Post Specification

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| Post Title: | Assistant Professorship in Environmental Geography, Full Time |
| Post Status: | 4 ½ Year Fixed Term Contract |
| Department/Faculty: | School of Natural Sciences, Faculty of Engineering, Mathematics & Science, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin |
| Location: | Discipline of Geography, Museum Building, Main Campus, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin  College Green, Dublin 2, Ireland |
| Salary: | Appointment will be made on the Lecturer Salary Scale at a point in line with Government Pay Policy |
| Closing Date: | 12 Noon on 14th August 2015 |

**The successful candidate is expected to be in position by 1st December 2015 or as soon as possible thereafter.**

**Post Summary**

The School of Natural Sciences seeks to appoint an Assistant Professor in Environmental Geography for a fixed period to cover research leave. Teaching and research in environmental management and policy are key activities within the School and are central to the new agenda and mission of the E3 initiative, the Engineering, Energy and Environment Institute (<http://www.tcd.ie/E3/>) and its engagement in the College’s Smart and Sustainable Planet Research Theme. This field is highly relevant to foresight analysis and future environmental planning in Ireland, Europe and Globally and is well supported in terms of funding opportunities through domestic and Horizon 2020 programmes.

The Assistant Professor will contribute to teaching in the School at undergraduate level, chiefly to the Science (TR071) Course and Two-Subject Moderatorship in the Freshman years and to the Geography and Political Science degree programmes in Sophister years. S/he will also contribute to the School’s taught MSc programmes, which include Environmental Science, Biodiversity and Conservation, and Development Practice and will attract students through the delivery of modules in areas such as natural resource use, environmental conflicts, planning, policy and governance, sustainable development, green economy and urban sustainability. Expertise in any sector of environmental management (e.g. waste, water, energy, agri-food, biodiversity, transport, natural hazards) will be considered but the successful candidate will be able to teach introductory modules related to general environmental management across a number of these sectors.

A strong track record in publication is expected and the appointee will be required to compete for National and International research funding (e.g. IRC, SFI, EPA, ERC, EU Horizon 2020; DAFM) and to provide leadership and innovation within the Environmental Governance Research Group. The appointee’s research plan will provide opportunities for cross-disciplinary engagement within and across Schools within the university. The appointee will also support the University’s Strategic Plan by strengthening aspects of one or more of the University’s research directions (which include sustainability, creativity, health, society, independence and technology) and themes (including smart and sustainable planet, international development, creative technologies, identities in transformation and inclusive society).

**Background to the post**

The post has become available following the successful ERC Consolidator Award to Professor Anna Davies of the Geography Department within the School of Natural Sciences. The School has supported, over the past couple of decades, a large and active research group in the area of environmental governance. This Assistant Professorship post strategically targets an important and vibrant research area that is core to activities of the School of Natural Sciences, the E3 Institute and the associated research centres (The Centre for Biodiversity Research, The Centre for the Environment and the Future Cities Research Centre).

The appointee will become part of a lively and diverse School, comprising the Disciplines of Botany, Geography, Geology and Zoology and the associated Centres. The staff of the School of Natural Sciences work under four subthemes: Ecology and Evolution, Earth and Environmental Science, Society, Space and Environment and Molecular and Comparative Physiology. The appointee will contribute to and ideally promote synergy among some of these sub-themes. S/he will be expected to enhance research-led teaching in the School, increasing opportunities for graduate recruitment and research.

Informal enquiriesabout this role may be addressed to Professor Anna Davies, [davies@tcd.ie](mailto:davies@tcd.ie) or Professor Peter Coxon, pcoxon@tcd.ie.

Standard duties & responsibilities of the Post

The standard duties and responsibilities of the post will include, but not be limited to:

* The individual appointed, whilst being based in Geography, will be expected to foster interdisciplinary, collaborative research and teaching.
* S/he will be expected to develop their research profile whilst contributing to undergraduate and postgraduate level teaching and to the supervision of research students.
* The successful candidate will also undertake such administrative responsibilities as directed by the Head of School or their nominee; these will, however, be kept to a minimum during the first year of appointment.
* The appointee will take on teaching duties at Freshman level, in the area of environmental geography and nature-society interactions.
* S/he will play a key role in the development and teaching of the moderatorships in Earth Sciences, Geography and Geography and Political Sciences at Sophister level delivering modules on environmental governance.
* S/he will also contribute to other School modules and supervise dissertations at undergraduate and postgraduate levels as necessary.
* Undergraduate teaching will involve giving lectures, seminars and tutorials; setting and marking exams; organising and teaching practical classes; supervising projects; and organising and running field courses both locally and abroad.
* The appointee may participate in and develop the teaching of one or more of the School’s taught postgraduate courses such as the M.Sc. in Environmental Science, M.Sc. in Biodiversity and Conservation, Masters in Development Practice, and taught modules for Ph.D. students.
* The appointee will be expected to be proactive in raising research income and engaging in international networks to support research, including generating funds to support postgraduate research students, research fellows and/or research assistants.
* S/he will be expected to act as supervisor or co-supervisor to research students, and to recruit new research students as appropriate.
* The appointee will also contribute to public and policy outreach and the promotion of environmental management issues in the wider community.

**Person Specification**

Qualifications

* Candidates must hold a PhD in a relevant research area and be able to demonstrate a proven track record in field.

Knowledge & Experience

Essential:

* Experience of teaching at undergraduate level.
* Evidence of a personal contribution, and commitment, to excellence in teaching.
* A commitment to student learning and development.
* Innovative teaching and learning skills.
* A commitment to scholarship and evidence of research activity, including publications in internationally peer reviewed journals, in a cognate area.
* Ability to attract national and international research grant income.
* A commitment to progress personal professional development.
* Evidence of competence in academic management.
* A collegiate working style, with openness to collaborative research and teaching.
* A commitment to the contribution of knowledge to society.

Desirable:

* Experience of and interest in working in an interdisciplinary setting.
* Knowledge of quantitative and qualitative research techniques and analysis.
* Successful or potential to generate research grant income.
* Experience of attracting funding for graduate students.
* Experience of supervising undergraduate dissertations and research student supervision.
* Experience of teaching at Masters level.
* Experience of developing new modules and teaching material.
* Experience of successfully obtaining research funding**.**

Skills & Competencies

* Evidence of potential to manage and develop modules in a University setting.
* Ability to work flexibly and effectively as a member of a team.
* Excellent communication skills.
* Excellent organisational and administrative skills.
* Demonstrate vision and commitment to scholarly practice.
* Willingness to contribute to the University, to the discipline and to the wider community.

Application Information

In order to assist the selection process, candidates should submit a Curriculum Vitae and a Cover Letter that specifically addresses the following points in their application.

1. Your list of publications.
2. A research plan (summarising research to be carried out in the next period of the appointment, including details for funding to be sought - 2 pages maximum)
3. A teaching statement (summarising teaching experience and approach - 2 pages maximum)

**Note:**

* **Please note:** Candidates who do not address the application requirements above in their cover letter will not be considered at the short list stage.

**The School of Natural Sciences**

The School of Natural Sciences, comprising the Disciplines of [Botany](http://www.tcd.ie/Botany/), [Geography](http://www.tcd.ie/Geography/), [Geology](http://www.tcd.ie/Geology/) and [Zoology](http://www.tcd.ie/Zoology/), the [Centre for the Environment](http://www.naturalscience.tcd.ie/CENV2006/index.php) and the TCBR, is one of the largest schools in the [Faculty of Engineering, Mathematics and Science](http://www.ems.tcd.ie/) and hosts biological, physical and social scientists. The School currently accommodates 40 academic staff, ca. 14 postdoctoral research fellows and ca. 164 postgraduate students (including 89 research and 75 taught students). Its taught programmes are varied as the School offers moderatorships (undergraduate degrees) in Earth Sciences, Environmental Sciences, Functional Biology, Geography, Geology, Plant Sciences and Zoology and contributes to other moderatorships including Neurosciences, Geography and Politics and to the Two Subject Moderatorship (TSM) programme

(<http://www.naturalscience.tcd.ie/undergraduate/>). The School has also a major commitment to graduate teaching and supervision and currently hosts three taught Masters programmes

(<http://www.naturalscience.tcd.ie/postgraduate/>).

**GARDA CLEARANCE:**

Police vetting will be sought in respect of individuals who come under consideration for a post.

PLEASE NOTE: Candidates will be required to complete and return a Garda Vetting form should they come under consideration for appointment.  In some cases they may be requested to complete the form on the day of interview.  This form will be forwarded to An Garda Síochána (Irish Police) for security checks on all Irish addresses at which they have resided.  An Garda Síochána will make enquiries with the Police Service of Northern Ireland with respect to addresses in Northern Ireland.   If a candidate is not successful in obtaining the post for whatever reason, this information will be destroyed.  If a candidate, therefore, subsequently comes under consideration for another position, they will be required to supply this information again.

While candidates must complete information in relation to all addresses at which they have resided, the vetting is only done on addresses on the island of Ireland.

If a candidate has resided / studied in countries outside of Ireland for a period of 6 months or more, it is mandatory for them to furnish a Police Criminal Records Check/ Police Certificate from those countries stating that they have no convictions recorded against them while residing there.  Candidates will need to provide a separate Police Criminal Records Check/ Police Certificate for each country in which they have resided. The Police Criminal Records Check/ Police Certificate must be dated after the date the candidate left the relevant country. Candidates should provide documentation in the English and/or Irish language.  Translations must be provided by a registered translation company/institute in the Republic of Ireland; all costs will be borne by the candidate.  Only original version documents will be accepted.

Candidates should be aware that any information obtained in the Garda Vetting process can be made available to the employing area.

It is the responsibility of the candidate to seek security clearances in a timely fashion as they can take some time.  No candidate will be appointed without this information being provided and being in order.

The following websites may be of assistance in this regard:

[www.disclosurescotland.co.uk](http://www.disclosurescotland.co.uk)

[www.psni.police.uk](http://www.psni.police.uk)

[www.afp.gov.au](http://www.afp.gov.au)

This website provides information on obtaining a national police clearance certificate for Australia

[www.courts.govt.nz](http://www.courts.govt.nz)

This website provides information on obtaining police clearance in New Zealand.

For other countries not listed above candidates may find it helpful to contact the relevant embassies who could provide information on seeking Police Clearance.  Original Police Clearance documentation should be forwarded to Human Resources where it will be copied and the original returned to the candidate by post.  Any cost incurred in this process will be borne by the Candidate.

**Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin**

Founded in 1592, Trinity is at the nexus of tradition and innovation, offering undergraduate and postgraduate programmes across 24 schools and three faculties: arts, humanities, and social sciences; engineering, maths and science; and health sciences. Spread across 47 acres in Dublin’s city centre, Trinity’s 17,000-strong student body comes from all 32 counties of Ireland, and 16% of students come from outside the country. Of those, 40% are from outside the European Union, making Trinity’s campus cosmopolitan and bustling, with a focus on diversity.

As Ireland’s leading university, the pursuit of academic excellence through research and scholarship is at the heart of the Trinity education. Trinity is known for intellectual rigour, excellence, interdisciplinarity, and research-led teaching. Home to Nobel prize-winners such as scientist Ernest Walton and writer Samuel Beckett, Trinity draws visitors from across the world to its historic campus each year, including to the Book of Kells and Science Gallery which capture the university’s connection to both old and new.

Trinity accounts for one-fifth of all spin-out companies from Irish higher education institutions, helping to turn Ireland into an innovation-intensive, high-productivity economy. That culture of innovation and entrepreneurship is a defining characteristic of our campus as we help shape the next generation of job creators.

Trinity has developed significant strength in a broad range of research areas, including the 19 broadly based multi-disciplinary thematic research areas.



Ireland’s first purpose-built nanoscience research institute, CRANN, houses 150 scientists, technicians and graduate students in specialised laboratory facilities. Meanwhile, the state-of-the-art Biomedical Sciences Institute is carrying out breakthrough research in areas such as immunology, cancer and medical devices.

The Old Library, which houses the Long Room in Trinity, is the largest research library in Ireland, with a collection of six million printed items, 500,000 maps, 80,000 electronic journals, and 350,000 electronic books. Some of the world’s most famous scholars are graduates of Trinity, including writer Jonathan Swift, dramatist Oscar Wilde, philosopher George Berkeley, and political philosopher, and political theorist Edmund Burke. Three Trinity graduates have become Presidents of Ireland - Douglas Hyde, Mary Robinson and Mary McAleese.

Trinity is the highest ranked university in Ireland, and among the world’s leading higher education institutions.

**Trinity College Dublin World University Rankings**

*Overall*

* Trinity College Dublin is Ireland’s No.1 University (QS World University Ranking, THE World University Ranking, Academic Ranking of World Universities (Shanghai).
* Trinity College Dublin is ranked 71st in the World and 21st in Europe in the 2013/2014 QS World University Ranking across all indicators.

*Internationalisation*

* Trinity College Dublin is ranked 30th in the World in the Times Higher Education Top 100 Most International Universities.
* Trinity College Dublin is 46th in the World in the QS World University Ranking 2013/2014 in terms of International Faculty.

*Research Performance*

* Trinity College Dublin is ranked in the top 70 universities in the world in the Times Higher Education Ranking of World Universities in terms of overall research and in the top 75 universities in the world in terms of citations (research impact).
* Trinity College Dublin is 80th in the World and 27th in Europe in the 2014 Leiden University Ranking of World Universities based on research performance alone.
* Trinity College Dublin ranks in the top 1% of research institutions in the world in the following 17 fields (an increase of over 150% from 2004): Physics, Chemistry, Engineering, Social Sciences (General), Immunology, Neurosciences, Nanosciences, Materials Science, Pharmacy & Toxicology, Molecular Biology & Genetics, Biology & Biochemistry, Microbiology, Plant and Animal Science, Clinical Medicine, Agriculture, Psychiatry/Psychology, Environment/Ecology.

*Subject Rankings (high level)/QS Faculty Rankings 2014\**

* In the QS Faculty Rankings 2014, Trinity College Dublin is ranked 63rd in the world in Arts and Humanities.
* In the QS Faculty Rankings 2014, Trinity College Dublin is ranked in the world top 100 universities in Life Sciences and Medicine (in 69th place).
* In the QS Faculty Rankings 2014, Trinity College Dublin is ranked in the world top 100 universities in Social Sciences and Management (in 89th place).

*Subject Rankings (QS 2014)\*\**

Trinity College Dublin (TCD) features in the world's elite (Top 200) institutions in 23 of the 30 subjects featured the *QS World University Rankings by Subject 2014.*

* Trinity College Dublin is ranked 25th in the world in English Language & Literature.
* Trinity College Dublin is ranked 42nd in the world in Modern Languages.
* Trinity College Dublin is ranked 46th in the world in Politics & International Studies.
* Trinity College Dublin is ranked 48th in the world in History.
* Trinity College Dublin is in the World Top 100 in Accounting & Finance.
* Trinity College Dublin is in the World Top 100 in Biological Sciences.
* Trinity College Dublin is in the World Top 100 in Economics & Econometrics.
* Trinity College Dublin is in the World Top 100 in Geography.
* Trinity College Dublin is in the World Top 100 in Law.
* Trinity College Dublin is in the World Top 100 in Medicine.
* Trinity College Dublin is in the World Top 100 in Pharmacy & Pharmacology.
* Trinity College Dublin is in the World Top 100 in Psychology.

\* QS ‘Faculty’ Rankings 2014: <http://www.topuniversities.com/faculty-rankings>

\*\* QS Subject Rankings 2014: <http://www.topuniversities.com/subject-rankings>

**The Selection Process in Trinity**

* The Selection Committee (Interview Panel) will include members of the Academic community together with an External Assessor who is an expert in the area.
* Applications will be acknowledged by email. If you do not have confirmation of receipt within 1 day of submitting your application online, please get in touch with us immediately and prior to the closing date/time.
* Given the degree of co-ordination and planning to have a Selection Committee available on the specified date, the College regrets that it may not be in a position to offer alternate selection dates. Where candidates are unavailable, reserves may be drawn from a shortlist.
* Outcomes of interviews are notified in writing to candidates and are issued **no later than 5 working days** following the selection day.
* In some instances the Selection Committee **may** avail of telephone or video conferencing.
* The College’s selection methods may consist of any or all of the following:
  + - Interviews
    - Presentations
    - Psychometric Testing
    - References
* It is the policy of the College to conduct pre-employment medical screening/full pre-employment medicals.
* Information supplied by candidates in their application (Cover Letter and CV) will be used to shortlist for interview.

### Equal Opportunities Policy

Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin is an equal opportunities employer and is committed to the employment 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.

**Pension Entitlements**

This is a pensionable position and the provisions of the Public Service Superannuation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2004 will apply in relation to retirement age for pension purposes. Details of the relevant Pension Scheme will be provided to the successful applicant.

Applicants should note that they will be required to complete a Pre-Employment Declaration to confirm whether or not they have previously availed of an Irish Public Service Scheme of incentivised early retirement or enhanced redundancy payment. Applicants will also be required to declare any entitlements to a Public Service pension benefit (in payment or preserved) from any other Irish Public Service employment.

Applicants formerly employed by the Irish Public Service that may previously have availed of an Irish Public Service Scheme of Incentivised early retirement or enhanced redundancy payment should ensure that they are not precluded from re-engagement in the Irish Public Service under the terms of such Schemes. Such queries should be directed to an applicant’s former Irish Public Service Employer in the first instance.

**Application Procedure**

Candidates should submit a cover letter together with a full curriculum vitae to include the names and contact details of 3 referees (email addresses if possible), your list of publications and a research plan (summarising research to be carried out in the period of the appointment and including details for funding to be sought - 2 pages), and a teaching statement (summarising teaching experience and approach - 2 pages) [**by e-Recruitment**](http://jobs.tcd.ie)**:**

**APPLICATIONS WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED BY** [**E-RECRUITMENT**](http://jobs.tcd.ie)

If you have any query regarding this, please contact:

Eimear Power, Recruitment Relationship Partner, Human Resources, House No. 4, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin

**Tel: +353 1 896 4849**

**Email:** [**Eimear.power@tcd.ie**](mailto:Eimear.power@tcd.ie)

[](http://www.universityvacancies.com/)