CLERAUN MEDIA CONFERENCES

The Cleraun Media Conferences, scheduled to take place every two years, began in 1986 and have grown in stature since. They have focused on a broad range of topics including public service broadcasting and democracy; the role of government press offices in the peace process; the new media monopolies; whether media practitioners have a brief to change society; ethical issues in news reporting; coverage of conflict; advertising; the media on terrorism, violence and crime; the use of broadcasting bans by government, including the views of a US journalist who was a hostage in the Lebanon; opening access to the airwaves and community radio; investigative journalism; Church-media relations; regional versus national press; media education.

Media in Ireland: the search for diversity, a book based on the 1996 conference, was launched by the Minister for Education, Mr Micheál Martin TD, in the National Library in September 1997. It examines the increasing concentration of media ownership and the implications this may have for the work of individual journalists and the preservation of unique cultures and identities. With chapters by Professor Joseph Lee, Bob Collins, Damien Kiberd, Dr Brian Feeney, David Begg, Colm Rapple, and Joanna Bogle, and following widespread interest on radio and in the press, this book is now in its second printing. It is hoped that the 1998 conference will give rise to another book.



"Much else in this book (*Media in Ireland: the search for diversity*) should cause journalists and editors to blush. It is more important, however, that they find a way of acknowledging the stimulation and responding to the arguments" (*The Sunday Tribune*, 14 September 1997).

WHOSE TRUTH IS IT ANYWAY?

Developing editorial values and policies in Irish media



Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 February 1998

CLERAUN

Cleraun is a study centre and hall of residence for third level students. It also caters for senior secondary school students. Since 1974 it has been fostering Christian ideals and character development, especially among young people.

The new building was opened in 1982. In addition to living accommodation and catering facilities, it has study rooms, a library, tutorial rooms, a sitting room, a chapel, and lecture and seminar facilities. There is also a separate area for activities for younger people.

Doctrinal and spiritual activities are entrusted to Opus Dei.

Cleraun and university life

As a student centre, Cleraun is ideally located beside the Foster Avenue entrance to University College, Dublin. The study rooms, and most of its other facilities and activities, are also open to non-resident students.

Throughout the year there are get-togethers with university personnel, and seminars on course material and on topics of cultural interest. Particularly successful have been courses on the media, on justice in Irish society, on Northern Ireland, and on public speaking. Student representatives attend university congresses abroad, such as the annual UNIV congress in Rome which attracts students from some 400 universities. Each summer students from Cleraun travel to remote underdeveloped areas to provide medical and infrastructural assistance. Since 1992 these workcamps have taken place among mountain communities in the Peruvian Andes and in remote areas of Uganda.

Opus Dei

Opus Dei is a prelature of the Catholic Church which aims to help ordinary lay people live up to their calling as Christians and to strive for holiness in and through their everyday work, social life, and family commitments.



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SPEAKERS

PROFESSOR CLAUDE-JEAN BERTRAND, of the French Press Institute in Paris, specialises in the study of world media and media ethics. He serves on the board of a number of international media journals and has been Visiting Professor at Syracuse University's School of Journalism. He has published widely and a new book on media ethics (*La Déontologie des médias*) was produced in 1997 by Presses Universitaires de France.

MR CONOR BRADy has been Editor of *The Irish Times* since 1986. He was Editor of *The Sunday Tribune* from 1980 to 1982 and editied the *Garda Review* from 1974 to 1975. He worked with RTE News from 1975 to 1977. He is chairman of the World Editors' Forum and a board member of the World Newspapers' Association (FIEJ).

MR SEAN DUIGNAN presents *The Week in Politics* on RTE N2 TV. Appointed RTE's Political Correspondent in 1976, he was later the main presenter on the *Six-One TV News*. He has detailed his experiences as Government Press Secretary from February 1992 to December 1994 in the book *One Spin on the Merry-Go-Round* (1995).

MR ROBERT HEALY was Executive Editor of *The Boston Globe*, and its Washington Bureau Chief for many years. His syndicated column appeared in 90 newspapers throughout the US. His reports led to the first Pulitzer Gold Medal award for his newspaper, and in the course of his career he has carried out one-on-one interviews with Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, Reagan, and Bush. He lectured at Harvard University's Institute of Politics for eight years.

PROFESSOR ROBERT PINKER is a Member of the British Press Complaints Commission and its Privacy Commissioner. He was Professor of Social Administration at the London School of Economics until 1996 and is now Professor Emeritus. He has published widely.

MR ANDY POLLAK is Education Correspondent of *The Irish Times*, where he was formerly the Religious Affairs Correspondent, Assistant News Editor, and Belfast reporter. His father came to Northern Ireland as a refugee from Czechoslovakia in 1948.

DR BRENDAN PURCELL is a Lecturer in the Philosophy Department at University College, Dublin, and a priest of the Dublin diocese. He has a special interest in Eric Voegelin, a 20thcentury political philosopher, and recently published *The Drama of Humanity: towards a philosophy of humanity in history* (1996).

MR STEPHEN RYAN is an editorial and design consultant with *The Irish Times*. He has worked as a design and photographic editor for *The Sunday Tribune* and *The Sunday Business Post*. He was formerly Group Design Editor of Thomson Regional Newspapers, Great Britain. A winner of various awards with the Society of Newspaper Design (USA), he is now a member of its international adjudicating committee.

DR KLAUS SCHÖNBACH is Professor of Mass Communication and Director of the Department of Journalism and Communication Research at the University of Music and Theatre in Hannover, Germany. He has been a Visiting Professor at Cleveland State University, Indiana University, and San Jose State University. He has published widely in English and German, and recently completed a survey of 350 German and 100 US newspapers during the period 1989-'94 with a view to ascertaining the factors in their success.

MR MAURICE SWEENEY is Design Editor with *The Sunday Tribune*. He has been Design and Production Editor with *The Sunday Business Post*, Deputy Features Editor of *The Irish Times*, and Features Editor of *The Irish Press*.

10.30 Registration 11.00 What would Socrates say? Towards a foundation in media ethics DR BRENDAN PURCELL Chair: Mr David Quinn, Editor, The Irish Catholic, Columnist, The Sunday Times 12.00 An invitation to racism? Irish daily newspaper coverage of the refugee issue MR ANDY POLLAK Chair: Mr Joe Little, Religious and Social Affairs Correspondent, RTE 13.00 Lunch Newspapers, standards, and litigation: 14.15 is there a better way? MR CONOR BRADY Chair: Mr Damien Kiberd, Editor, The Sunday Business Post 15.15 Agenda-setting, agenda-reinforcing, agenda-deflating? The role of the media in public opinion **PROFESSOR KLAUS SCHÖNBACH** Chair: Ms Helen Callanan, Deputy Editor, The Sunday Tribune 16.15 Coffee 16.45 Beyond the balance sheet: the responsibilities of media owners PROFESSOR CLAUDE-JEAN BERTRAND

SATURDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 1998

Chair: Senator Shane Ross, Business Editor, The Sunday Independent

If you wish to attend the conference, please complete and return the application form.

SUNDAY, 22 FEBRUARY 1998

10.30 IMAGE AND ETHICS .

Digital manipulation: where do you draw the line? Mr MAURICE SWEENEY

Photography in newspapers: an uneasy alliance Mr Stephen Ryan Chair: Mr Peter Mooney, Producer, *Soundbyte*, RTE Radio 1

12.00 Privacy and the Princess: can codes of conduct work? PROFESSOR ROBERT PINKER

Chair: Ms Marie McGonagle, Lecturer in Law, University College, Galway; Editor, Law and the Media: the views of journalists and lawyers (1997)

13.00 Lunch

14.15 The newspaper ombudsman: public accountability or public relations? MR ROBERT HEALY Chair: Mr Rory Godson, Ireland Editor, *The Sunday Times*

15.15 Coffee

15:45 Leaks to the media: should the information always be used? Mr Seán DUIGNAN

Chair: Senator John Dardis, Deputy Leader of the Seanad; correspondent with the *Irish Farmers' Journal*

16.45 Round table discussion

17.15 Conclusion