

**Professor Conor Newman**, senior lecturer in archaeology at the School of Geography, Archaeology and Irish Studies, University of Galway.

### **University of Galway**

Senior Lecturer (archaeology), School of Geography, Archaeology and Irish Studies (1997-present)

Head of Discipline (2012-2013; 2017-19; 2021-2023)

Director MA Landscape, Archaeology and Heritage (2022-present)

Vice-dean Research, Faculty of Arts, 2001-3

### **Positions/appointments**

Expert Advisory Board Erasmus+ European Cultural Heritage Skills Alliance CHARTER (2021-present; <https://charter-alliance.eu/> )

Vice-president UNISCAPE (2021-present; <https://www.uniscape.eu/> )

Executive board member UNISCAPE (2017-2021)

Scientific Committee In the footsteps of Columbanus (2022-present)

Scientific Committee Making Europe: Columbanus and His Legacy (2010-2017)

Chairman Heritage Council of Ireland (2008-2016; <https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/>)

Member of Government advisory board on revision of National Monuments Act (2006-7)

Council Member, Discovery Programme (2000-04)

Visiting Professor of Celtic Archaeology, University of Toronto (1990; 1993; 1997)

Director Discovery Programme Tara Archaeology Survey (1992-96; <https://discoveryprogramme.ie/>)

### **Awards**

University College Dublin post-graduate scholarship 1984-86

National University of Ireland Travelling Studentship 1987-89

British Academy John Coles Medal in Landscape Archaeology 2011

### **Current Research Interests**

My research activity falls into three areas: (i) early medieval art and iconography; (ii) later prehistoric and early medieval kingship in Ireland and Europe; (iii) critical heritage studies.

My interest in early medieval art and iconography has, in recent years focused on motifs of eternity and rebirth as seen for instance (but not exclusively) on early ecclesiastical metalwork, cf my contribution to the proceedings of the Bobbio conference (Destefanis ed.; see below), various papers in the proceedings of the International Conference on Insular Art (below) and other outlets. I am particularly interested in how Irish art, iconography and aesthetic was influenced through the medium of the missionary activities of early Irish saints, such as Columbanus, and the vectors and networks that followed.

My work on early kingship began with my directorship of the Discovery Programme's Tara Archaeology Survey 1992-1996 (<https://discoveryprogramme.ie/> ). The full results of the first phase of the project were published in Newman, C. *Tara: an archaeological survey* (Royal Irish Academy 1997). Work continues, with various papers (see below), and a major new monograph is in prep for publication in later 2024/2025.

My research interests in cultural heritage theory, policy and practice has formed over many years working as an archaeologists, culminating with my appointment as chairman of the Heritage Council in 2008. At present, I am exercising my interests in the sector and related policy through my role as an Expert Advisor to the Charter (European Cultural Heritage Skills Alliance) Project (<https://charter-alliance.eu/>). My most recent papers in this field address shortcomings in the methodology used to profile professional actors in the heritage sector, and measure the scale of their economic activity and contribution.

### **Publications 2015 to present**

(forthcoming 2024) “ “A remarkable continuity”: fact or fiction fifty-five years on”, in N. Ginoux and Laurent Olivier (eds) *La sereine beauté que dégage cet art sauvage... Entre la France et l'Irlande, l'oeuvre et l'héritage de Françoise Henry (1902-1982)* (Sorbonne Université & Musée Nationale, Paris)

(forthcoming July 2024) “Possible symbolism on the base of the Ardagh chalice (revised)”, in N. Whitfield, *Design and Techniques in Early Medieval Celtic Metalwork* (Pindar Press, London)

“Living in an Anthropocene: reconciling culture and nature for a sustainable future” in Mauro Agnoletti, Saša Dobričić, Tessa Matteini and Juan-Manuel Palerm (eds) *Cultivating Continuity of the European Landscape. New challenges, innovations, perspectives* (Springer, New York, 2024), 525-32

“Where the Disciplines Meet : Uniscape as a laboratory”, in Mauro Agnoletti, Saša Dobričić, Tessa Matteini and Juan-Manuel Palerm (eds) *Cultivating Continuity of the European Landscape. New challenges, innovations, perspectives* (Springer, New York, 2024), 539-41

(with Amy Strecker) ‘Beyond Sovereignty. Tara, the M3 and Access to Justice for Cultural Landscape Destruction in Ireland’ in Amy Strecker and Joseph Powderly (eds), *Heritage Destruction, Human Rights and International Law* (Brill Nijhoff, 2023), 385-417.

(with M. Stansbury and E. Marron co-ed) *Columbanus and Identity in Early Medieval Europe. Formation and Transmission* (Presses Universitaires de Rennes, Rennes, 2022)

(with M. Stansbury and E. Marron) “Introductory remarks”, in C. Newman, M. Stansbury and E. Marron (eds) *Columbanus and Identity in Early Medieval Europe. Formation and Transmission* (Presses Universitaires de Rennes, Rennes, 2022), 19-22.

(with R. Ó Maoldúin, R Schot and E. Marron) “The monastic remains at Cleenish, Co. Fermanagh: context, survey and excavation” in C. Newman, M. Stansbury and E. Marron (eds) *Columbanus and Identity in Early Medieval Europe. Formation and Transmission* (Presses Universitaires de Rennes, Rennes, 2022), 93-119.

(with Erminia Sciacchitano, Elis Marçal and Susan Corr) “The cultural heritage sector and economic statistics: profiling contemporary cultural heritage practice in the NACE Codes”, *Economia della Cultura* 3-4 (2020), 323-335.

(with Elis Marçal, Susan Corr, David Aguilero Cueco & Jeremy Hutchings) “On the classification of the cultural heritage Ssector within NACE”, *Journal of Cultural Heritage* 5 (2019), 23-31

(with M. Mannion & F. Gavin co-ed) *Islands in a Global Context: Proceedings of the seventh international conference on Insular art* (Four Courts Press, Dublin, 2017)

“Possible symbolism on the base of the Ardagh chalice” in C. Newman, M. Mannion and F. Gavin (eds) *Islands in a Global Context: Proceedings of the seventh international conference on Insular art* (Four Courts Press, Dublin, 2017), XX

“Notes on the Bobbio reliquary”, in E. Destefanis (ed.) *L'Eredità di San Colombano. Memoria e culto attraverso il medioevo* (Presses Universitaires de Rennes, 2016), 269-281.

(with T. Collins, G. Kindermann & N. Cronin co-eds) *Landscape Values: place and praxis* (Centre for Landscape Studies, NUIG, 2016)

"In the way of development. Tara, the M3 and the Celtic Tiger", in R. Meade and F. Dukelow (eds) *Defining Events. Power, resistance and identity in twenty-first century Ireland* (Manchester UP, 2015), 32-50.

"Rapporteur's response, Mapping an altered landscape: cultural policy and management in Ireland", *Irish Journal of Arts Management and Cultural Policy*, 3 (2015), 29-31.

### Select 2000-2015 publications

(with Y. Nussaume & B. Pedroli eds) *Landscape and Imagination. Towards a baseline for education in a changing world. Uniscape Conference Paris, 2-4 May 2013*. (Bandedecchi e Vivaldi, Florence, 2013)

(with S. Burke) "The symbolism of Zoomorphic Penannular Brooches", in J. Hawkes (ed.) *Making Histories. Proceedings of the Sixth International Conference on Insular Art, York 2011* (Shaun Tyas, Donington 2013), 201-214.

(with R. Schot & E. Bhreathnach eds) *Landscapes of Cult and Kingship* (Four Courts Press, Dublin 2011)

"The sacral landscape of Tara: a preliminary exploration", in R. Schot, C. Newman & E. Bhreathnach (eds) *Landscapes of Cult and Kingship* (Four Courts Press, 2011), 22-43.

"The sword in the stone: a previously unrecognised archaeological evidence of ceremonies of the later Iron Age and Early Medieval Period in G. Cooney, K. Becker, J. Coles, M. Ryan, S. Sievers (eds) *Relics of Old Decency. Archaeological Studies in later prehistory. Festschrift for Barry Raftery* (Wordwell, Bray, 2009), 425-436

Procession and symbolism at Tara. Analysis of Tech Midhchúarta in the context of the sacral campus, *Oxford Journal of Archaeology* 26(4) (2007), 415-38.

(with F. Gavin) "Notes on Insular silver in the 'Military Style'", *Journal of Irish Archaeology* 16 (2007), 1-10.

(with N. Walsh) "Iconographical analysis of the Marigold Stone, Carndonagh, Inishowen, Co. Donegal", in R. Moss (ed.) *Making and Meaning in Insular Art. Proceedings of the fifth international conference on Insular art, held at Trinity College Dublin, 25-28 August 2005* (Four Courts Press, Dublin, 2007) 167-183.

(with U. Strohmeyer) *Uninhabited Ireland. Tara, the M3 and public spaces in Galway*. Rethinking Irish Democracy ser. (Arlen House, 2007)

(with M. O'Connell, M. Dillon and K. Molloy) "Interpretation of charcoal and pollen data relating to a late Iron Age ritual site in eastern Ireland, a holistic approach", *Vegetation History and Archaeobotany. The Journal of Quaternary Plant Ecology, Palaeoclimate and Ancient Agriculture* 16 (2007), 349-365.

"Re-composing the archaeological landscape of Tara", in E. Bhreathnach (ed.) *The kingship and landscape of Tara* (Four Courts Press, Dublin 2005), 361-409.

Galway, March 16<sup>th</sup> 2024

