

Message from Lynn Bushnell
Vice President for Public Affairs, Quinnipiac University

I would like to bring you up to date on several important changes at Ireland's Great Hunger Museum. First, Executive Director Grace Brady has stepped down after serving 4½ years in that role. She accomplished a great deal while developing the fledgling museum, including bringing in an international loan exhibition, *In the Lion's Den: Daniel Macdonald, Ireland and Empire*, which brought more than 3,000 visitors to the museum during January–April 2016. Grace takes special pride in the museum publication program. Its award-winning *Famine Folios* series has garnered international recognition and acclaim. For her involvement in those, and for all else she has done to make the museum the special place it is today, we are grateful.

Claire Puzarne, who joined Grace shortly after the museum opened, will serve as interim director while we search for a new executive director. The museum is in good hands as Claire is joined by a capable staff including Niamh O'Sullivan, curator; Margaret Vaughan, assistant manager; Kate Sweeney, visitor services assistant; and Frank McCarthy, one of the most dedicated public safety officers any of us could hope to have look after this impressive art collection.

As we move into the summer of 2017, I hope you will be as excited as I am to learn of our collection traveling to Ireland in 2018. While plans are in the nascent stages, we do know that a large portion of our collection will travel in an exhibition titled, *Coming Home: Art and the Great Hunger*. The exhibition will be on view at Dublin Castle from March–June 2018, and at the West Cork Arts Centre in Skibbereen from July–October 2018.

At the museum here in Hamden, and with the help of many friends and donors like you, we have added 15 new acquisitions since opening in 2012, all of which have enhanced the quality of the collection. Several are now on display, including Henry Mark Anthony's stunning painting *Sunset* (or *View of the Rock of Cashel from the Village*), which displays the traditional seat of the kings of Munster. The surviving buildings are unique among Irish Romanesque churches. I strongly encourage you to visit the museum this spring or summer.

As we say farewell and best wishes to Grace, I also ask that you assist us in the search for a new leader who can bring the museum to even greater heights in the coming years. We hope to find that rare person who has a love and deep knowledge of the art and the period, combined with significant museum management experience and a track record in building a strong base of support. To learn more about the position, please visit the [job description](#). You may also reach out to Senior Talent Acquisition Specialist Regina Leonard at regina.leonard@qu.edu or at 203.582.3355.

With warm regards,
Lynn Bushnell, for the IGHM Board
Vice President for Public Affairs
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