



Research Centre DCU Water Institute

Post title Postdoctoral Researcher, **Protecting Terrestrial Ecosystems Through Sustainable Pesticide Use (PROTECTS)**

Level on the Framework Level 1

Post duration Fixed Term up to 12 months

Research Career Framework

As part of this role the researcher will be required to participate in the DCU Research Career Framework <http://dcu.ie/hr/ResearchersFramework/index.shtml> . This framework is designed to provide significant professional development opportunities to researchers and offer the best opportunities in terms of a wider career path.

Overview

DCU Water Institute is a large, multidisciplinary research unit based in state-of-the-art facilities situated on the campus of Dublin City University. Arising from success in recent proposals we are now seeking applications for the following research position in DCU.

The successful candidate will join the PROTECTS project, a 4 year project funded by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. PROTECTS is led by Dr. Dara Stanley in University College Dublin, with collaborators in Dublin City University, Maynooth University, Teagasc and Trinity College Dublin. PROTECTS will provide baseline information in an Irish context to build towards mitigating the effects of pesticide use on terrestrial ecosystem services, focussing on pollinators and soils. Our findings will help to ensure that pesticides can be used safely while protecting wildlife, health and the environment, both in Ireland and internationally. The successful candidate will be supervised by Dr. Blánaid White, DCU, and co-supervised by Dr. Jim Carolan, Maynooth University.

Applications are invited for a highly motivated and talented Post-Doctoral Researcher to conduct laboratory research to develop a DNA based soil toxicity biosensor and validate this to screen extracted soil samples. The overall aim of this work is to develop a DNA based biosensor to compare impacts of pesticide levels in soil samples collected.

Applicants should be qualified in electroanalytical science or related discipline, and have obtained a PhD in biosensor development.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Reporting to his/her Principal Investigator the Postdoctoral Researcher will:

- Conduct, with a very high degree of technical competence a specified programme of research and scholarship under the supervision and direction of the Principal Investigator.
- Disseminate the outcomes of the research in which he/she is engaged including publishing in high quality peer reviewed journals of international standing.
- Support the PI and research group in the design and development and implementation of the PROTECTS research programme.
- Support if required, the development of proposals for research funding.
- Take responsibility as requested for day-to-day advice and support of graduate research students and research assistants associated with your research group.
- Mentor, assist and train as appropriate and as directed, more junior research members within the group.
- Contribute to reporting, site visit preparation and other administrative management work associated with your programme of research and the research group.
- Contribute to teaching and outreach activities of the group.
- Liaise with stakeholders such as industry and collaborators within the PROTECTS project.
- Engage in appropriate training and development opportunities as required by the Principal Investigator, the School or Research Centre, or the University.
- Carry out administrative work associated with the programme of research as necessary.

Qualifications

The candidate should hold a primary degree in analytical science etc. with a PhD in electrochemical science with strong analytical capabilities. The candidate should be experienced in DNA biosensor development. The candidate should be capable of working independently with a high degree of technical competence and whilst also being a team player, he/she must demonstrate initiative, be hard working, versatile and productive. S/he should have excellent communication and organisational skills.

Closing date: 22nd June 2018

Salary: €36,854 p.a.

Candidates will be assessed on the following competencies:

- **Discipline knowledge and Research skills** – Demonstrates knowledge of a research discipline and the ability to conduct a specific programme of research within that discipline.
- **Understanding the Research Environment** – Demonstrates an awareness of the research environment (for example funding bodies) and the ability to contribute to grant applications.
- **Communicating Research** – Demonstrates the ability to communicate their research with their peers and the wider research community (for example presenting at conferences and publishing research in relevant journals) and the potential to teach and tutor students.
- **Management & Leadership skills** - Demonstrates the potential to manage research projects including the supervision of undergraduate students and visiting researchers.

Informal enquiries to:

Associate Professor Blánaid White, blanaid.white@dcu.ie

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

Application Procedure

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 Reference 912 Postdoctoral Researcher, Protecting Terrestrial Ecosystems Through Sustainable Pesticide Use (PROTECTS)

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. Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9. Tel: +353 1 700 5149; Fax: +353 1 700 5500 Email: hr.applications@dcu.ie

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