

Protestants, print and Gaelic culture, 1567-1722: Department of the Taoiseach and IRCHSS research project at UCD Humanities Institute of Ireland

2 Post-doctoral Fellowships tenable at UCD

A prestigious and highly competitive research award from the Department of the Taoiseach and the Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences (Grants in Theology and Religious Studies) has been made to the UCD Humanities Institute of Ireland's Director, Dr Marc Caball, for a three-year research project entitled 'Protestants, print and Gaelic culture in Ireland, 1567-1722'.

Applications are now invited from suitably-qualified doctoral graduates for two post-doctoral fellowships funded through this project. One fellowship will be of two years duration and the second is a one year fellowship. Salary will be at the current IRCHSS post-doctoral fellowship rate of €31,745 per annum. The doctoral fellowships are awarded and held on the basis of the relevant IRCHSS terms and conditions.

Applications will only be considered where they relate directly to the history of early modern religion, culture and society in Ireland, especially in the area of Gaelic culture, print and Protestantism from the sixteenth to the beginning of the nineteenth centuries.

The closing date for the receipt of applications is Monday 31st August 2009 at 12 noon.

The project centres on a unique and dynamic encounter between a new religious ideology, print technology and Gaelic culture. This creative and transformative process sheds considerable light not only on the rich and often subtle complexities of religious and cultural interchange in early modern Ireland but also offers a shared legacy for both historic traditions in contemporary Ireland. A key objective of the research project focuses on deepening knowledge and understanding of a common historical inheritance which so far has little informed processes of ecumenical and political rapprochement and reconciliation on the island of Ireland. The project investigates a critical episode in Irish religious and cultural history during the early modern period: the use of print in Irish for Protestant evangelisation. However, this textually-productive amalgam of reformation ideology, print technology and Irish has been largely overlooked by subsequent historians and its legacy overshadowed by the sectarian and ethnic controversy engrained in the Irish historical experience. The project aims to re-evaluate and offer new interpretations of an unparalleled meeting between native and newcomer in early modern Ireland. In addition to funding 2 post-doctoral researchers in the area, a series of workshops and a conference will be organised within the context of the project in collaboration with partners at National University of Ireland, Maynooth, National Library of Ireland and the University of Ulster.

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