

CSANA Newsletter, 9.2

Samhain, 1990



celtic
studies

association
newsletter

THE CELTIC STUDIES ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA

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Incorporated as a non-profit organization, the Celtic Studies Association has a membership drawn from the United States, Canada, Ireland, Wales, England, Europe, and Japan. CSANA produces a bi-annual newsletter and bibliographies of Celtic Studies. The bibliographies may be ordered through the Secretary-Treasurer (Professor Edgar Slotkin, English, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio 45221-0069).

Membership in CSANA is open to those with a serious interest in Celtic Studies. Dues are \$15 per year, or, for non-US residents, the equivalent of fifteen American dollars payable to "CSANA" in a check or international money order, to be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer. Members are entitled to receive the newsletter and the bibliographies as they are issued; members may also, for \$1, order a list of current CSANA members from the Secretary-Treasurer.

Call for Papers for 1991 CSANA Conference

The 1991 CSANA Conference will be held in conjunction with the Thirteenth Annual California Celtic Conference, March 14-17, on the campus of the University of California, Berkeley. David Dumville will be among the scholars participating in the meeting, to be hosted by the Berkeley Celtic Colloquium. The CSANA seminar text will be the Gododdin, and the seminar will be led by Brendan O Hehir of Berkeley.

Paper abstracts (approximately one typed, double-spaced page in length) should be sent by January 1 to Dr. Kathryn Klar, Celtic Studies Program, 301 Campbell Hall, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720.

St. Francis Xavier University of Antigonish, Nova Scotia, will be the site of the 1992 CSANA Conference, and the University of Washington (Seattle) will host the meeting in 1993.

The Fourth Irish Conference of Medievalists

The 1990 "Maynooth Conference" was held at St. Patrick's College, June 28th to 30th. Although the conference was saddened by the news of the unexpected death of its Patron, Tomas Cardinal Ó Fiaich, compensating cheer was introduced at the launching of two new Maynooth imprints by the presence of Father Pádraig Ó Fiannachta, who is recovering rapidly from his recent illness.

Three plenary papers were presented: "Missionary Deposition: Two Early Medieval Insular Shrines in Italy," by Michael Ryan; "On the Decoration of the Book of Kells," by Martin Werner; and "The Authorship of the Thirteen Sermons Attributed to Columbanus," by Clare Stancliffe. More than twenty sectional papers were given on topics including archaeology and art history, in addition to history and literature. A notable feature, in fact, of the entire conference was the extent to which it illustrated dissolving disciplinary walls. Many papers attacked what would have been viewed a short time ago as dangerously interdisciplinary problems, a good example being Patrick Sims-Williams's "The Submission of Irish Kings in Fact and Fiction: Henry II and Bendigeidfran."

The usual excellent hospitality was provided by St. Patrick's College, though the conference banquet was moved to an earlier hour to allow everyone to cheer on the Irish team in the World Cup quarter-finals.

D. F. Melia

New CSANA Bibliography

A Celtic Studies Bibliography for 1986-1988, ed. A.T.E. Matonis and Jean Ritmueller. Philadelphia: Celtic Studies Association of North America, 1990. vii + 199 pp. No ISBN. \$14.95. Available from Professor Edgar Slotkin, Treasurer of CSANA, Dept. of English, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio 45221. U.S. orders should include a check for \$16.25--\$14.95 plus \$1.30 postage (add \$0.35 for each additional book). Non-U.S. orders should include a check for \$16.50 in U.S. dollars drawn on a U.S. bank--\$14.95 plus \$1.55 postage (add \$1.00 for each additional book).

This is the second Bibliography published by the Celtic Studies Association of North America. The first volume, covering 1983-1985, is still available at the price and from the address listed above. 220 Celtic and medieval studies journals were searched for the 1990 volume, 180 for the 1987 volume. The 1990 volume has 2363 entries, 800 more than the previous volume. Entries in both volumes are cross-referenced and list book reviews for books published in the current and previous period. The second volume contains an author index.

Although both volumes are directed to Celticists working in the early stages of Celtic stages of Celtic languages and literatures, they also contain critical references to major contemporary literary figures who write in the vernacular. The

1986-1988 volume has greatly expanded its reference in the areas of Celtic-Latin literature (229 items plus 39 cross-referenced items in the 1990 volume, 114 items in the 1987 volume), Saints' Lives, and Breton.

A.T.E. Matonis
and Jean Ritmueller

News from Oxford

CSANA Member Professor D. Ellis Evans of Jesus College writes: "We have established two new postgraduate degree courses in Celtic Studies (one a two-year Master of Philosophy and the other a one-year Master of Studies--both comprising taught courses and a dissertation). . . . In the main students in Celtic have hitherto taken full-time research degrees, M.Litt. and D.Phil., and these degrees are still available, of course. We are in the new degrees trying to exploit traditional strengths and to provide a goodly range of options, enabling students to include courses that could be counted early, medieval, and modern Celtic. Teachers have agreed to teach (up to at least ten individuals, with further possibilities) from four Faculties (Medieval and Modern Languages; Modern History; English; Anthropology and Geography)." More information is available in Oxford's Examination Decrees and Regulations 1990 (for session 1990-91) and the Oxford University Gazette, February 8, 1990.

Professor Evans also writes: "The second bit of news relates to the establishment here of the Carroll chair of Irish History--an exciting new development. I hope we have a specialist with expertise in the Irish language up to modern Irish. We are looking forward to a further appointment in due course of a lecturer specialising in Irish language and literature. Time will tell!"

Announcement of a New Celtic Journal

CSANA Member James Fife informs us: "The University of Wales Press has recently decided to publish a new Journal of Celtic Linguistics on an annual basis starting in 1991. The journal will be devoted to disseminating articles, notes and reviews relating to all aspects of the linguistics of the Celtic languages, including phonology, syntax, phonetics, morphology, semantics, sociolinguistics, dialectology, diachronics and language acquisition and contact. The journal will welcome contributions from any theoretical or descriptive viewpoint. Scholars interested in submitting works are urged to contact the North American editor, Dr. James Fife, 6655 La Jolla Blvd. #11, San Diego, CA 92037, for further details."

The editor would welcome any and all information for inclusion in the next edition of the Newsletter, which will be issued in May '91. (Please write to Joseph Falaky Nagy, English, UCLA, 405 Hilgard Ave., LA CA 90024.)