



UACHTARAN NA hEIREANN
PRESIDENT OF IRELAND

9 October, 2008

Dr Corin Braga,
Dean of Faculty of Letters
Universitatea Babes-Bolyai

Dear Dean Braga,

I am writing to express my sincere thanks for the very warm welcome which you extended to me, to Martin and to my entire delegation on our recent visit to your Faculty.

I have long had a sense of connection to the Babes-Bolyai University as a result of the assistance which I was able to offer in the establishment of the MA in Irish Studies. My involvement, although less than that of others, is based on my belief that by building these academic links between Ireland and Romania I can help to open channels of communication which will advance cultural cooperation between both our countries. In this case, it is clear to me that communication between your Faculty and Ireland is now strong and I hope that this will continue to grow in the years to come.

I was particularly struck by the warmth of welcome at the awards ceremony in the Faculty of Letters and by the friendliness of both staff and students when I had the all-to-short opportunity to meet them afterwards. I will long remember both occasions with fondness.

I was also glad that we were able to meet again, even if only briefly, at the lunch hosted by Mayor Boc on the same day.

I would have liked to stay longer both in the University and in Cluj-Napoca, but I hope that I may have the opportunity to return in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Mary McAleese
President of Ireland