

Terence MacSwiney, Cork Men's Gaol, and the Political Hunger Strike, 1920-2020

University College Cork Online Conference

Thursday, 8 October – Saturday 10 October

Programme Schedule



Cuimhneachán
Commemoration
1920-1923
Corcaigh | Cork



An Roinn
Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta

Department of
Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

Programme

Thursday, 8 October

1:00 – 1:15 pm

Opening remarks and Welcome

Professor Chris Williams,
Head of College, College of Arts, Celtic Studies & Social Sciences, UCC

1:15 to 3:00 pm

Panel A: Force feeding and hunger strike precedents

Chair: Dr Helene O'Keefe, School of History, UCC

Heidrun Mühlbradt, University of Goettingen

The Global Laboratory Ireland: Going on Hunger Strike

Meadhbh Murphy, University College Dublin

The Force in Force Feeding

Dr Tomás Mac Conmara, University College Cork

The Mountjoy Hunger Strike of 1917 and its effect on later hunger strikes

Niall Murray, University College Cork

After the strike: The revolutionary careers of Cork participants in the 1920 Wormwood Scrubs Strike

3:00 to 3:10 pm, Break

3:10 – 4:05 pm, Opening Plenary

Chair: Dr Sean Lucey, College of Business and Law, UCC

Dr Ciara Breathnach, University of Limerick

Between a rock and a few hard places: Prison Medical Officers and Hunger Strikers

4:05 – 4:15 pm, Break

4:15 - 5:05 pm, Panel B: Terence MacSwiney and the Irish language,

Discussion: Dr Neal Buttimer, UCC; Prof Traoloch O’Riordan, University of Montana; and Íde Bríd Ní Mhurchú, Independent Scholar [Discussion held in Irish]

5:05 - 5:35 pm, The Cork hunger strike today

Dr John Borgonovo in conversation: ‘Suffering the Most: The life and times of Tomas McCurtain and Terence MacSwiney’ exhibit with Cork Public Museum curator Dan Breen; ‘Citizen Nowhere’ exhibit with Crawford Gallery curator Dawn Williams; and ‘74 Days’ documentary film with director Ciara Hyland.

Friday, 9 October:

12:00 to 1:00 pm, Panel C: Interdisciplinary perspectives on hunger striking

Chair: Prof Mary Donnelly, School of Law, UCC

Dr Darius Whelan, School of Law, University College Cork
Hunger Strikes in Prison: The Legal Issues

Prof Gautam Gulati, Adjunct Associate Clinical Professor, University of Limerick
Prisoners on Hunger Strike: what is the role of Psychiatry

1:00 to 2:20 pm, Panel D: 1920 and The Cork Men’s Gaol Hunger Strike

Chair: Dr Maeve O’Riordan, School of History, UCC

Dr John Borgonovo, University College Cork
The Cork Men’s Gaol Hunger Strike of 1920

Gerard Shannon, Independent Scholar

‘Tell my people I want to be buried with Fitzgerald of Fermoy’: The impact of Michael Fitzgerald’s martyrdom on Liam Lynch

Prof Colum Kenny, DCU

To 'live for Ireland': Arthur Griffith, Acting President of Dáil Éireann 1919-1920, and the End of the Cork/Brixton Hunger-Strike

2:20 – 2:30, Break

2:30 –3:30, Panel E: The Hunger Strike and Literary Imagination

Chair: Dr Heather Laird, School of English, UCC

Síobhra Aiken, NUI, Galway

Reclaiming the ‘The Women’s Weapon’ in the Testimonial Fiction of Female Revolutionaries

Prof Luke Gibbons, Maynooth University
The Hunger Strike and Literary Modernism

3:30 – 3:45, Break

3:45 to 4:45, Panel F: Republican hunger strikes post 1920

Chair: Dr Joost Augusteijn, Leiden University

Dr Caoilfhionn Ní Bheacháin, University of Limerick

Time, Memory and Contested Narratives: The Case of Séan McCaughey (1946)

Dr Stephen Hopkins, University of Leicester

The Hunger Strike as an 'Obsolete Weapon'? The Internal Debate within Irish Republicanism after 1920

4:45 to 5:00, Break

5:00 to 5:50 pm, Panel G: The legacy of Terence MacSwiney

Dr Sarah Anne Buckley, NUIG, in conversation with Gabriel Doherty, UCC; Prof Lee Jenkins, UCC; and Dave Hannigan, Suffolk County Community College

Saturday, 10 October

12:00 to 1:20, Panel H: The hunger strike in India and China

Chair: Dr Maureen O'Connor, School of English, UCC

Prof Jerusha McCormack, Trinity College, Dublin/Beijing Foreign Studies University

Staging the Revolution: Terence MacSwiney and Guo Moruo

Dr Jyoti Atwal, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University

The Gandhian Style of Hunger Strikes: Comparisons between Irish and Indian tactics

Prof Brian Girvin, University of Glasgow

Confronting Empire: Mohandas Gandhi's Use of the Hunger Strike as a non-violent revolutionary strategy

1:20 – 1:30 Break

1:30 to 2:30, Panel I: Spirituality, ethics, and the fast as protest

Chair: Dr Jérôme aan de Wiel

Dr Jesse Harrington, Cambridge University

Indo-European, Pagan, or Christian? The pre-modern origins of fasting as a form of protest

Dr Darragh Gannon, Queen's University Belfast

'Inside the "British" Cult of Terence MacSwiney

2:30 – 2:45 pm break

2:45 - 3:45, Panel J: The MacSwiney Sisters

Chair: Dr Andy Bielenberg, School of History, UCC

Gerry White, Independent Scholar

The Diary of Annie MacSwiney and the Brixton Strike

Dr Leeanne Lane, DCU

The hunger strikes of Mary and Terry MacSwiney, 1920-1922

3:45 – 3:55, Break

3:55 – 4:55 pm, Panel K: MacSwiney on Stage

Chair: Dr Sean Lucey, UCC

Dr Patrick Maume, Royal Irish Academy

Terence MacSwiney, Daniel Corkery and the Cork Dramatic Society: civic drama and social transformation

Dr Fiona Brennan, Independent Scholar

A Hunger for Literary Fame: Terence MacSwiney's Dramatic Legacy

5:00 – 5:05, Break

5:05 – 5:50 pm, Closing Plenary

Chair: Dr John Borgonovo, School of History UCC

Dr Will Murphy, DCU

The 1920 Brixton and Cork hungers strike in context