

IRISH LIFE AND LORE SERIES

DUBLIN INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY

ITS ORIGINS AND DEVELOPMENT

CATALOGUE OF 61 RECORDINGS

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Irish Life and Lore Series

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NAME: TOM DUFF, BORN 1945, FORMER ACADEMIC REGISTRAR

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 1

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 53:02

Tom Duff was initially a lecturer in Bolton Street and served as Academic Registrar of the Institute from 1985 until his retirement in 2009. He is a native of Belfast, and in the recording he discusses his background and early education. Having attended the Royal Naval College in Portsmouth for three years as an apprentice, he returned to Belfast and worked as a draughtsman for some years. He then began his studies in Chemical Engineering at Queen's University, and from 1972 he worked with Harland & Wolff where he remained for three years. He then lectured and was later appointed Head of the Engineering Department at the Regional Technical College in Dundalk. He discusses his work as Academic Registrar in great detail in this interview. His responsibilities included the co-ordination and management of the Academic Council as well as involvement with the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland. He discusses the transition from the City of Dublin VEC to the DIT and the challenges this entailed. The changes which came about in his post over the years, and the highs and lows experienced during his career as he sees them, are all examined in this recording.



NAME: ROBBIE BURNS, BORN 1943, FORMER HEAD OF SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT OF BUSINESS FACULTY

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 2

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 59:40

Robbie Burns is a native of Larne, where he received his initial education, and in 1962 he began his studies in Applied Mathematics and the Sciences in Queen's University. On graduation, he gained employment with the Smurfit organisation and in 1978 he was appointed to a post in the College of Commerce, Rathmines. He started the first digital computer class for business students in the college using the PDP II computer, and the students numbered 25 initially. It was a Certificate course, and the students then went forward to a Diploma course. He discusses the fact that this was supported by European funding, and that his course marked the beginnings of



commercial computing, in what were exciting and challenging times in education. In 1987 he was appointed Head of the School of Management, and he discusses his time in this post until his retirement in 2008. He also gives his views on the City of Dublin VEC involvement with the nascent National Institute of Higher Education on the Ballymun project and the subsequent formation of DIT.

NAME: TOMMY SCOTT, BORN 1941, FORMER ASSISTANT HEAD OF SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 3

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 76:33

Tommy Scott grew up in central Dublin. In this recording he details his early education and his love of science. In 1960 he was employed by the Rotunda Hospital as a laboratory technician, and three years later he moved to a technician's post in the Royal College of Surgeons. He attended classes in Biochemical Sciences at the Children's Hospital in Crumlin and qualified in Microbiology. Two years later he was appointed senior technician in the College of Surgeons. In 1967 he became a senior technologist in the Federated Voluntary Hospitals, working in the Adelaide and Mercy Hospitals, and at this time he began his tenure as a part-time lecturer in microbiology in Kevin Street. He discusses the issues of importance in Kevin Street, the transition to DIT and the great courses and the great changes which occurred during the 1980s. In 1997, he was appointed Assistant Head of School, where he remained until his retirement.



NAME: TOM AMBROSE, BORN 1933, FORMER ASSISTANT HEAD OF DEPARTMENT MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 4

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 62:27

Newcastlewest, Co Limerick is the birthplace of Tom Ambrose. He recalls his early days, his initial education, and his graduation in Mathematical Science from UCD. In 1956, he began work in London for De Havilland Limited, where he remained for two years, and in 1957 he returned to Ireland and gained employment as a teacher in Electrical Engineering in Kevin Street. At that time in Ireland, technicians were in huge demand. He discusses the structure of the academic system in the college at that time. He also lectured in Mathematics and Physics at UCD, by special permission of Hugh de Lacy, Principal of Kevin Street. He provides his views on Dr Patrick Hillery and Donagh O'Malley, and the changes these men instigated in education in Ireland in the 1960s. He retired in 1996 having spent 39 years in the academic field.



NAME: NELL KANE, BORN 1918, FORMER TEACHER, COLLEGE OF MUSIC, CHATHAM ROW

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CDs 5 & 6

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 56:25 / 44:17

Nell Kane was recorded in Wicklow town, where she lives. She discusses her early life, growing up in Dublin, and attending, at the age of ten, the Municipal School of Music. She gained her Diploma in Music from Trinity College of Music London and she began her part-time teaching career at Mount Mellerary. She later taught at Muckross Park, Sion Hill, Cross and Passion Kilcullen and Christian Brothers in Crumlin. Her instruments were the cello, the viola and the violin. She formed an orchestra which went on to win a cup at Feis Ceoil. She taught in the College of Music on a part-time basis until her 79th year. She discusses the appreciation of music which has always existed in Dublin, though in the past, more appreciation but less opportunity existed. She also recalls her membership of the Legion of Mary during her youth in Dublin.



In the second section of the recording Nell Kane explains that she was a founder member of the Students' Union. She also discusses the Irish language, and Irish music, and discusses her views during her earlier days. In the 1950s she was appointed the first teacher in a new music initiative to teach music in schools in rural Co Wicklow. She discusses this in great and interesting detail. She also recalls her own orchestra and playing for a broadcast from the Radio Éireann studios in Henry Street. The strike which lasted for 13 weeks in 1976 in the College of Music is also recalled in this recording.



NAME: MONICA BONNIE, BORN 1938, FORMER TEACHER OF PERCUSSION, COLLEGE OF MUSIC, CHATHAM ROW

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 7 & 8

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 68:15 / 47:14

Monica Bonnie was recorded in Rathmines, and she initially recalls her early childhood stage performances, which she began at the age of four. She learned the piano at the Municipal School of Music in Chatham Row from the age of five, where her father Joe taught percussion. She discusses her father's performances in Dublin, and on his death, Monica was asked to take his place as a teacher of percussion at the Municipal School of Music in 1961. That year, she was one of a group of musicians who travelled to the Congo to entertain the Irish troops there. She discusses her teaching skills, and the various media of music taught at the school. She remembers all the individual music teachers who worked there down the years, and she discusses the class distinction which existed between those who had attended the Royal Irish Academy, and the attendees at the School of Music.



In the second section of the recording, Monica Bonnie recalls her childhood in Collins Avenue, Beaumont, where she grew up with her two siblings. She discusses the fabric of the buildings at Chatham Row, and she also explains that her father Joe Bonnie taught Larry Mullen, drummer with U2. He also gave him direction in his life in the early days, pointing him in the direction of his later huge success in the music world. Monica also discusses her many performances in theatre, and the enormous and detailed work in production.



NAME: FRANK HENEGHAN, BORN 1931, FORMER PRINCIPAL/DIRECTOR, COLLEGE OF MUSIC/CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC AND DRAMA; DIRECTOR OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS DIT

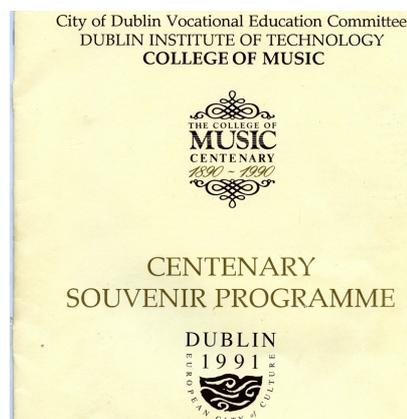
Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 9 & 10

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 79:07 / 62:36

Frank Heneghan was Principal/Director of the College of Music from 1973 – 1995. He discusses his background in Tralee, and his early education there. He graduated with an engineering degree from UCD in 1955, and following this he studied for a Music degree there and graduated two years later. He gained employment from 1957 – 1973 as a design engineer with Metropolitan-Vickers in Manchester, and then returned to Ireland where he took up the post of Principal of the College of Music. In this recording, he discusses the structural changes in the College in the 1980s, and the location of a section of the College to Adelaide Road. He discusses the full-time and part-time teachers individually, their work conditions, their teaching practices and their skills. He explains the systems employed by the NUI and by DIT in awarding degrees in earlier days. In 1979 a Joint Committee was established with the aim of bringing together the Royal Irish Academy of Music and the Dublin College of Music, and Frank Heneghan explains why this did not succeed.



In the second section of the recording, Frank Heneghan outlines the background to music education in Ireland in

general. He has a passion for the promotion of music as a subject, and discusses its establishment as a third level subject in the 1980s. He recalls his involvement in bringing in foreign music educators to the College of Music in the 1980s, and he discusses the evolution of the DCVEC until its designation as DIT in 1993. Frank Heneghan retired from the College of Music in 1996 and became Director of Cultural Affairs at DIT.

NAME: ITA BEAUSANG (NEE HOGAN), BORN 1936,
FORMER ACTING DIRECTOR, COLLEGE OF MUSIC
Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology
Collection CD 11

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 48:09

Ita Beausang was Acting Director of the College of Music from 1995 – 1996. She is a native of Cork city and her early education in music took place under Professor Aloys Fleischmann at UCC. She discusses her reasons for choosing a career in music, and her love of musicology. She obtained a PhD in 18th century music in Ireland from UCC, which was published in 1966. Her young family took precedence over the following twenty years, and in 1986 she was appointed lecturer in the College of Music. She recalls the exciting times there, as the BMusEd. degree was initiated at third level, as was a BMus Performance degree. She discusses the junior and third level areas in the College and the fact that she was appointed Acting Director along with her other duties, and the challenges this entailed. She also provides her views on the move to Grangegorman.



NAME: FRANK McMAHON, BORN 1944, FORMER HEAD OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 12 & 13

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 64:20 / 35:27

Frank McMahon retired from his position in DIT in 2010 having spent 40 years in academic life. He was born in Dublin, and attended the O'Connell Schools CBS, where he was awarded a scholarship to UCD from where he graduated with a BComm and an MBA. He then attended Sheffield University where he completed his Doctorate in Education. It is notable that as a student in UCD he captained the Irish Junior Chess team. His education completed, he spent five years working in the hotel industry before entering academic life in 1970. His initial appointment was at the Shannon College of Hotel Management, while also working at NUIG one day each week on a new MBA programme at the time. He was appointed Deputy Principal at Cathal Brugha Street in 1976, and he discusses the growth and development of the College in those days of advancement in education in Ireland. He also discusses his first challenge in getting degree recognition for Higher Level Diploma in the Hospitality Management programme. Frank McMahon served as an international external examiner at five universities. In 2000 he was appointed Director of Academic Affairs, and he explains his responsibilities in that challenging position. He says that he is most proud of setting up a unit in 1999 to provide teaching methods assessments.



In the second section of the recording Frank McMahon recalls his tenure as Deputy Principal at Cathal Brugha Street when in 1993 the DIT separated from the Dublin City VEC under its own legislation. He recalls the awarding of degrees in DIT from 1996 and discusses research in DIT, the major changes in education during his academic career, the effects of the national economy on DIT, and his views on the move to Grangegorman. He also recalls the various committees, boards and working parties in which he was involved.

NAME: JOHN MONAGHAN, BORN 1944, PROFESSOR MECHANICAL AND MANUFACTURING ENGINEERING, TCD

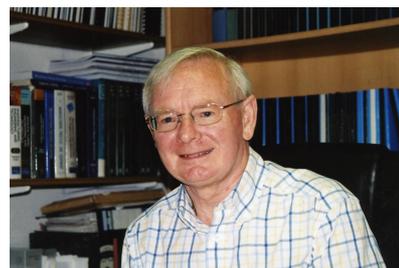
Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 14

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 50:34

John Monaghan grew up in Drimnagh in Dublin, and he initially discusses his early education. At the age of fourteen he began work as a mechanic at a local garage where his interest in mechanics was first engendered. He attended Bolton Street College to study part-time as an apprentice mechanic, and in 1967 he was appointed part-time lecturer in the Engineering Science Department. This led to full-time employment, and he discusses the changes to the syllabus during his teaching career there. In 1976 he registered for a Masters Degree in Mechanical Engineering in TCD and on graduation he began work on a PhD. In 1980, he was appointed as full-time lecturer at TCD and he explains his reasons for his decision to work there rather than at Bolton Street. He discusses his work at TCD, the workplace, and his academic colleagues and he provides his views on the reasons why DIT does not have university status. He also discusses his huge involvement with the St Vincent de Paul Society, for which he currently acts as Vice President.



NAME: TOMMY COOKE, BORN 1950, HEAD OF COMMUNITY LINKS PROGRAMME

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 15

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 47:32

Glasnevin in Dublin is the birthplace of Tommy Cooke. He attended St. Vincent's during his secondary level years, and later was employed at the Department of Agricultural Chemistry at UCD. In 1971 he also undertook a part-time course in Kevin Street to train as a science laboratory technician, and in 1982 he was offered a full-time lectureship in clinical biochemistry at Kevin Street. He discusses the development of the course, and recalls bringing students from the schools in the Liberties into Kevin Street to attempt to arouse in them an interest in further education. He discusses his time spent in Lesotho under an initiative by the Irish Government as part of the Biomedical Work programme. He also discusses the setting up of a new school for disadvantaged students in



Mountjoy Square of which he was the instigator in 1996, marking a total change of career direction. This was the origin of the Community Links programme, which was strongly supported by the late Principal Michael O'Donnell of Bolton Street.

NAME: COLM O'ROURKE, FORMER LECTURER, BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 16

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 53:26

Colm O'Rourke is a Dublin man, and in this recording he initially discusses his career in the Eastern Health Board where he worked as a technician with the Blood Transfusion Service, beginning in 1966. In 1973, he worked for a short period as a salesman with the Johnson and Johnson Group, before his appointment to a senior post at the Meath Hospital, and later at the Mater Hospital at the time when open heart surgery was being developed there. During this period he was also employed as a part-time lecturer in haematology at Kevin Street, where he later took up a post full-time. He gives his views on the facilities in Kevin Street and the major underfunding which applied. Though conditions were challenging, relations between the staff was always excellent. He discusses his views on the bureaucratic structure which exists in hospitals to this day, and he stresses the importance of keeping abreast of developments in biomedical science and in the blood transfusion area, at a time of great change.



NAME: KIERAN TAAFFE, BORN 1942, FORMER HEAD OF PHYSICS DEPARTMENT AND FORMER VICE PRINCIPAL, KEVIN STREET

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 17

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 79:03

Kieran Taaffe is a native of Co Louth. He discusses his education with the Christian Brothers in Dundalk, and later at UCG from where he graduated with a degree in physics. He remained at the college where he worked as a junior lecturer while studying for his Master's degree. He then emigrated to Sweden to work with Volvo and returned to Kevin Street as Assistant Head of Physics in 1968. He was later appointed as Head of Physics and remained in this post until 1982. He was also Chairman of the Academic



Council for 1979 – 1981. In the recording Kieran Taaffe discusses the day and night classes in the Physics Department, dealing with the IDA and Enterprise Ireland in attempting to get employment for students. His involvement with Trinity began in 1970, when the National Council for Academic Awards was established. He recalls the challenging times experienced over the decades, as funding was extremely limited, and the less than happy period in DIT from 1994 – 2000. He discusses his period as Vice Principal and Dean of Studies and International Affairs, and his enjoyment of the cut and thrust of academic debate.

NAME: BRIAN FORBES, BORN 1958, PROPERTY AND FACILITIES OFFICER

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 18 & 19

Recorded by: Maurice O’Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 39:28 / 42:17

Dublin is the native place of Brian Forbes. He discusses his early education, leading to an NCEA Certificate in Mechanical Engineering and a certificate in Building Services Engineering at DIT Bolton Street. He later was awarded a Diploma in Mechanical (Process Plant) Engineering and a Dip Eng and BSc (Eng) from Bolton Street. In 2003 he was elected Fellow of Engineers Ireland and in 2006 was awarded an MBA from DIT Graduate Business School. In this recording he discusses his employment by RTÉ as Manager of Property and Infrastructure and Building Services Manager. He describes the workplace at RTÉ, and its challenges. He also discusses his decision to take up employment with DIT in 2005, and his positive views on the move to Grangegorman.

In the second section of the recording Brian Forbes recalls his Presidency of the Students’ Union at Bolton Street, during his third year of study for his engineering degree. He explains that he saw a need to remove the highly politicised cohort which ran the Students’ Union prior to his Presidency. He recalls the Students’ Union and its activities in debating, the production of posters and badges, ‘*Bolt*’ magazine which they produced and printed, and the interaction with other students’ unions. He also discusses in detail his later work at RTÉ, where he worked on the setting up of a library archive, and his involvement in the building of premises for use by TG4 in 1995/6. He also gives his views on the differences he encountered in his



employment between RTÉ and DIT.

NAME: ELLEN HAZELKORN, DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH AND ENTERPRISE, RATHMINES

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 20

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 45:13

Ellen Hazelkorn is a native of Chicago, and she begins the discussion by explaining her early enthusiasm for Political Theory, a subject in which she was awarded a PhD from Canterbury University in the 1970s. Her teaching career in Ireland began with the CDVEC College of Commerce, where she taught Politics and allied subjects. She has written widely on contemporary Irish politics. She discusses the real importance of research at the College of Commerce, and she recalls her days as a lecturer there. In 1994 she was appointed Director of the Faculty of Applied Arts, and she discusses her role, and the changes which came about during her tenure. She also discusses her present work, both in Ireland and abroad, and her views on the move to Grangegorman.



NAME: MARY HANAFIN, FORMER MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, CHAIR OF CATHAL BRUGHA STREET COLLEGE COUNCIL

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 21

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 28:50

Mary Hanafin has a very long association with DIT. She was a member of City of Dublin VEC from 1985 – 1991, a student from 1991 – 2003 when she studied by night for a diploma in Legal Studies. She was Minister for Education from 2004 – 2008 and she is now Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport as DIT advances towards the new campus at Grangegorman. In this recording she discusses her experiences in all of these positions, and the arrangement with Trinity College in the awarding of degrees. She also explains the reasons for the long delay in getting the Grangegorman plan under way, and she discusses the differences in approach taken by politicians today in contrast to those taken in earlier days. She gives her views on university status for the DIT sector. She recalls graduation ceremonies in which she was involved in Cathal Brugha Street, where she presided over proceedings for six years, and she describes her efforts



abroad as she worked to attract foreign students to DIT.

NAME: BRIAN NORTON, BORN 1955, PRESIDENT DIT
Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology
Collection CD 22
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: 2010
Times: 56:03

This recording was compiled in the President's Office in Aungier Street, where Brian Norton initially discusses his background and his early education in the UK. His first academic post was at Cranfield University in London where he taught engineering and management for 13 years. In 1989 he was appointed to the Chair of the Engineering Department at Ulster University where he also served for 13 years. His specialisation was in solar energy and he discusses this in detail, he talks about research and teaching, and the links and benefits in the combination of both. While at Ulster University he witnessed challenging and tragic events during the Troubles, which he describes. He discusses the differences in the evolution of education between the Irish and British technology systems. In 2003 Brian Norton was appointed President DIT, and he explains the depth of experience in research and management he brought to his new post, and he details the work he has undertaken in this challenging position.



NAME: VINCENT O'HORA, BORN 1947, FORMER
ADMISSIONS OFFICER
Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology
Collection CD 23
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: 2010
Times: 73:35

County Mayo is the birthplace of Vincent O'Hora. In 1958 his family moved to Dublin, where he attended school with the Christian Brothers at O'Connell's Schools. He began his studies for a BA in UCD in 1965, but decided instead to take a post as temporary assistant primary teacher. After a short time, he took employment in London with International Telegraph, and in 1971 he returned to Dublin, and worked for six years as a clerical officer with City of Dublin VEC at Bolton Street. In 1978 he was transferred to the Payroll section in Head Office in Ballsbridge, and two years later he was promoted to Management Services. He discusses the various turning points and decisions arrived at in City of Dublin VEC, and the partnership agreement established with Trinity College. In 1984 he was appointed Admissions Officer, a post he held until his retirement in 2008. He



speaks about the various challenges he encountered during his career.

NAME: DAVID SPRING, BORN 1952, PROJECT MANAGER, STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AND CHANGE
Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 24
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: 2010
Times: 49:11



David Spring was born in Dublin and attended CBS Synge Street prior to taking up an administration post with City of Dublin VEC in Kevin Street. At this time he attended night classes in Accountancy, Statistics and Personnel Management. He later worked at Head Office in Ballsbridge, again in an administrative post and he remained there for four years. He discusses the budget and its control and also the great differences between the workplaces at Kevin Street and Ballsbridge. In 1980 he moved to Bolton Street, as a Senior Clerk where he worked in the Examination section for a year and a half, and was then promoted to Secretary/Registrar in Kevin Street. He discusses his dealings with the Students Union in those years. When a position of Personnel Officer became vacant in Ballsbridge he was appointed to this job in 1990. He discusses the transition from VEC to DIT in detail and how it was handled. Heritage House in Stephen's Green and then Fitzwilliam Square were his locations from 1993 – 2002, when he moved to Headquarters in Rathmines. During the past year he was appointed Project Manager, Strategic Management and Change.

NAME: JAMES WRynn, BORN 1949, LECTURER IN BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT, AUNGIER STREET
Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 25
Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe
Date: 2010
Times: 66:33



In this recording James Wrynn initially discusses in detail his lecturership in Management in the old College of Marketing and Design in Mountjoy Square, in the early 1990s, while he was Chair of the City of Dublin VEC, the authority in charge of DIT. He was an active member of the Labour Party since 1973. He describes his brief as Chair of the VEC. He also discusses the awarding of degrees to graduates of DIT courses by Trinity College. The strength of DIT in general is described and the status of the institute when it became a degree awarding institution is discussed.

In 1993, when Niamh Breathnach was appointed Minister for Education, he became her programme manager and chief adviser, in a change of career which saw him leave his lecturing duties and chairmanship of City of Dublin VEC. These were challenging and policy-driven years, he recalls, and in 1995 he returned to DIT. He discusses his views on the achievements of the VEC and DIT, and also the Grangegorman move in the coming years.

NAME: BILL GRIMSON, BORN 1947, ACADEMIC REGISTRAR, RATHMINES DIT HQ

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 26

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 69:05

Bill Grimson is a native of Dublin. He discusses his background and schooling and his entry to Trinity College in 1966 to study engineering. On graduation he decided to further his studies at Toronto University, later working for the Ministry of Defence for three years. In 1975 he returned to Dublin to take up a post in Kevin Street, in the Department of Electrical Engineering. He provides his views on the links between Trinity and DIT, the introduction of computerisation to the institute of technology sector, the major changes over the years in DIT, the formation of the Academic Council, the structure and layers of bureaucracy and the research area. Bill Grimson was appointed Head of the Electrical Engineering Department at Kevin Street in the 1990s and he recalls challenging times during the many years he taught night classes. He now holds the post of Academic Registrar at DIT Headquarters.



NAME: MARY O'ROURKE, FORMER MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 27

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 45:05

Mary O'Rourke describes her background and her schooling in Athlone. She graduated with a BA from UCD and then worked for some time in the family business in Athlone. She then returned to study, and get her HDip from NUI Maynooth, where she was part of the first student class in the college under the NUI status. She taught in the Convent of Mercy Athlone for a short time, until her introduction to her political career. In 1987, Taoiseach Charles Haughey appointed her Minister for Education, a post in which she remained for five years. There was much turbulence in the job at that time, mainly due to economic cutbacks. She recalls her private secretary David Gordon, whose support and guidance were invaluable to her. She discusses the proposals she brought to Cabinet while Minister for Education, and she explains the detail of the Universities Act, the Home School Liaison Link, the Teachers Act and The National Curriculum and Assessment Board.



NAME: MATT HUSSEY, BORN 1942, FORMER SCIENCE FACULTY DIRECTOR

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CDS 28 & 29

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 56:25 / 40:20

Matt Hussey is a Tipperary man, born in Cahir. He was educated in the town and was awarded a scholarship to study Electrical Engineering at UCD. On graduation, he gained a scholarship to study for his Master's in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, where he completed his PhD. Having spent six years in Philadelphia, in 1970 he took up a position with the Health Service in Glasgow, and in 1975 he was appointed lecturer in Kevin Street in the Physics Department. He discusses the designing of new courses and the development of the syllabus in Medical Physics. In 1983 he was appointed Head of the Physics Department. In 1994 he became Director of the Science Faculty and he discusses the challenges and opportunities afforded by this position. He also discusses his tenure as member of the Academic Council, the fact that good academic discussion



was possible in the Council, and he reflects on the consequent robustness of its authority. He speaks about his work with Tom Duff and Joe Hegarty in writing the book 'The Story of Dublin Institute of Technology' which was published by Blackhall in 2000.



In the second part of this recording, Matt Hussey discusses his great interest in the Irish language, and his encouragement of the language in his Department, with a lot of help along the way. He also discusses the partnership between DIT and Trinity College, his views on its formation, and his views on research at DIT.

NAME: PAUL O'SULLIVAN, BORN 1951, DIRECTOR, COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 30

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 74:55

Paul O'Sullivan grew up and was educated in South Kerry. He joined the staff at the Dublin Institute of Technology in 1977 having previously worked with City of Dublin VEC. He also worked as a research demonstrator at UCD and at a research unit at Trinity College. He lectured in the College of Marketing and Design at DIT. In 1995 he was appointed the first Director of the Business Faculty, and he provides his views on the changes in the structure in the Institute. He discusses the fact that the City of Dublin VEC were a major education force while explaining its dynamic and radical activities. He discusses the threat in the late 1960s that Trinity College would be amalgamated with UCD, and his belief that this was a significant reason why the relationship between DIT and Trinity came about. He also discusses his tenure in the Department of Marketing and Design and the important developments which took place and the Academic Council and his opinion that this was the first manifestation of DIT as an entity. In this recording Paul O'Sullivan paints a most informative image of the structure and development of DIT.



NAME: NOEL LINDSAY, BORN 1927, FORMER SECRETARY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology
Collection CD 31

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 55:57

In this recording, Noel Lindsay initially recalls his appointment as Secretary General at the Department of Education and his significant involvement with DIT in putting in place, with others, a new structure independent of the VEC under separate legislation. He discusses the setting up of a review group under Chairman Diarmuid Nally on the possibility of getting university status for DIT. He talks about Director Brendan Goldsmith's appointment of him in the 1990s to chair a group which worked for some years to begin preparations for a strategic plan for DIT. It was at this time that the plans were put in place leading to the proposed move to Grangegorman. He recalls his mission work abroad, as an educational adviser for the World Bank during the late 1990s, and he discusses the reasons why he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from both DIT and UL.



NAME: JOHN ROTHERY, BORN 1928, FORMER ASSISTANT HEAD, ARCHITECTURE, BOLTON STREET
Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology
Collection CD 32

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 62:07

John Rothery is a Dublin man, who grew up in Woodside on the Dublin mountains. He attended Synge Street CBS and was awarded a scholarship to UCD in 1946 where he studied architecture. He worked in Michael Scott's architectural practice for five years, and then spent some time in South Africa before returning to work in Dublin for five years with the OPW. In 1971 he was appointed lecturer at Bolton Street, having worked in private practice for the previous seven years, while teaching part-time at Bolton Street. He discusses his tenure as full-time lecturer for 22 years, which included his involvement in the setting up of an exchange programme with foreign students. He also discusses the projects which were put in place over his years in Bolton Street. He retired in the early 1990s and now is working on his writings and art.



NAME: BRENDAN GOLDSMITH, BORN 1949, FORMER HEAD OF SCHOOL (MATHEMATICS) AND PRESIDENT DIT, RESEARCH DIRECTOR

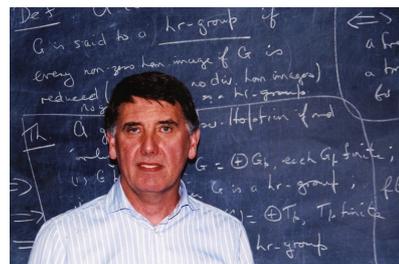
Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 33

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 65:32

Brendan Goldsmith is a Belfast man, who attended Queen's University and later Oxford University from where he graduated in Mathematics in 1974. He was then appointed to a lectureship at Kevin Street, where he worked for ten years. He discusses his first impressions of Kevin Street, and the many great changes which came about in that decade. In 1983 he was appointed Head of School (Mathematics) and was involved in the setting up of diploma programmes and computer science programmes. Ten years later, in 1993, he was appointed President of DIT, becoming the first President of the new institute. He recalls the great challenges he experienced in the position in those early days. He discusses the relationship with Trinity College, his Chairmanship of the Academic Council, his achievements as President, and his instigation, with others, of the proposed move to Grangegorman.



NAME: EAMON TUFFY, BORN 1939, FORMER EDUCATION OFFICER, CDVEC

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 34

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 77:31

Eamon Tuffy was born in Ballina, Co Mayo. He attended UCD and graduated with a degree in physics, following which he spent nine years at University College London working as a research assistant. Later he worked for some years in the UK and in 1970 he was appointed full-time lecturer in Physics at Kevin Street. He discusses the courses he taught, and explains that those were pioneering years. In 1982 he took up a position in City of Dublin VEC Head Office in Ballsbridge as Education Officer, and later as Academic Registrar. He recalls the challenging days prior to the formation of DIT and he gives his views on the reasons why the colleges were taken out of the VEC. He moved to the Regional College in Tallaght, and was appointed Head of Department in External Services. He talks about the growth and development of the Regional College during his tenure.



NAME: EUGENE McNAMEE, BORN 1939, FORMER AER LINGUS OPERATIONS AND STUDENT, KEVIN STREET 1961 - 1962

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 35

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 41:53

Eugene McNamee comes originally from Mayo, and he was educated in Terenure College Dublin, before joining Aer Lingus in 1958, working in the passenger handling area. In 1961 he registered as a student in Kevin Street in the Department of Air Navigation where his lecturer was Brendan Flanagan. He recalls his year of study there in great detail, and his later work as Route Informations Officer in the Flight Operations Department with Aer Lingus. He also became an instructor in Celbridge from 1976 – 1979, where he taught Grainne Cronin who became the first female pilot employed by Aer Lingus. He retired in 2002 from Aer Lingus, having completed 40 years of service with the national airline.



NAME: BRENDAN FLANAGAN, BORN 1922, FORMER LECTURER IN AIR NAVIGATION, KEVIN STREET

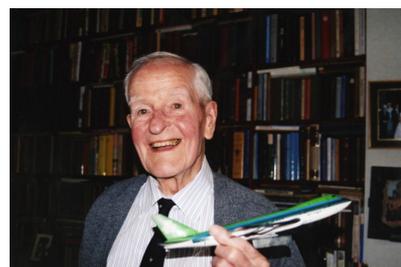
Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 36

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 56:39

Omagh, Co. Tyrone is the birthplace of Brendan Flanagan. His early education took place at the local CBS, and at age 18 he joined the Air Corps at Baldonnell, where he was one of 21 students. At the end of his first year of study, he was appointed to Fighter Squadron, and he discusses the conditions which prevailed during the Emergency period. Later he became an instructor and navigator at Baldonnell, and in 1951 he was appointed night class instructor at Kevin Street. During this time he joined Aer Lingus as a pilot. He discusses his position as Chief Instructor in Kevin Street, and his huge interest in the flying boats which came and went from Foynes in Co. Limerick in those days.



NAME: SALTER STIRLING, BORN 1937, FORMER ACADEMIC SECRETARY, TRINITY COLLEGE

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 37 & 38

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 54:47 / 37:23

Salter Stirling was born in Belfast, and gained his early education locally. He graduated from Trinity College in 1960 with a degree in History and Political Science. He gives a brief account of his family's connection with the college. He returned to Belfast on graduation, taking up a post as Irish Secretary of the Students Christian Movement at Queen's University. He later became warden at Gurteen Agricultural College, remaining there until 1975, when he returned to Trinity College as a member of staff. His instructions from the Provost were that he concentrate exclusively on producing a formula by which Trinity could grant degrees to students at Kevin Street and Bolton Street. That formula was to be in place by 11th July of that year. He discusses the breaking down of barriers at that time, and the reasons why Trinity opted for this arrangement. He also discusses the timescale involved, and the reasons for the success of the arrangement.

In the second part of this recording, Salter Stirling talks about the intensity of the work involved in bringing about the new system of awarding degrees to Bolton Street and Kevin Street in earlier days. He also discusses the various posts he held at Trinity College, and the other great challenges which were placed before him when he was asked by the Provost to instigate an arrangement between Trinity College and the Church of Ireland Teacher Training Colleges.



NAME: JOE HEGARTY, BORN 1939, FORMER HEAD OF SCHOOL, CULINARY ARTS AND FOOD TECHNOLOGY
Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology
Collection CD 39

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 45:49

Joe Hegarty grew up in Galway city, and following his early education he joined the family hotel business in the city. A short time later he was appointed to teach at the Vocational Hotel School in Athenry, where he worked for four years. Then he left for Wolverhampton Polytechnic, where he lectured for some years. He was involved in developing courses there, and from that background he was offered a position as Head of School of Catering Management in Cathal Brugha Street in 1972. He discusses the fact that in 1978 he was one of the first group from the VEC to study for a Master's degree at Trinity. He recalls his travels abroad, and the valuable work experience he gained as a result. He also discusses his contribution and input into the Quality Assurance Handbook, which became an important tool to achieve recognition of the fact that the colleges were unified. He details the steps in his career until his retirement in 2005.



NAME: HENRY LYONS, BORN 1945, FORMER LECTURER CHEMISTRY, KEVIN STREET
Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology
Collection CD 40

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 59:04

Henry Lyons is a native of Kerry, where he gained his early education at Tarbert Comprehensive School. He was awarded a scholarship to study for a Chemistry degree in UCD, from where he graduated in 1967. He taught part-time at Kevin Street and at Ringsend for some time, while also doing full-time research for his Master's degree. In 1972 he was appointed full-time lecturer at Kevin Street. He discusses the major changes which occurred in Kevin Street during the 1970s, which included the setting up of the National Council for Educational Awards. In 1979 he drew up several chemistry courses for a proposed third level college, which did not come about, much to his disappointment. He moved to Tralee Regional Technical College in 1979, where he spent the next twenty-six years until his retirement in 2005.



NAME: MOIRA O'DONOVAN DE LACY, BORN 1937, FORMER VEC ADMINISTRATION

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 41

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 54:53

Moira O'Donovan grew up in Donnybrook, Dublin, and aged 17 she gained employment in secretarial work as a junior clerk in Kevin Street, where she remained for two years. She recalls her days there, and the positive changes brought about by the creation of a new building. In 1963 the International Trades Competitions were held in Dublin, and in that year she was appointed secretary to Jack Barry of the City of Dublin VEC. The following year, she returned to Kevin Street, just as her future husband, Hugh de Lacy, was appointed Principal. She discusses his strong views on education, starting new courses including the Electrical Engineering and Telecommunications courses. She recalls those times as being very exciting and innovative. Her career advanced as she was appointed Registrar, and in 1980 she became Principal Officer with the City of Dublin VEC. She recalls the many challenges in this position. She was the first female to be appointed to the post. Hugh de Lacy retired in 1982 and she retired in 1997, following which the couple married.



NAME: PADDY DONEGAN, BORN 1921, FORMER CHAIR CDVEC

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 42 & 43

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 73:37 / 55:05

Dublin is the birthplace of Paddy Donegan who served for many years as Chair of the City of Dublin VEC. In his very early days he worked at canvassing for Jim Larkin with his father prior to elections. Following his schooling, he got employment with the ESB during the Emergency, at the Pigeon House, and became secretary of the National Engineering Union. In 1954 he was elected as Assistant General Secretary of the Union, and two years later, became Chairman of the Dublin Council of Trade Unions. He joined the City of Dublin VEC in 1956 and was elected Chairman in 1967. He discusses his interest in the proposed Ballymun project, the setting up of the HEA in which he was very involved as Chairman, the National Council of Educational Awards and the formation of important committees. He also discusses the status of DIT



during his tenure and his huge belief in the enthusiasm, resourcefulness and spirit of the people working there.

In the second part of the recording Paddy Donegan recalls his time as a trade union official, his background in the Labour movement, policy making, and his involvement with the unions, invariably gaining their support. This was of huge importance to him in decision making. He says that the greatest stumbling block during his tenure as chairman of the City of Dublin VEC was the failure to succeed with the Ballymun project. He worked with the City of Dublin VEC for 32 years, spending 18 years as Chairman. He was awarded two Honorary Doctorates after his retirement.



NAME: JOHN HAYDEN, BORN 1939, FORMER CHIEF LECTURER, H.E.A

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 44

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 79:17

John Hayden grew up in Ranelagh in Dublin and was educated by the Christian Brothers at Synge Street. He joined Dublin Corporation as a clerk when he finished school and during this time he studied and graduated with a BSc in Economic Statistics in an external exam. He spent four years working with the ESB and with Bord Fáilte for one year, before joining RTÉ in 1968, in the Management Service Unit. He developed a system of unit costs there. He discusses his introduction to the HEA in 1973, the Ballymun project and the NIHE. He also discusses the proposed establishment of a third university in Dublin, his input on gathering statistical information on the whole sector and his brief on his appointment as CEO of the HEA. He provides his views on the separation of the colleges from the VEC, his opinion on the HEA today and on the proposed move the Grangegorman.



NAME: NOEL O'CONNOR, BORN 1959, HEAD OF CAMPUS PLANNING AND DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 45

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 49:52

This recording was compiled on the 65 acre site at Grangegorman, where the new DIT campus is to be constructed. Noel O'Connor was born in Roscommon, and grew up in Dublin. In 1978 he began his studies in Hotel Management at Cathal Brugha Street, and later was awarded his HDip from Trinity College. He became a part-time teacher at Cathal Brugha Street in 1982. In 1986 he was appointed full-time teacher there and in 1990 became Head of School. He discusses his twenty years at Cathal Brugha Street, the changes which took place and the demographics. In 2000, DIT initiated a group to look into the possibility of constructing a new campus for DIT, and he discusses the lead into this and his brief. One year later a proposal was agreed upon. He recalls the reaction to this proposal, and the real focus on planning the new campus in 2007.



NAME: MICHAEL MULVEY, DIRECTOR OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND REGISTRAR

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 46

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 50:38

Michael Mulvey was born in Newbridge, Co. Kildare, and graduated from the Shannon Hotel College. He managed many hotels in his early days, and was guest lecturer at Cathal Brugha Street. He was appointed full-time lecturer some time later, and also studied for his Master's degree in Political Science and Economics at night at Trinity College, where he also later worked on his PhD. He lectured in Cathal Brugha Street for five years in the College of Catering, and later became Head of School. He discusses the changes and transitions which came about there over the years, his appointment in 1996 as Director of the Faculty of Tourism and Food, tourism and its development and greater professionalism in the sector. To keep abreast of this he developed new programmes at Master's and PhD levels. He also provides his views on the positive legacy he inherited from his predecessors. He discusses the research area and international networking to bring in



external students.

NAME: DAMIAN GALLANAGH, BORN 1948, FACILITY ADMINISTRATION, BOLTON STREET

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 47

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 48:55

Damian Gallanagh was born in Donegal and he grew up in Bray, Co. Wicklow. When his schooling was completed, he took an apprenticeship with Kieran McNally Solicitors in Dublin. He recalls the company's involvement in the Arms Trial in the early 1970s. In 1972 he took on the post of temporary Clerical Officer at Bolton Street leading to permanent employment as Senior Clerk in the early 1980s when he was placed in charge of the banking section. In 1990 he was promoted to the College of Marketing and Design and later to Kevin Street. In 1997, he returned to work at Bolton Street, where he is still employed. He discusses his tenure in the various posts he held through the decades, the transition to DIT, and his service on the first governing body at whose meetings he kept the minutes.



NAME: LIAM ARUNDEL, BORN 1942, FORMER CEO, City of Dublin VEC

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 48

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 51:57

Schull in West Cork is the birthplace of Liam Arundel. He received his early education locally, later transferring to boarding school at St. Colman's in Fermoy. He graduated from UCC and later from Maynooth with a HDip, where he also worked as part-time lecturer. He later taught in Carlow and Birr in the vocational schools in the 1970s. In 1975 he was appointed CEO of Offaly VEC where he remained for five years, and in 1980 he was appointed CEO to the City of Dublin VEC. He discusses his initial impressions of his Dublin post, the challenges of employment in the VEC in those days, the awarding of degrees arrangement with Trinity College, the aspiration by the colleges for independence, the issues with the unions, the structure of the City of Dublin, the formation of the DIT sector and his disappointment at the lack of involvement in the sector by the City of Dublin VEC.



NAME: DON THORNHILL, BORN 1947, FORMER SECRETARY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology
Collection CD 49

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 53:05

Don Thornhill was born in Cork, and on completion of his early schooling, he studied at UCD and graduated with a BSc in Chemistry and Maths. He later worked on his PhD at the college. He worked in many government departments during his career, before being appointed Secretary General in the Department of Education. He directed the White Paper, the output from which was the Universities Bill, and he discusses the reaction to it. This was followed by the Education Act. In 1998 he moved to the HEA as Executive Chairman, where he worked closely with John Hayden. He discusses the funding which became available for research and how it was distributed, and he provides his views on university status for DIT, and his work in this area. Other challenges during his tenure are discussed, such as the uncomfortable relations between the DIT and HEA leadership following the formation of DIT.



NAME: CHRIS COWLEY, BORN 1938 AND JONATHAN FISHER, BORN 1944, BOTH HEADS OF SCHOOL, KEVIN STREET

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology
Collection CD 50 & 51

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 51:08 / 43:18

Chris Cowley and Jonathan Fisher are natives of Kilkenny. Chris began his studies in Kevin Street in 1953 for his O and A Levels GCE. Jim Roche and Hugué de Lacy were on the teaching staff at that time. He later studied and graduated in electrical engineering, and worked in Coventry for the General Electric Company for a short time. He returned to Kevin Street in 1963, and was appointed lecturer in telecommunications. Jonathan Fisher was appointed lecturer in Kevin Street in 1972, in the Electrical Engineering and Telecommunications Departments. The Departments were jointly involved in a new CEI four-year Degree course. Both men discuss the challenges in teaching at that time, the differences in the quality of mathematics as taught then and today, and the pioneering days in setting up new programmes.



In the second section of this recording Chris Cowley and Jonathan Fisher discuss the setting up of the National Council of Education Awards which examined the two higher technicians programmes, being the accreditation authority for the RTCs and for DIT, which was crucial in the development of education in Ireland. In 1992, following the setting up of DIT, a certain rivalry developed between Kevin Street and Bolton Street, which is discussed in the recording. Chris retired in 1999 and Jonathan retired in 2004.

NAME: BRID O'DOHERTY, BORN 1919, FORMER TEACHER SAINT LOUIS CONVENT, RATHMINES

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 52

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 70:38

Brid O'Doherty discusses her background initially and recalls her early days as a teaching sister at St. Louis Convent school Rathmines in the 1940s. The school was private and regarded as being quite exclusive. She taught four languages, French, Italian, Irish and English, and also taught the Arts and Religion, in what she describes as a very cloistered atmosphere. She discusses her views on the vocational schools system, as she perceived it in those days when the School of Commerce Rathmines fronted St. Louis Convent school. In the early 1900s the convent had provided part of the site for the vocational school there.



NAME: DICK SWEENEY, BORN 1934, FORMER OFFICER, H.E.A

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 53

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 70:55

Dick Sweeney is a native of Co. Laois where he received his early education. He graduated as an engineer and was appointed to the Technical Instruction branch in the Department of Education. He was requested by the Minister for Education, Paddy Hillery, to serve as an advisor, and he explains that the period from 1960 – 1967 was a very exciting time in education. He discusses the Commission on Higher Education, Technician Education, the Steering Committee on the Development of the RTCs, the investment in education at the time, and the establishment of the HEA (where he worked for ten years). In the late 1960s he was appointed as primary school



inspector and was also chair of the Engineering Architecture Construction group which formulated programmes of construction in the RTCs.

NAME: KEVIN SULLIVAN, BORN 1947, SENIOR LECTURER IN MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY, KEVIN STREET

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 54

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 47:47

Kevin Sullivan was born in Finglas in Dublin and following his early education he gained employment as a diesel fitter mechanic with CIE. He also attended evening classes in Bolton Street for four years from 1962. He was awarded a scholarship in 1966 to continue his studies, graduating four years later in mechanical engineering. From 1970 – 1972 he worked as part-time lecturer in Bolton Street, while working on his Master's degree in Trinity College. In 1972 he was appointed lecturer in the Ulster Polytechnic college, and in 1974 he moved to Dundalk RTC, and later to Kevin Street, where he is now based. He discusses writing the syllabus for new programmes and the challenges of his job in the early days. He was a staff-elected member of the Academic Council from 1983 – 1993, becoming Chairman in 1989. While there he lobbied very strongly for improvements in the educational facilities within the City of Dublin VEC. He also discusses his membership in a trade union, and his commitment to the work of the trade unions.



NAME: NIAMH BREATHNACH, FORMER MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, 1993 - 1997

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 55

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 53:35

Niamh Breathnach was born in Dublin, and qualified as a primary teacher at Carysfort College. She later taught at an inner city school at the Oliver Bond complex, an experience which had a major effect on her socialist beliefs, leading to her decision to join the Labour Party. She ran for public office, winning a Dáil seat in Dublin and became Minister for Education in the Coalition Government on the first day of the new Dáil session. In this recording, she discusses her predecessor in Education, Seamus Brennan, and his work on the Green Paper which she succeeded in having passed. She also discusses her work in having college



fees abolished, the people with whom she worked, the setting up of DIT, with the help of her advisor James Wrynn, the guarding of status by the universities, and her work on improving opportunities for good qualifications for women apprentices. She was also very aware of the value of research, and she made major efforts to gain funding for this primarily from Europe.

NAME: GERALDINE KENNEDY, BORN 1951, FORMER STUDENT SCHOOL OF COMMERCE, EDITOR *IRISH TIMES*

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CD 56

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 33:34

Geraldine Kennedy is a native of Carrick-on-Suir. Her early education was gained locally at the Presentation Convent, and she later attended the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Waterford. She was inspired by one of her English teachers to pursue a career in journalism and was one of sixteen students to study at the first journalism course in the School of Commerce in Rathmines at the time. She recalls her early days in journalism, and the differences in how journalism is taught today compared to how the subject was taught in her student days. She also discusses her time in politics as a Progressive Democrat TD under the leadership of Des O'Malley. She discusses her employment in *The Irish Times* initially in 1973, and her return in more recent times, working on Features, and later becoming Political Correspondent. She was appointed Editor of *The Irish Times* in 2002 and she discusses her work in a male dominated environment. She speaks about the present structure of DIT, and the most memorable articles she has written during her career in journalism.



NAME: JACK O'KEEFFE, BORN 1927, HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE AND TOWN PLANNING

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CDs 57, 58 & 59

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 60:18 / 27:45 / 56:46

Jack talks about his days growing up in Donnybrook and Dundrum and his involvement with the LDF during the Emergency period. In 1945, after his schooling, he entered UCD to do a course in Architecture, and he discusses his experiences over those seven years, including his meetings



with Patrick Kavanagh. He also discusses setting up a business after graduating, with another graduate from UCD. In 1953, he was appointed a part-time lecturer in Architecture at Bolton Street, and four years later took up a full-time lecturing post there.

In the second part of this recording Jack O'Keeffe discusses the international trade competition (Bolton Street was the centre for this) and he talks about that time in great detail. He wanted full recognition for architectural courses, and he talks about how they achieved this. He gives his opinion on why he did not want university status for the DIT and explains his reasons. He discusses the time when town planning courses were first organised, and talks about the time when Donogh O'Malley was Minister for Education, and his involvement with writing his scripts. Jack O'Keeffe retired in 1988 after spending 25 years as Head of the Department of Architecture in Bolton Street. This recording continues into part 3, where Jack McKenna expands on many of these issues.

NAME: FRANK BRENNAN, BORN 1936, COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

Title: Irish Life and Lore Dublin Institute of Technology Collection CDs 60 & 61

Recorded by: Maurice O'Keeffe

Date: 2010

Times: 50:00 / 54:00

