

To whom it may concern,

My name is Ronan O'Hanlon, I am a recent graduate of the English department at TCD at both master's and Undergraduate level. I am attaching one of my essays along with my master's dissertation. They were both highly regarded first class honours essays.

I think they are relevant to this call because they both explore how the philosophical Berkeley, which people tend to respect, cannot necessarily be separated from the political Berkeley, who people tend to see as dated and regressive. Both make reference to his stance on slavery. This should throw into question any arguments which suggest that the name should stay the same because of Berkeley's contribution to philosophy.

I would argue that the name should change because to name a library after him is too much of an unambiguously positive public lionization for a man who was clearly deeply morally flawed and also internally conflicted on many things. He is a figure who I believe more attention should be paid to in general, but I also believe that it is incredibly important that this is done in the right contexts as his ideas are very open to misappropriation, as can be seen in the example of the Italian Fascist Party's engagement with him which W. J. McCormack draws attention to in his book *We Irish' in Europe: Yeats, Berkeley and Joseph Hone*. The renaming of the library should not be considered a denial of history. New and more appropriate ways of engaging with his legacy and his ideas have to be found in the college. A new installation as part of the Long Room development project for example, where he is examined within his historical contexts alongside some of his original manuscripts from Trinity's collection, could constitute a more appropriate response to his legacy.

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely,

Ronan O'Hanlon.