



Dublin City University
Faculty of Science and Health
School of Physical Sciences
Lecturer in Astronomy
(Permanent post)

Introduction:

The School of Physical Sciences at Dublin City University has a high standing both within Ireland and internationally, for both its teaching and research activities. It is based in purpose-built accommodation providing custom-designed facilities for undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and research. There are more than eighty researchers within the School's research groups including postgraduate students, postdoctoral researchers, research officers, research technicians and administrators. The majority of the academic and research staff of the School hold membership of the National Centre for Plasma Science and Technology (<http://www.ncpst.ie>) and the National Centre for Sensor Research (<http://www.ncsr.ie>) which were established in 1999 with funding in excess of €25M. Both the NCPST and the NCSR are internationally recognised as leading research centres in their core themes. Both these entities were established by Physics Professors and the NCPST is currently directed by a Physics Professor.

Teaching Programmes:

A **B.Sc. in Physics and Astronomy** commenced in October 2003 and produced its first graduates in November 2007. This 4-year degree programme builds on a core physics curriculum (common to all physics programmes in the School) in years one and two, and provides modules in fundamental and applied physics and applications to astronomy, astrophysics and space science. It is aimed at producing graduates with the skills necessary to become physicists, astrophysicists or astronomers. Topics covered include astronomy, space science and technology, quantum mechanics, optics, lasers, electronics, programming, instrumentation, signal processing, mathematics and computational physics, selected topics in modern physics, etc. The programme provides students with opportunities to work with professional astronomers through placements in Ireland and a field trip abroad.

The **B.Sc. in Applied Physics** was established at Dublin City University in 1981. The aim of the programme is to provide students with a thorough understanding of physics with emphasis on modern technological application, well-developed skills in modern laboratory techniques and the capacity to

adapt and change with new developments. The courses taught within this degree programme provide specialisation in various areas including nanoscience/materials, semiconductors, instrumentation, sensors, computational physics, signal processing, plasma science and photonics. The programme is the only physics degree in the country to be selected for funding in the new Higher Education Authority ICT pilot placement scheme. The total number of graduates since 1985 is in excess of 800.

A **B.Sc. in Physics and with Biomedical Sciences** commenced in October 2007. Built on the common physics framework for our other physics B.Sc. programmes, this 4-year degree programme provides modules in basic biology, physiology, medical and radiation physics and biomedical engineering. This course has been designed to provide both a solid background in physics and in the principles which underpin chemical, biological and life sciences, and a good understanding of the most recent developments such as biophotonics and Nano-(bio)technology. It is ideally suited to the needs of students who intend to pursue a career in physics and technology related to medical research, clinical services or biomedical industries. A number of hospitals partner with DCU in the running of the Physics with Biomedical Sciences programme.

A **B.Sc. in Science Education**, aimed at producing second level science teachers, commenced in October 1999. The focus of this programme is the training of teachers specialising in physics, chemistry or mathematics and fully conversant with modern teaching theory and practice. The School offers a number of taught postgraduate courses utilizing blended learning approaches in the area of plasma and vacuum science and technology. The School of Physical Sciences also provides a substantial teaching input into a large variety of other DCU undergraduate degree programmes mainly in the Faculty of Science and Health and the Faculty of Engineering and Computing.

Research:

Physics research at DCU covers astronomy and astrophysics, low temperature plasmas, intense laser matter interactions, optical/biomedical sensors, microsystems, materials physics and physics education. The school has been very successful in winning substantial research project and programme grants from Science Foundation Ireland (<http://www.sfi.ie>), the Higher Education Authority PRTL programme (<http://www.heai.ie/PRTL>), Enterprise Ireland (<http://www.enterprise-ireland.com>) and the EU (<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/>) in addition to postgraduate scholarships and postdoctoral fellowships from the Irish Research Council for Science, Engineering and Technology (<http://www.research.ie>). Much of the research is carried out within the NCPST and the NCSR which provide world class experimental facilities for the performance of leading edge research in many allied research domains. Research in astronomy takes place in the Schools of Physical and Mathematical Sciences and astronomy/astrophysics is one of the research themes of the NCPST.

Lectureship in Astronomy:

The School of Physical Sciences wishes to recruit a Lecturer with a specialism in astronomy. The key roles attaching to the position are:

- Lecturing to undergraduate and postgraduate students in a broad range of physics, astronomy, astrophysics and space science topics.
- Leading an active research programme in astronomy by attracting research funding and recruiting and supervising postgraduate research students.
- Administrative duties related to the B.Sc. in Physics with Astronomy (PHA) which will include chairing the Programme Board on a rotating basis¹.

The successful candidate will be a highly motivated individual with the potential to grow into a top tier academic with a well balanced teaching and research profile and preferably with the desire and capability to collaborate effectively with other DCU colleagues engaged in astronomy/astrophysics research in the Schools of Physical and Mathematical Sciences and the NCPST. They will have a demonstrable and verifiable track record of high quality research in astronomy as evidenced by regular publication in high impact astronomy/astrophysics journals, a significant citation rate, presentations at cognate conferences etc.

Applicants for the lectureship post must hold a primary degree in physics, astrophysics or astronomy, and will ideally hold a PhD in astronomy. Preference will be given to candidates with proven experience in observational astronomy in the visible, infra-red, radio- or micro-wave regions. Applications from candidates with three years or more postdoctoral experience showing evidence of both originality in the course of their research and the ability to attract funding appropriate to career stage would be particularly welcome. Applicants should have excellent interpersonal and communications skills and be capable of relating well to students and working within a highly collaborative teaching and research environment.

Further information:

Informal enquiries in relation to the above post should be directed to:

Professor Enda McGlynn, Head of School of Physical Sciences, DCU, Dublin 9.
E-mail: enda.mcglynn@dcu.ie Tel: +353 (0)1 700 5387 Fax: +353 (0)1 700 5384

Closing date: 10th June 2016

Salary scale:

Lecturer	€41,502 – €51,724 (below bar)
	€50,159 – €76,891 (above bar)

Appointment will be commensurate with qualifications and experience

¹ The PHA Chair role entails the management and further development of the degree programme within the university in addition to active promotion of the degree programme to secondary school students and other potential entrants and other stakeholders outside the university (e.g., to directors of observatories for field trips and research visits by PHA students).

Application Procedure:

Application forms are available from the DCU Current Vacancies (open Competitions) website at <http://www.dcu.ie/hr/vacancies/current.shtml> and also from the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9. Tel: +353 (0) 1 700 5149.

Applications should be submitted by email by the closing date stated above to hr.applications@dcu.ie or by Fax: +353 (0)1 700 5500 or by post to the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9

Email: hr.applications@dcu.ie

**Please clearly state the role that you are applying for in your application and email subject line:
Job Ref #327 Lecturer in Astronomy.**

Applications should be submitted by e-mail to hr.applications@dcu.ie or by Fax: +353 (0)1 700 5500 or by post to the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9, Ireland.

Dublin City University is an equal opportunities employer

