

Press Release

Issued Dec 9th 2004

Galway Members Lead the Way at Junior Chamber World Congress

Junior Chamber Galway members, Eugene Garvin and MacDara Hosty played major roles in representing Ireland at the recent Junior Chamber International World Congress in Fukuoka, Japan. JCI Ireland National President, Eugene Garvin headed the 12 strong Irish delegation which included a candidate for the position of JCI World President, Kevin Cullinane from Cobh. Following a successful campaign, Mr. Cullinane was officially elected and sworn into the top position within Junior Chamber in the world. He joins the 1984 World President, Joe Murphy, as only the second Irishman to attain this honour. Video footage of the newly elected president's inauguration and acceptance speech can be downloaded the JCI Ireland website (www.jci-ireland.org).

Mr. Hosty had the honour of heading up the Irish Debating team who became the JCI World Debating Champions. The Irish team came through a tough semi-final against JCI-UK in carrying the motion that "A woman's first love is her man's credit card". In the final against Australia, the Irish trio were equally successful in winning through by successfully defeating the motion that "Love letters are a thing of the past". With Mr. Hosty on the Irish team were Darragh McGann (JCI Cobh) and Jeremy Doyle (JCI Fingal). Team member Darragh McGann was also narrowly beaten into the runner up position in the World Public Speaking competition.

Earlier in the conference, Mr. Hosty was Head Trainer for the highly rated JCI LEAD leadership development course that was attended by JCI members from all over the world.

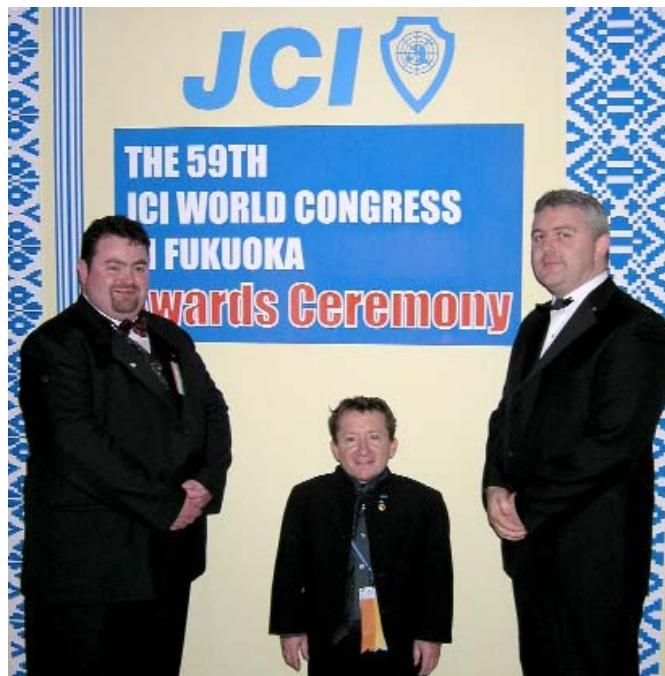
Overall, the conference in Japan was a tremendous success for the Irish delegation and Junior Chamber in Ireland can now look forward to a year with an Irishman holding the highest office in the organisation worldwide. As World President, Mr. Cullinane will chair the 2005 JCI World Congress in Vienna at which a large delegation of JCI members from both Galway and around the country are expected to attend.

JCI Galway is affiliated to JCI Ireland and is part of the largest personal and leadership development organisation for young people in the age group of 18-40 in the world - Junior Chamber International. It is a voluntary, non-political organisation that fosters a spirit of entrepreneurship and social responsibility through it's range of activities and projects. JCI Galway meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 8pm. Check the website at www.juniorchambergalway.com to confirm details. New members and guests are always welcome to attend.

Photo Captions:



National President of JCI Ireland, Eugene Garvin (Galway) pictured with newly elected JCI World President, Kevin Cullinane (Cobh) at the Gala Banquet at the JCI World Congress in Japan.



Galway's MacDara Hosty (right) pictured with fellow team members (L to R) Darragh McGann (Cobh) and Jeremy Doyle (Fingal) after winning the JCI World Debating title at the JCI World Congress in Japan.