Background

Dublin City University (www.dcu.ie) is a research-intensive, globally-engaged, dynamic institution that is distinguished by both the quality and impact of its graduates and its focus on the translation of knowledge into societal and economic benefit. Excellence in its education and research activities has led to its ranking in the top 2% of universities globally and its consistent position in the top 50 of the almost 10,000 young universities worldwide (QS Top 50 under 50).

DCU prepares its students well for success in life, and in the workplace, by providing a high-quality, rounded education appropriate to the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.

DCU is Ireland’s fastest growing university and its next phase of major development involves strategic investments of more than €0.3bn, including a €0.2bn campus development plan.

As Ireland’s University of Enterprise, DCU is renowned for its commitment to innovation and entrepreneurship and its proactive engagement with the enterprise sector.

AIB is a financial services group operating predominantly in Ireland and the UK. It provides a comprehensive range of services to personal, business and corporate customers, and has leading market shares in banking products in the Republic of Ireland. As a market leader in digital banking services in Ireland, AIB is committed to supporting new and emerging opportunities in the area of big data and analytics.

The School of Computing

Since its foundation thirty years ago, the School of Computing in DCU has earned a strong reputation for excellence in research and in teaching to undergraduate and postgraduate levels. A key part of its innovative approach is to anticipate new directions in computing, such as Data Science, and to meet these challenges through strategic development of its portfolio of teaching and research. The School is an active centre of research and innovation. Members of staff have collaborative links with a range of national and international research centres. The School is a major stakeholder in two SFI Research Centres, specifically: the Insight Centre for Data Analytics and the ADAPT Centre for Digital Content Technology (formerly CNGL).

In term of analytics, the Insight centre at DCU focuses much of its activity on developing and applying novel Data Science techniques to media analytics and to personal sensing. Insight
has collaborated with more than 50 members of academic staff across 11 of the University’s Schools, developing or applying data analytics in areas as wide-ranging as macro-economic analysis, connected health, journalism, agriculture, insurance, digital humanities, energy monitoring, independent living, sensing in sports, environmental monitoring and others.

Furthermore, staff are significantly involved in a number of other research groups including: Lero, the Irish Software Research Centre, the Irish Centre for Cloud Computing and Commerce (IC4), and the Advanced Research Computing Centre for Complex Systems Modelling (ARC-SYM). In addition to a large number of PhD research students, the School of Computing maintains a variety of undergraduate and postgraduate taught programmes in computing and will be launching Ireland’s first BSc in Data Science in September 2016. Further information about the School can be obtained from its website: http://www.computing.dcu.ie.

The Position

In keeping with its reputation for developing expertise in areas of major technological significance, DCU, in partnership with Allied Irish Banks (AIB), is seeking to make a key appointment in Data Analytics at full professorial level.

The successful candidate will be internationally-renowned in this field and will have an outstanding research record. S/he will provide additional expertise, leadership and scholarship in the area of Data Analytics, Data Science and related topics, and will deliver modules across a range of degree programmes, including DCU’s new and nationally unique B.Sc. in Data Science.

The position will be based in DCU’s School of Computing, which has earned a strong reputation for excellence in research and in teaching at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The School is strongly research-active and staff members play a key role in a number of Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) Research Centres, including the Insight Centre for Data Analytics (www.insight-centre.org), Ireland’s largest ever research initiative. The successful candidate will provide additional strategic research leadership in the area of Data Science in the School of Computing, in the Insight Centre for Data Analytics and across Dublin City University. The successful candidate will also be expected to contribute significantly to teaching, curriculum development and administrative activities in the School of Computing across all levels and also add to the strategic development of Data Science within the University.

This position presents an exciting opportunity for a results-driven individual to make a significant contribution to the future of DCU as it enters its next stage of major development. The successful candidate will normally have achieved the rank of Professor/Associate Professor.

Research Funding Support

As part of the establishment of the AIB Chair in Data Science, AIB will provide start-up research funding for the successful candidate. This funding will support a PhD candidate(s) and/or Postdoctoral researcher. In addition, the successful candidate can expect to work with the Insight Centre for Data Analytics at DCU, where further research funding opportunities will arise.
Key Responsibilities

Teaching

The successful candidate will take a leadership role in the development of teaching and learning in relation to data science/analytics. S/he would be expected to deliver modules across a range of degree programmes, participate in student mentoring and other teaching-orientated activities. S/he will work proactively with colleagues to improve existing courses and programmes.

Research

The successful candidate will conduct leading-edge research in the field of data science and will publish results in leading academic journals and at conferences. S/he will provide academic leadership and scholarship in the area of data analytics. S/he will supervise, develop and mentor doctoral students and post-doctoral researchers to develop and maintain world-class research in this area.

Administration

The Appointee will be required to contribute to the leadership/management and administration of the School of Computing, Faculty of Engineering and Computing, and the wider university, in particular as they apply to the area of data science/analytics. Further s/he will be expected to contribute to the administration and leadership/management of the School and University as appropriate, through roles such as Head of School and Associate Dean. The appointee will also collaborate with AIB to maximise PR opportunities through DCU’s/AIB’s communications and marketing departments. S/he will provide an annual report of research to DCU and AIB, and will carry out any other duties appropriate to the position as required.

Experience and Requirements

Applications are invited from academics who are internationally-recognised leaders and active researchers within the broad area of data science/analytics.

The successful candidate will have achieved rank of Professor/Associate Professor. S/he will be a person with an international reputation in research and with a substantial publications record in high quality international journals and at conferences. S/he will have a demonstrable track record of personal commitment to high standards of academic excellence. S/he will have evidence of an International research reputation (publication in top-tier journals; research income; collaborations; invited presentations. S/he will demonstrate an active research programme with significant potential for future publication.

The successful candidate will have achieved success in research collaboration, experience of curriculum and programme development. S/he will possess strong leadership and management skills, strong interpersonal and communication skills and will have a proven ability to engage with key stakeholders and policy-makers.

Applicants must possess a doctorate in Computing or a related discipline and experience in industry is desirable.

The appointment will be made at the level of Associate Professor or Professor, depending on the experience of the successful applicant.
Remuneration

An attractive salary, commensurate with the successful applicant’s experience will be offered to the holder of this post.

Closing date: Friday 24th March 2016

Application Procedure

Informal enquiries to:

Professor Rory O’Connor, Head of School of Computing, Dublin City University, Dublin 9, Ireland
E-mail: Rory.OConnor@dcu.ie
Tel: +353 (0)1 700 5643
Website: http://www.computing.dcu.ie

Please do not send applications to this email address, instead apply as described below.

Application forms are available from the DCU Current Vacancies (open Competitions) website at http://www.dcu.ie/vacancies/current.shtml and also from the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9. Tel: +353 (0) 1 7005149.

Please clearly state the role that you are applying for in your application and email subject line: Job Ref: 278: Professor / Associate Professor in Data Science

Applications should be submitted by email to hr.applications@dcu.ie or by Fax: +353 (0)1 7005500 or by post to the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9, Ireland. Tel: +353 1 700 5149; Fax: +353 1 700 5500 Email: hr.applications@dcu.ie

Dublin City University is an equal opportunities employer

“This Chair is supported through the DCU Educational Trust as part of the DCU Shaping the Future Campaign”