Applicants are sought for a fully-funded four-year Provost’s PhD Project Award to start a PhD at Trinity College Dublin in September 2020 or March 2021 on a subject arising from a SHHRC-funded research project A Catholic Atlantic?: Minority Agency in the British World 1763-1860, under the auspices of Dr Ciaran O’Neill (Trinity College Dublin) and Dr Karly Kehoe (SMU, Halifax). This award provides a unique opportunity for a doctoral student to join a research team and to engage in frontier historical research on the project’s core research questions. The successful applicant will be based in the School of Histories and Humanities and enrolled in the Structured PhD Programme.

The award comprises the student’s full PhD tuition fees (EU or non-EU) and an annual stipend of €16,000. Trinity’s Provost’s PhD Project Awards are generously funded through alumni donations and Trinity’s Commercial Revenue Unit. Potential applicants are invited to email the Principal Investigator, Dr Ciaran O’Neill (ciaran.oneill@tcd.ie) to consult on their research proposal.

Applications for the award must include a personal statement with a research proposal (max. 5 pages), a curriculum vitae with educational history, transcripts of degree results, and two academic references. Prospective students will need to send these documents to Eilís Dunne at pghishum@tcd.ie by the 1st April 2020. The successful candidate will then be invited to make a formal application to TCD via the my.tcd.ie portal and issued with a formal offer in the same manner as other incoming PhD students. Applications will not be considered complete until referees have submitted their references. Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by the end of May. Unsuccessful candidates will be considered for other available funding. The successful candidate will be invited to apply via the online application system.
If the successful candidate does not have English as a first language, s/he will also be required to submit evidence of English language competence at this stage.

Trinity College Dublin is committed to policies, procedures and practices which do not discriminate on grounds such as gender, civil status, family status, age, disability, race, religious belief, sexual orientation or membership of the travelling community. On that basis we encourage and welcome talented people from all backgrounds to join our staff and student body. Trinity’s Diversity Statement can be viewed in full at https://www.tcd.ie/diversity-inclusion/diversity-statement.

We are looking for applicants with the following qualifications:

**Essential:**
- A first-class (or equivalent) undergraduate degree in History
- Excellent communicative competence in English
- Excellent research and organisational skills

**Desirable:**
- A Master’s degree (completed or in progress) in modern/early modern history
- Demonstrable experience of using archives and interpreting record sources
- Some familiarity with French language and French sources
- Ability and willingness to collaborate in a research group

**Further enquiries:**
Dr Ciaran O’Neill (ciaran.oneill@tcd.ie)

**Further Information:**

*A Catholic Atlantic?: Minority Agency in the British World 1763-1860*

The proposed PhD is part of a larger project *A Catholic Atlantic?: Minority Agency in the British World 1763-1860* (CABW). This is a project about minority agency in an imperial state and it has three objectives: 1) to identify and
explore new archival collections; 2) to explore lay Catholic agency through a transnational lens and within the British Empire; and 3) to build an expert and international research team that will expand research capacity in Atlantic Canada communities. The PhD student funded through the PPA will take responsibility for the Irish strand of the project, and under the direction of Dr O’Neill, but will benefit enormously from being part of an ambitious international project. The bulk of their work will focus on the out-migration of Irish people to Atlantic Canada and the Caribbean, as well as the correspondence relating to Catholic education and communities held at the Dublin Diocesan Archives, Westminster Diocesan Archives, and the foreign office papers at Kew in London. Additional work will be carried out on the Admiralty papers, also at Kew. The PhD student will help to design a programme of research to fit within this wider project, ensuring their full ownership of the thesis topic.

The proposed PhD is part of a wider collaboration involving three Principal Investigators. These are Prof Karly Kehoe, Canadian Research Chair in Atlantic Canada at SMU Halifax, with further support from Prof Luca Codignola-Bo, Senior Fellow of the Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism of the University of Notre Dame.