Post Specification

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| Post Title: | Assistant Professorship in Urban Geography |
| Post Status: | Permanent |
| Department/Faculty: | School of Natural Sciences / Faculty of Engineering, Mathematics & Science |
| Location: | Discipline of Geography, School of Natural Sciences |
| Reports to: | Head of School, School of Natural Sciences |
| Salary: | Appointment will be made on the Lecturer Salary Scale at a point in line with Government Pay Policy |
| Closing Date: | 18th September 2015 |

Post Summary

The School of Natural Sciences seeks to appoint an Assistant Professor in Urban Geography.

Teaching and research in spatial and urban development are key activities in the School which 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 with the College’s Smart and Sustainable Planet Theme. In particular, this post will enhance and extend synergies through the Future Cities Research Centre. This field is highly relevant to foresight analysis and future spatial planning and is well supported by Horizon 2020 which will facilitate significant grant capture.

The Assistant Professor will contribute to teaching in the School at undergraduate and postgraduate level, chiefly to the Science (TR071) Course in the Freshman - first and second years - and to the Geography and Political Science degree programmes in Sophister - third and four years. S/he will also contribute to the School’s taught MSc programmes and will attract students through the development of new teaching modules, in areas of such as urban eonomic restructuring, global cities, urban transitions and urban sustainability.

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 build a dynamic research group with international recognition. The appointee’s research will provide opportunities for cross-disciplinary research within and across Schools. 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 School has supported, over the past couple of decades, a large and active research group in the areas of Urban Geography. 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 the single overarching theme ‘Biodiversity and the Environment’ underpinned by 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 research.

Standard duties of the Post

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 internationally recognised 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 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 Human Geography. S/he will play a key role in the development and teaching of the moderatorships in Earth Sciences, Geography and Geography and Political Sciences. S/he may also be asked to contribute to other School modules and a Broad Curriculum module and will contribute to teaching at masters level. 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 will 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, M.Sc. in Development Practice, and taught modules for Ph.D. students. Teaching loads will be gradually increased in the initial years following appointment to facilitate the development of an active research group.

The appointee will be expected to be proactive in raising funds and engaging in international networks to support research, including 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 significant numbers of research students, and to continue to recruit new research students annually. The appointee will also contribute to outreach and the promotion of urban issues in the wider community.

The appointee will be provided with access to a wide range of research facilities.

**Location and Facilities**

The Geography Discipline is located in the Museum Building on the main campus.

Further information

For further information about the Discipline and School see [www.tcd.ie*/*Geography](http://www.tcd.ie/Geography) and [www.naturalscience.tcd.ie](http://www.naturalscience.tcd.ie)

Candidates wishing to discuss the lectureship post informally and in confidence should email:

Professor Peter Coxon, Head of Geography: [pcoxon@tcd.ie](mailto:pcoxon@tcd.ie)

or

Professor Fraser Mitchell, Head of School: [Fraser.Mitchell@tcd.ie](mailto:Fraser.Mitchell@tcd.ie)

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 & Desirable)

**Knowledge and Experience**



**Research**

**Essential**

* proven record in research and ability to contribute to the Discipline’s research strands.Demonstrate future research potential taking the form of publications which demonstrate originality and value.
* proven ability or evidence of potential to establish a strong record of research and publication in a relevant field.
* Knowledge of quantitative research techniques and analysis
* Capacity to attract graduate students to research, etc.
* an ability to conduct research in a relevant area and to supervise research projects.
* knowledge of recent research in the relevant areas.
* publication of articles in peer-reviewed journals.
* participation in research seminars and conferences.

Desirable

* proven ability or evidence of potential to attract external research funding.

**Teaching**

**Essential**

* an ability to provide lectures and practical classes to undergraduate and postgraduate students.
* an ability to develop and coordinate teaching modules.
* excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
* evidence of a personal contribution and commitment to excellence in teaching.
* experience of supervising undergraduate dissertations .
* experience of developing new modules and teaching material.

**Desirable**

* experience of using new teaching media.
* experience of working collaboratively and effectively in an inter and multidisciplinary environment.

**Administration**

**Essential**

* potential to co-ordinate, manage and develop modules and courses in a university setting.
* An ability to use statistical or other relevant tools to analyse assessment and evaluation programmes and to write reports.
* excellent organisational and administrative skills.
* ability to establish targets and goals to support School and College strategies
* a commitment to student care.

**Desirable**

* experience of organising research seminars, recruitment initiatives and other activities.

**Other essential Attributes**

ability to work effectively as member of a team.

honesty and integrity.

good communication skills.

good organisational skills.

willingness to contribute to the Discipline, School, College and to the wider community

career driven, enthusiastic and motivated.

a commitment to own professional development.

In addition, candidates will be assessed on their demonstrated potential contribution to the School, to the College and to the wider community.

Application Information

In order to assist the selection process, candidates should submit:-

* Curriculum Vitae including the names and contact details of three referees
* A cover letter that includes a research plan for the next five years including funding to be sought (maximum 2 pages)
* A teaching statement summarising teaching experience and approach (maximum 2 pages).

Candidates who do not address the application requirements above will not be considered at the shortlist stage.

The interview process for this appointment may include the delivery of a presentation.

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Further Information for Candidates

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| URL Link to Area | <http://naturalscience.tcd.ie/> |
| URL Link to Human Resources | <http://hr.tcd.ie/> |

Discipline/Area Summary

**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). It’s 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/>).

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

**Internationalisation**

* Trinity is ranked 44th in the World in the Times Higher Education Top 100 Most International Universities.
* Trinity is 46th in the World in the QS World University Ranking 2013/2014 in terms of International Faculty.

**Research Performance**

* Trinity 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 ranks in the top 1% of research institutions in the world in the following 17 Essential Science Indicators fields (an increase of over 150% from 2004): Physics, Chemistry, Engineering, Social Sciences (General), Immunology, Neurosciences, Nanosciences, Materials Science, Pharmacy and Toxicology, Molecular Biology and Genetics, Biology and Biochemistry, Microbiology, Plant and Animal Science, Clinical Medicine, Agriculture, Psychiatry/Psychology, Environment/Ecology.

**In the QS Faculty Rankings 2015\*:**

* Trinity is ranked 63rd in the world in Arts and Humanities.
* Trinity is ranked 69th in the world in Life Sciences and Medicine.
* Trinity is ranked 89th in the in Social Sciences and Management.

**In the QS Subject Rankings 2015\*\*:**

Trinity College Dublin features in the world's elite (Top 200) institutions in 25 of the 28 subjects in which it was evaluated by the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2015. Of these, Trinity ranks in the top 100 in the world in 14 subjects and in the top 5 in the world in 5 subjects.

**Top 50**

* Trinity is ranked 32nd in the world in English Language and Literature.
* Trinity is ranked 33rd in the world in Politics and International Studies.
* Trinity is ranked 39th in the world in History.
* Trinity is ranked 48th in the world in Biological Sciences.
* Trinity is ranked 49th in the world in Modern Languages.

**Top 100**

* Trinity is in the top 100 in the world in Chemistry.
* Trinity is in the top 100 in the world in Computer Science and Information Systems.
* Trinity is in the top 100 in the world in Education.
* Trinity is in the top 100 in the world in Geography.
* Trinity is in the top 100 in the world in Law.
* Trinity is in the top 100 in the world in Medicine.
* Trinity is in the top 100 in the world in Pharmacy and Pharmacology.
* Trinity is in the top 100 in the world in Philosophy.
* Trinity is in the top 100 in the world in Psychology.

**Trinity subjects ranked in the world top 101-200 (QS Subject Ranking 2015)**

Subject Trinity Rank

Accounting and Finance 101-150

Business and Management Studies 101-150

Economics and Econometrics 101-150

Linguistics 101-150

Physics and Astronomy 101-150

Sociology 101-150

Engineering - Civil and Structural 151-200

Engineering – Electrical 151-200

Engineering – Mechanical 151-200

Environmental Sciences 151-200

Mathematics 151-200

\* QS ‘Faculty’ Rankings 2015: [www.topuniversities.com/faculty-rankings](http://www.topuniversities.com/faculty-rankings)

\*\* QS Subject Rankings 2015: [www.topuniversities.com/subject-rankings](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 next two years 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:

Ann-Marie Farrell, Recruitment Relationship Partner, Human Resources, House No. 4, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin

**Tel: +353 1 896 1030**

**Email:** [**farrela4@tcd.ie**](mailto:farrela4@tcd.ie)

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