



# 2016 NAACLCT Conference

## Celtic Builders and Their Languages: The Erie Canal and Beyond

### **About Our Specially Invited Speakers**

#### **Keynote Speaker: Hefina Phillips**

Hefina maintains that she has two passions in life, her four grandchildren and the Welsh language. The children are now teenagers and need her care and attention less and less. That is not true of the Welsh language, especially here in North America.

She was raised in an all-Welsh speaking home in the Swansea Valley of South Wales where English was forbidden. She says that her generation was largely responsible for the dangerous predicament of the Welsh language. It was "cool" to speak English and it was in English that she and her friends played - until they arrived at her house - and then they all switched to Welsh in case her father overheard them.

Her schooling was in English, as the first Welsh medium school did not arrive in their locality until she was in university.

She was educated at Cardiff University and was privileged to have had Saunders Lewis as one of her professors. She still remembers his first lecture and how terrified she felt.

Fortunately her father was a rabid Welsh Nationalist and passed on his genes to her.

She considers herself to be truly blessed.

#### **Special Guest: Michael Henry**

Michael Henry has been designing and teaching online courses for over 20 years. With a BA in Communications and a MEd in Curriculum and Instruction, he teaches Computer Mediated Communication and has been involved in online innovation programs with the University of Missouri, as an eMentor. His research interests focus on the role of media selection and social presence in mediated instruction.

### **Wednesday June 8, 2016**

4:00-7:00 p.m. Conference registration, location *Fort Orange – Walkway B*

7:00-9:00 p.m. Opening reception, location *Koi Pond (Open Bar)*

*All conference papers will be presented in 26 High Street.*

## **Thursday June 9, 2016**

8:45-9:00 Welcome and Opening Remarks *26 High Street*

### **Session 1**

Moderator: Kevin Rottet

9:00-9:30 Ti'n Siarad Cymraeg? The Role of Institutions in the Transnational Maintenance of Minority Language  
*Kimberly Berg (State University of New York at Albany)*

9:30-10:00 Cornish Continuity: language revival, language survival, or something else?  
*Robert J. Jones (Fulton-Montgomery Community College)*

### **Coffee break 10:00-10:30**

10:30-11:00 Poets in the Shadows: Irish and 1916 Commemoration, then and now  
*Hilary Mhic Suibhne (New York University)*

11:00-11:30 "O Bydded I'r Hen Iaith Barhau": Some Observations on Welsh Diglossia and its Uses  
*Wayne Harbert (Cornell University)*

### **Lunch 11:30-1:30**

### **Session 2**

Moderator: Hilary Mhic Suibhne

1:30-2:00 In a Brown Study: Brythonic Color Names and Language Contact  
*Kevin J. Rottet (Indiana University)*

2:00-2:30 Punctuation and the Construction of Meaning in Literary Breton: a Systemic Functional Approach  
*Karl Haloj (Middlebury College)*

### **Coffeebreak 2:30-2:45**

2:45-3:30 Welsh Live, or Webcasting for Welsh  
*Special Guest: Michael Henry (Cada Día Welsh)*

4:00-5:00 NAACLT AGM - location *26 High Street* (All NAACLT members invited to attend and vote on issues; non-members may attend but not vote)

## **Friday June 10, 2016**

### **Session 3**

Moderator: Aralt Mac Giolla Chainnigh

9:00-9:30 Celtic Place Names as a Tool for Language Learning: Irish, Welsh, Gaelic, Breton, Cornish, Manx  
*Roslyn Blyn-LaDrew (University of Pennsylvania)*

9:30-10:00 Gaelscoileanna: Trials and Triumphs (a SWOT Analysis)  
*Aileen Curtin (Texas Wesleyan University)*

10:00-10:30 New Manx language resources for Irish speakers  
*Kevin Scannell (Saint Louis University)*

### **Coffee break 10:30-10:45**

### **Keynote address 10:45-11:45**

**"The struggle to keep Celtic/minority languages alive - essential or futile?"**  
*Hefina Phillips (University of St. Michael's College in the University of Toronto, and Cymdeithas Madog)*

### **Lunch 12:00-2:00**

### **Session 4**

Moderator: Aileen Curtin

2:00-2:30 The Irish Language, Canada, and the Easter Uprising  
*Aralt Mac Giolla Chainnigh (RMC of Canada, Kingston, Ontario)*

2:30-3:00 From 'the meeting of the waters' to 'the wedding of the waters': a very brief introduction to the building of the Erie Canal  
*Margaret McGrath*

### **Coffeebreak 3:00-3:15**

3:15-3:45 The Irish wild west - Settlement of the St-Sylvester-St Damian parishes in Quebec  
*John Donahue (Concordia University)*

3:45-4:15 Welsh American Hymn Singing Traditions and the Establishment

of the National *Gymnafa Ganu* Association  
*James P. Cassarino (Green Mountain College)*

## **Friday Banquet**

### **6:00 PM Location: The Lodge**

6:00-6:30 Cocktail/Social hour with cash bar and harp accompaniment

6:30-8:00 Dinner with harp accompaniment until 7:30

7:30-9:00 Cash bar, socializing and attendee "performances" as we finish dinner

## **Saturday June 11, 2016**

Excursion along the eastern end of the Erie Canal

8:00 AM Meet in hotel lobby

8:30 AM Coach departs Desmond

6:00 PM Return to hotel

Be prepared for wet, dry, sunny or cloudy weather, maybe all of these. Temperature should be in the high 70's to mid-80's Fahrenheit. We often say in Upstate New York, "If you don't like the weather, wait five minutes. You still won't." Be prepared for anything. Except snow. It *probably* won't snow. We will be spending time indoors and outdoors.

We hope that you enjoy both the conference and the  
Field Trip