



Galway, May 12-16, 2019

"Leading Through Changing Times"

Sunday, May 12

Arrival and Registration

On Sunday, May 12th, attendees arrived in Galway. The Galmont Hotel, close to the coach station, proved to be an excellent choice. The beautiful view of the bay, the friendly staff, and comfortable rooms helped attendees start the week in the right atmosphere.

Monday, May 13, and Tuesday, May 14

Board of Directors' Meetings

Meetings with the Board of Directors took place over a period of two days.

WCI's affairs were discussed and voted on. A Workshop on Cultural Intelligence was presented together with the President's Report, the Financial Report, WCI's Orientation, and the Application to achieve consultative status in the United Nations. Also, each of the attending Sister Clubs presented their news and events.

There were two excellent speakers: Colonel Buz Carpenter, USAF, (Retired), who gave a talk titled "Innovation – The Challenge of Changing Times," and William Henry, archeologist and preeminent historian of Galway. Professor Henry's talk was about the history of Galway.



In the evening, attendees were treated to a Corrib Princess River Cruise with dinner and Irish Entertainment, and WCI members sang to the joy of all those present.

Wednesday, May 15

Excursions and Entertainment

We visited the Cnoc Suain, a hillside farm with a breathtaking landscape, and stone cottages dating back to the 17th century. This site is rich in culture and spectacular views.

During our stay in Galway, we also visited the Burren National Park, the Hazel Mountain Chocolate factory, and the impressive Cliffs of Moher.

We had free time to enjoy the town, visit some Irish Pubs, and to eat delicious fish and chips and mussels.



Thursday, May 16

Farewell Dinner

The Gala Farewell Dinner was a sumptuous five-dinner course with lively Galway music and dancing. Kim Riedel was sworn in as WCI President 2019-2021 in an atmosphere of support and happiness.



Dublin, May 17-18, 2019

Post-Meeting Trip to Dublin

Beginning Friday, May 17, a group of attendees went on a two-day trip to Dublin. They took a tour of the Guinness Storehouse Brewery, visited Trinity College's Old Library where they saw The Book of Kells Exhibition, and enjoyed dinner and Irish traditional dancing at Johnnie Fox, one of Ireland's oldest and most famous traditional Irish pubs.

In all, the Meetings were tastefully planned, productive, and well attended. Friendships and understanding were strengthened and deepened, and the goals of WCI were well received by all participants.

We would like to offer special thanks to Dee Phillips-Medawar, Meeting Chair, for ably leading the meeting in Galway; Vena Velarde Iversen, WCI Director of Meetings, for coordinating the Post-Trip in Dublin; Nancy Carpenter, WCI Treasurer, for handling all financial affairs, and Lea Hesse, WCI Secretary, for efficiently preparing the necessary materials for the Board of Directors' Meeting.



Heartfelt thanks to all those who were unable to travel to Galway but who sent their proxy forms to vote and who supported the meetings in various ways.

Report by Maria Fernanda Arduino, WCI President (2016-2019)

*A very special **Thank You** to Isabel Etkin for preparing the photos in remembrance of the good times in Galway and Dublin.*



The following Sister Clubs were present:

Anglo-German International Women's Association e.V.

Berkshire International Club

Broward International Women's Club

International Women's Club of Hamburg e.V.

International Women's Club of New England

International Women's Club of Philadelphia

International Women's Club of Porto Alegre

Welcome to Colorado International Club

Welcome to Florida International Club

Welcome to Korea International Club

Welcome to London International Club

Welcome to Taipei International Club

Welcome to Washington International Club

Women's International Border Club