

CODICIBVS SACRIS HOSTILI CLADE PERVSTIS
ESDRA DŌ FERVENS HOC REPARAVIT OPVS

LITERACY, MEMORY, SANCTITY AND THE CONVERSION OF THE ISLES

**New Sports/Students Complex,
University College Dublin,
Belfield, Dublin 4**

2–4 November 2012

Converting the Isles
A Leverhulme Trust network
www.asnc.cam.ac.uk/conversion/



PROGRAMME

Friday 2 November 2012

9.15 *Welcome* by John McCafferty, Head of University College Dublin
School of History and Archives

9.30–11.00 **Session 1: The Introduction of Literacy**

Moderator: Dr Katherine Forsyth (University of Glasgow)

Speaker 1: Dr Anthony Harvey (Royal Irish Academy), 'Insular Languages and Literacy in the Mid-First Millennium: New Questions to Some Old Answers'

Speaker 2: Professor Anne-Sofie Gräslund (University of Uppsala), 'Runestones as Evidence of the Conversion of Scandinavia'

11.00–11.30 *Tea/coffee*

11.30–13.00 **Session 2: Literacy, Memory and the Book**

Moderator: Dr Jacqueline Borsje (University of Amsterdam)

Speaker 1: Dr Mark Stansbury (National University of Ireland, Galway), 'Tales from the Script: the Coming of Latin Writing to Ireland'

Speaker 2: Dr Alan Thacker (Institute of Historical Research, London), 'Remembering the Saints: the Role of the Written Word'

12.45–14.00 *Lunch*

14.00–15.30 **Session 3: The Use of Symbols and Images**

Moderator: Dr John Sheehan (University College Cork)

Speaker 1: Professor Nancy Edwards (University of Bangor), 'Chi-Rhos, Crosses and Pictish Symbols: Inscribed Stones and Stone Sculpture in Early Medieval Wales and Scotland'

Speaker 2: Dr Lise Gjedssø Bertelsen (University of Uppsala), 'The Power of the Images of DR 42, the Larger Jelling Picture Runestone'

15.30–16.00 *Tea/coffee*

16.00–16.30 **Keynote Lecture 1:** Dr Joseph MacMahon OFM (Irish Franciscan Province), 'Has Conversion Changed? Today's Experience'

17.00 *Reception*

Saturday 3 November 2012

9.30–11.00 **Session 4: The Power of the Law**

Moderator: Dr Máire Ní Mhaonaigh (Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic, University of Cambridge)

Speaker 1: Professor Liam Breatnach (School of Celtic Studies, Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies), 'The Church in Early Irish Law'

Speaker 2: Dr Helen Foxhall Forbes (University of Exeter), 'Searching for Conversion in the Anglo-Saxon Laws'

11.00–11.30 *Tea/coffee*

11.30–13.00 **Session 5: Memory and Landscape**

Moderator: Dr Kay Muhr (Queen's University Belfast)

Speaker 1: Conor Newman (National University of Ireland, Galway), 'Conversion through the Prism of Art'

Speaker 2: Dr Alex Woolf (University of St Andrews), 'Plebs: the Parish before the Parish in the Sub-Roman West'

13.00–14.00 *Lunch (venues available on campus)*

14.00–15.30 **Session 6: The Role of the Saint**

Moderator: Professor Pádraig Ó Riain (University College Cork)

Speaker 1: Dr Sian Grønlie (University of Oxford), 'Not Quite Saints' Lives: Hagiography and Early Accounts of Iceland's Conversion'

Speaker 2: Dr Barry Lewis (University of Wales Centre for Advanced Welsh & Celtic Studies, Aberystwyth), 'The Saints in Narratives of Conversion'

15.30–16.00 *Tea/coffee*

16.00–16.30 **Keynote Lecture 2:** Dr Elva Johnston (University College Dublin), 'Reassessing Literacy in Early Medieval Ireland'

16.30–17.30 *Roundtable discussion* chaired by Dr Roy Flechner (University College Dublin, School of History and Archives, and *Converting the Isles* network convener)

Sunday 4 November 2012

11.00 *Guided visit to Tara.* A 30 seater bus will leave University College Dublin Belfield for Tara and will return to Belfield via Dublin Airport. Places will be available to the first 30 delegates to register with Dr Brittany Schorn, Network Coordinator, Department of Anglo-Saxon, Norse, and Celtic, University of Cambridge (bs321@cam.ac.uk).