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Sean Moore, Assistant Professor of English travels to Ireland

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SEAN MOORE, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH

Professor Sean Moore reconnected this summer with colleagues from around the world in ongoing scholarly working groups and conferences.



Professor Moore at Nordkirchen Palace.

I first flew to Düsseldorf via Dublin for the "Fifth Münster Symposium on Jonathan Swift," a seminar held every five years at the Ehrenpreis Centre for Swift Studies at the Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Germany. Despite distraction by World Cup of Soccer fans in the country for that event, I heard the lectures of Swift experts from as far away as Russia and Australia and was able to get feedback on my own presentation, "Swift and Ireland's Revenue." The highlight of the week was dinner at Nordkirchen Palace, an aristocratic estate built in the medieval period, renovated in Enlightenment style in the eighteenth century, and now used by the government as a college for tax officials. Given that U. Münster has gathered the largest collection of primary and secondary sources on Swift in the world, a few participants stayed on after the seminar to perform research.

Next, I attended the second meeting of "Money, Power, and Prose," a colloquium discussing eighteenth-century public finance reconvened at the Armagh Public (Robinson) and Cardinal O'Fáíich libraries and partly sponsored by the Primates of Ireland's Roman Catholic Church and the Anglican Church of Ireland. This meeting featured historians, economists, and literary critics exploring the relationship between national debts, war, and propaganda in the period. My paper, "Edmund Burke's Financial Publicity," investigated how an Anglo-Irish intellectual whose first work was on aesthetics could become a Member of Parliament and a publicist encouraging investment in British war bonds. The libraries themselves featured a number of rare books, including an early edition of Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels* with marginal notations in the author's own hand. Also, the Dean of St. Patrick's Anglican Cathedral organized a rare treat: the performance of an evensong religious ceremony as it was held in the eighteenth century. **For the full report, visit http://www.unh.edu/cie/faculty/faculty_travelrpts_index.html.**

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