

Report to the Protocol Committee for noting and referral to the City Council

Councillor Name	Mary Freehill
Conference/Seminar Name	Mac Cill Summer School Glenties
Conference/Seminar Topic	Destruction of Ukraine - The fallout for Mankind
Venue/Location	Glenties Co Donegal
Date (s) of Conference	21 st to 24 th July travelled on 20 th
Brief Summary	
attached	
Recommendations	
Not sure what I should put here but observation of venue from acoustics perspective for people with hearing impairment is useful. The ceiling had several microphones right across the hall. This is the best sound system I have ever found. It meant that the quality of sound was the same throughout the hall. It's worth seeing & could be considered for Wood Quay Hall	
Declaration	
I certify that I attended the above-mentioned Conference/Training Seminar.	
Mary Freehill	
Signed by	Date 31/8/22

Report MacGill Summer School 21 July to 24th

The Opening session of the school was devoted to the Ukraine War, history of the country, the options, interviews with Ukrainian politicians and music performances from Ukrainians in Ireland.

There were harrowing stories from young Ukrainians who are still children about their war experience in recent years and how they have lost their home on a number of occasions.

The other sessions dealt with Ukraine from different perspectives. Compromise was touched on by speakers but totally dismissed by Ukrainians. Irish speakers spoke about housing and the lack of political oversight on housing in Ireland. Various speakers spoke about political implications for Europe and changing political balance, implications of enlargement, Russian Sanctions and some British about their embarrassment about Brexit. There was an interesting debate on EU's support for Ireland on Brexit and speakers questioned Ireland's commitment to EU. The discussion on defence, implications of our neutrality policy and what if we are invaded. All of this requires debate in Ireland.

The presentation on Afghanistan was harrowing which was given by Mary Ellen McGroarty who is UN Rep there and from Donegal. 16m people unable to feed themselves and UN resources are scarce, In their efforts to feed they have to make sure resources don't go to the Taliban. Women are now confined to household and can only go shopping for food to market if accompanied by a man. Women are back in long skirts and men growing beards. The outlook is very bleak.

On Saturday The Hume lecture was delivered by Linda Doyle Provost of Trinity. She emphasised that Universities should be a place of great diversity, celebrate difference, place that lives for ideals