Kieron Wood, Joe Zefran.

# MEDIA REPORTS

MEDIA CONFERENCE

## Investigative current affairs to return but RTÉ faces pressures

Laura Slattery

RTÉ'S INVESTIGATIVE current affairs programmes will be back on air "big time" within a few months, but broadcaster's journalism continues to face financial pressures, warned managing director of RTÉ News and Current Affairs Kevin Bakhurst.

In his first public address since joining RTÉ from the BBC in September, Mr Bakhurst yesterday told the Cleraun Media Conference in Dublin that despite the "partial shield" of public funding, RTÉ had to contend with "an 800lb gorilla" in the shape of BS&R.

"Sky is sucking money out of the marketplace," he said. Mr Bakhurst confirmed that RTÉ will review the impact that the closure of its London bureau has had on its coverage and will look at whether the practice of sending reporters to and from Britain to cover stories such as that of the missing Welsh child April Jones was "the most efficient way of doing it".

The former controller of the BBC News channel said he had made it clear when he took the RTÉ job that it "absolutely should be in the game" when it comes to foreign news, but he cautioned that such coverage could be "highly expensive".

He added that he would have



Kevin Bakhurst: ruled out possibility of breakfast TV show

preferred if experienced news staff who accepted voluntary redundancy or early retirement offers had stayed, but "RTÉ needed the money".

He also ruled out the possibility of launching a breakfast television show. "Breakfast television isn't cheap... it costs money," he said. However, RTÉ plans to develop the RTÉ News Now channel, "and that might include beefing up some of the earlier coverage".

Mr Bakhurst said it was important for the broadcaster to get investigative journalism back on screen following the hiatus that resulted from the *A Mission to Prey* libel, which led to the axing of the *Prime Time Investigator* series earlier this year.

"We still maintain a level of

trust that many other media organisations would envy," he said. "However, we do have to acknowledge our journalism costs money to deliver."

When it comes to the future shape of RTÉ, "a lot depends" on commercial revenue trends. "RTÉ has made a commitment to break even next year. It's no secret, and TV5 has said the same, that commercial income is down badly."

The conference is held at Cleraun's university centre near UCD, where spiritual guidance is provided by the Catholic institution Opus Dei.

National Union of Journalists' Irish secretary Seamus Dooley said the "appalling" treatment of Rupert Murdoch had failed to learn the lessons of the Leveson inquiry into UK press standards.

Six employees of the *Irish Sun* based in its newsroom have been told they will be made redundant following editor Mick McNeill's exit and a decision by News International to implement changes described as bringing "more of the DNA that lies at the heart of the Sun into the Irish edition".

Mr Dooley said he had "experienced directly the fear felt by News International staff deemed to lack what was called the Sun DNA" and said they were being denied the right to collective representation.

EYEWITNESS

## Photojournalist recalls shellfire attack that killed colleagues

Laura Slattery

PAUL CONROY isn't a fan of crawling through cramped tunnels. "Pothing should be banned," the British photojournalist joked at the Cleraun Media Conference in Dublin on Saturday. When you have to bend double as Syrian rebels smuggle you into a combat zone through an increasingly airtight 3km storm drain it helps to have a dark sense of humour.

The storm drain, 4ft high, was the route he took with his colleague, *Sunday Times* foreign correspondent Marie Colvin, last February on their way to Baba Amr, a district in the Syrian city of Homs.

Conroy was badly wounded in Baba Amr in a shellfire attack that killed Colvin and French photographer Rémi Ochlik.

Conroy thought the shelling had stopped and was reaching for his camera when the final shell landed. He reached down to find there was a big hole in his left leg.

"I just felt like someone had hit me with a hammer."



Marie Colvin: "summed up the brutality of what was happening"

He tied his wound with a cable. "That's when I went looking for Marie. I fell over her in the rubble. I knew instantly that she was dead."

A fraught escape from Syria on the back of a motorbike and multiple operations later, Conroy is now recovering.

He uses a crutch and is on morphine, but owes his life to the Syrian field hospital that treated him - there was no anaesthetic.

just the odd cigarette.

"I didn't get out for six days, which was a bit hairy, because they had our location and they were trying to bomb us," Conroy recalled.

Journalists used to be seen as set apart from combatants - in the Balkans in the 1990s he had been able to cross from one side to another, staying both independent and safe. It's not like that anymore, which poses ethical challenges as well as immediate dangers. Journalists are targets.

The night before Colvin died they had decided she should do live Skype reports for CNN and BBC World in case this was their last opportunity.

"Really, that was the beginning of our end, the live transmissions, because Marie was so powerful and she summed up the brutality of what was happening," he said. "We must have irritated someone in Damascus."

After he returned home he discovered there had been a \$1 million bounty on his head just for being in Syria. "I thought I was only worth 85 quid."

## 'Dissident journalists' find the going tough up North

REPORTERS IN Northern Ireland who go against official lines are being dubbed "dissident journalists", documentary maker Trevor Birney told the Cleraun Media Conference in Dublin last weekend.

"I think it's incredible that someone could come up with the phrase dissident journalism, never mind use it as a label," he said.

"Dissident" journalists would find it "very difficult to shake off" the tag when dealing with "obfuscating" official sources, he said.

The lack of an opposition in the Northern Ireland parliament as a result of the power-sharing agreement makes the problems of a weak fourth estate "particularly acute", he argued.

Newspapers in Belfast are struggling "to do anything other than copy and paste press releases", while British television regulator Ofcom's decision to slash UTV's current affairs obligations in 2009 has also had a wider impact on investigative journalism in

the region, said Birney, who co-founded the production company Below the Radar. It also runs the philanthropy-funded investigative news website, the Detail.

"This year has been the worst year for BBC investigations," he said. "We've got a huge amount of talk, but we have very little investigative journalism."

An Ofcom report published in July found that broadcasters' total spending on current affairs in Northern Ireland had declined by 36 per cent since 2006 - a larger decrease than in England, Scotland and Wales. Spending on the genre plunged 23 per cent between 2010 and 2011.

Birney says there are 160 press officers in Stormont - more than there are journalists in Belfast newsrooms.

"Many of the press officers take Alistair Campbell as the person they want to be," he told the conference, not intending it as a compliment.



Seat of power: there are 160 press officers in Stormont - more than there are journalists in Belfast newsrooms, according to documentary maker Trevor Birney



From left, Blair Jenkins, former director of broadcasting at Scottish Television and head of news and current affairs at STV and BBC Scotland; Emily O'Reilly, ombudsman and information commissioner; Marie Colvin, chair of the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland; and Mark Purdy, creator of the Sluggo O'Toole website, at the weekend Cleraun Media Conference - Standards, Choice and Access in the News Media - at Cleraun University Centre, Mount Merrion, Dublin. Photograph: Matt Kavanagh

## Digital revolution threatens to create two-tier society, conference warned

Carl O'Brien

THEIR IS A danger the digital revolution was creating a "two tier" society where those without access to technology are increasingly left behind.

Cleraun media conference in association with the Carnegie UK Trust - one of the world's oldest and largest trusts - warned that the digital revolution was creating a "two tier" society where those without access to technology are increasingly left behind.

with citizens and to understand the value of our democratic system - the only way to support this is by being open and fair and accessible to all. The only way to do this is to be the central DNA of any democratic system, organisation, and institution, or to be the central DNA of any democratic system, organisation, and institution, or to be the central DNA of any democratic system, organisation, and institution.

"In the end, integrity is not an app. It's not something you can click on and download to make something trustworthy and fair and accessible. It's not the software. It has to be the central DNA of any democratic system, organisation, and institution, or to be the central DNA of any democratic system, organisation, and institution, or to be the central DNA of any democratic system, organisation, and institution."

# CLERAUN



Cleraun is a university centre and residence for third level students. It has study rooms, lecture and seminar facilities, which are open to non-resident students. Opened in 1982, it has organised many cultural and educational activities for students, including aid projects rural Uganda, in the Andes mountains of Peru, in Russia and the Baltic countries.

Cleraun has a small oratory and a resident chaplain. Activities of Christian formation are entrusted to Opus Dei (www.opusdei.ie), a prelature of the Catholic Church, which offers pastoral care and spiritual guidance to help people encounter God in everyday life.

1. Monday, October 22, 2012  
*The Irish Times*
2. Thursday, October 25, 2012  
*The Irish Times*
3. Wednesday, November 9, 2011  
*The Irish Times*

# SHOULD THE MARKETS REIGN SUPREME?

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Because risk from banking is more abstract than risk from plane crashes or shoddy bridge construction, flawed claims about banking may have more staying power. However, the harm from a distorted and dangerous financial system is large and affects many people. The current regulations can be greatly improved, bringing large benefits to society. And understanding the issues does not require advanced training. If more people understand the issues, we have a chance of getting serious reform.

Anat Admati, Professor of Finance and Economics, Stanford University, Statement to the US Senate Committee on Banking, 31 July 2014

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It's as if people are applying to housing an idea described by Frederick Lewis Allen in his 1931 book, *Only Yesterday*. Before the stock market collapsed in 1929, he said, people thought that "every crash of the past few years had been followed by a recovery, and that every recovery had ultimately brought prices to a new high point. Two steps up, one step down, two steps up again — that was how the market went." Well, people have certainly been right that there will always be steps up and down. Unfortunately, there is no certainty that the ups will outnumber the downs.

Robert Schiller, Sterling Professor of Economics, Yale University, and joint winner of the 2013 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences, in his *New York Times* column, 29 September 2013

”

The current financial crisis can make us overlook the fact that it originated in a profound human crisis: the denial of the primacy of the human person! ... To all this we can add widespread corruption and self-serving tax evasion, which have taken on worldwide dimensions ... In this system, which tends to devour everything which stands in the way of increased profits, whatever is fragile, like the environment, is defenceless before the interests of a deified market, which becomes the only rule ... Ethics has come to be viewed with a certain scornful derision. It is seen as counterproductive, too human, because it makes money and power relative. It is felt to be a threat, since it condemns the manipulation and debasement of the person.

Pope Francis, *The Joy of the Gospel*, 24 November 2013

## Registration

To attend the conference, prior registration is required. Only those who have registered and paid in advance can be guaranteed a place.

The conference fees, which include lunch and coffee breaks, are:

Student: **€30**

Other: **€60**

Register at: [www.cleraunmedia.com](http://www.cleraunmedia.com)

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## Sponsorship

**Sponsorships for 2014 are gratefully acknowledged from:**

The Broadcasting Authority of Ireland, RTÉ, The Irish Times, The Press Council of Ireland and the Office of the Press Ombudsman, TG4, DIT, The Carnegie UK Trust, The Irish Farmers' Journal, The Irish News, InterMedia.



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