

IASIL JAPAN Newsletter

2012 No. 1

International Association for the Study of Irish Literatures

April 2012

1. Election of New Executive Committee Members

As the term of the present Executive Committee Members is to be over at the end of December 31, 2012, the election for the new members is scheduled from the end of April to the middle of May and the ballot counting will be in late May. If you are a good standing member of IASIL Japan, namely, a member who has paid the 2011 membership fee by the end of February of 2012, you will receive your ballot sheet by the end of April. Please return it to the office by May 15.

Ballot Counting Members are as follows: Mitsuko Ohno, Beverly Curran,
Sachiyo Yamada, and Kazuhiro Doki

2. Plans for IASIL JAPAN 2012 Conference

At the Committee Meeting held on March 17, plans for the 29th Conference of IASIL-JAPAN have been confirmed.

Dates: Oct. 6 (Sat.) & Oct 7(Sun)

Venue: Meiji University

Theme: "Irish Voyages"

Guest Speakers: Dr. Sinead Morrissey (Poet) and Dr. Irene de Angelis (Under negotiation. See more details in the item 6 at the end of this letter)

Symposium1: "Between Islands"

Chair: Ken'ichi Matsumura (Chuo University)

Panelists: Masaaki Takeda (The University of Tokyo)

Hiroko Ikeda (Hiroshima City University)

Ken'ichi Matsumura (Chuo University)

Symposium2: "Taking Wings: Birds and Flight in Irish Writing"

Chair: (to be fixed)

Panelists: Beverly Curran (Aichi Shukutoku University)

Mitsuko Ohno (Aichi Shukutoku University)

Others (to be fixed)

3. Call for Papers!

- 1) Applicants for the paper reading are requested to send the office below 250–300 words synopsis as an MS Word attachment. Besides the synopsis itself, please send details of the author's affiliation, full postal and e-mail addresses, and telephone and fax numbers by the end of May.
- 2) The length of the paper to be read at the conference should be within 20 minutes.

IASIL JAPAN Office
c/o Dr. Kazuhiro Doki
Aichi University of Education
1 Hirosawa, Igaya-cho, Kariya-city
Aichi 448-8542
Tel & Fax: 0566-26-2244
E-mail: kdoki@aecc.aichi-edu.ac.jp

4. New IASIL Japan Website

Our website is renewed on April 1(This is not a joke!). Thanks to the great efforts of Ms. Sachiyo Yamada, our treasurer, the new IASIL Japan website has obtained a new address. The new address is as follows: <http://iasil.jp>; so please look into this fashionable and user-friendly site! Also we would like to express our hearty gratitude to Prof. Peter O' Connor and Ms. Miyuki Kyotani, who have been kindly in charge of the former website for more than ten years.

5. Cosponsoring Yeats' Exhibition with the University of Tokyo

The Yeats Exhibition will be held at the Komaba Museum, University of Tokyo, May 12 - July 1. Some precious books and historical items related to Yeats will be

exhibited. A new production of *The Dreaming of the Bones* (May 19) and a lecture by Prof. Terence Brown (June 6) are also scheduled. (Details to be announced later.) Everybody is welcome; admission free.

6. About Guests invited to 2012 IASIL Japan Conference

Dr. Sinéad Morrissey was born on 24 April 1972 in Portadown, County Armagh, Northern Ireland. She has published four collections of poetry: *There Was Fire in Vancouver* (1996); *Between Here and There* (2002); *The State of the Prisons* (2005); and *Through the Square Window* (2009). Three of these collections have been shortlisted for the T. S. Eliot Prize. She was the 2002 Poetry International Writer in Residence at the Royal Festival Hall and is currently Lecturer at the Seamus Heaney Centre for Poetry, Queen's University, Belfast. Having lived and worked in Japan and New Zealand, she now lives in Northern Ireland. She was selected by the British Council to take part in the Writers' Train Project in China in 2003. In 2007 she was awarded a Lannan Literary Fellowship. Dr. Morrissey was the winner of the UK National Poetry Competition of the same year, and in 2010, *Through The Square Window* was shortlisted for the Forward Poetry Prize (Best Poetry Collection of the Year).

Dr. Irene de Angelis holds a Research Fellowship in English Literature at the University of Turin, Italy. With Joseph Woods she is co-editor of *Our Shared Japan: An Anthology of Contemporary Irish Poetry* (2007), and has published numerous articles on contemporary Irish poetry. Her most recent work, *The Japanese Effect in Contemporary Irish Poetry* (2012) provides a stimulating, original and lively analysis of the Irish-Japanese literary connection from the early 1960s to 2006. Drawing on unpublished new sources, Dr. De Angelis includes poets from a broad range of cultural backgrounds with richly varied styles: Seamus Heaney, Derek Mahon, Ciaran Carson and Paul Muldoon, together with younger poets such as Sinéad Morrissey and Joseph Woods.