



Post Title:	Research Assistant in Irish linguistics
Post Status/Ref:	Fixed Term, 9 months
Research Group/Department/School:	ADAPT Centre, School of Computing
Location:	Dublin City University
Salary:	Research Assistant - Point 2, €23,064
Deadline:	25th July 2019
Start Date:	September 2019

Research Topic

The ADAPT Centre at DCU are seeking candidates for the position of Research Assistant in the area of Linguistic Annotation for Irish language technology. This position is part of the GaelTech project at the School of Computing in DCU, and is funded by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht under the National Digital Strategy 2019. The project focuses on the development of tools and resources for the Irish language.

The Research Assistant will be responsible for syntactic annotation of the Irish Universal Dependency Treebank. The role involves analysing Irish sentences through identifying their grammatical structure, labelling grammatical relationships between words and documenting linguistic descriptions of the Irish language. The Irish treebank development is part of the ongoing [Universal Dependencies](#) project that involves the development of treebanks for over 76 languages worldwide.

This position provides the opportunity to work in a team of inter-disciplinary Irish NLP researchers as part of a combined effort to address the lack of linguistic tools and resources currently available to Irish language processing. It is highly suited to researchers who may consider pursuing further research studies in the future.

The GaelTech team is an affiliation of the ADAPT Research Centre in Dublin City University. ADAPT has received €50 Million research funding from Industry and Science Foundation Ireland to support 150 researchers across 4 universities in Dublin. The ADAPT Centre's mission is to produce world class research that delivers disruptive innovations for the digital media and intelligent content industry. This Research Assistant position will be supervised by Dr. Teresa Lynn.

Duties and Responsibilities

The successful candidate will work within a group of Academics, Postdoctoral Researchers, PhD students and Research Assistants (RAs). The successful candidate will be responsible for contributing to the expansion of the Irish Universal Dependency Treebank. As part of this position, the RA will be expected to:

- Work closely with the PI to manage the annotation processes and oversee annotation tasks
- Provide mentorship and training to other annotators
- Engage with treebank developers from international collaborating groups
- Analyse Irish sentences with respect to their syntax (grammatical structure)
- Label text according to grammatical relations between Irish words
- Contribute to the improvement of annotation guidelines for Irish treebanking
- Carry out inter-annotator agreement studies
- Present work and findings to PI and peers
- Undergo training to advance knowledge in Irish linguistics and language technology
- Attend seminars and relevant workshops or conferences where appropriate
- Contribute to activities related to the promotion of Irish Language Technology, and selected projects within the Irish Language Technology group.

Person Specification

Qualifications

The successful candidate will have a Primary degree in Linguistics, Language Studies or a closely related discipline, with a minimum of II.I grade.

Knowledge & Experience (Required)

- Formal education in syntax or studies in syntax
- Advanced technical aptitude
- Experience with version control systems (e.g. Github)
- Understanding of the Universal Dependencies annotation scheme and data format

Skills & Competencies

The successful candidate:

- Must have an advanced level of Irish (Leaving Cert B higher level or higher)
- Must display a keen interest in linguistics
- Will be highly motivated, with strong written and oral communication skills, and possess critical thinking skills.
- Will have previously worked in a linguistic research environment
- Must be eager to work in and learn from multi-disciplinary and multi-organisation teams.
- Will have demonstrated the ability to deliver linguistic annotation training

The ADAPT Centre

ADAPT is Ireland's global centre of excellence for digital content and media innovation. Led by Trinity College Dublin (TCD), it combines the expertise of researchers at four universities (Trinity College Dublin, Dublin City University, University College Dublin, and Dublin Institute of Technology) with that of its industry partners to produce ground-breaking digital content innovation.

ADAPT brings together more than 120 researchers who collectively have won more than €100m in funding and have a strong track record of transferring world-leading research and innovations to more than 140 companies. With EURO 50M in new research funding from Science Foundation Ireland and industry, ADAPT is seeking talented individuals to join its growing research team. Our research and technologies will continue to help businesses in all sectors and drive back the frontiers of future Web engagement.

Dublin City University (DCU)

Dublin City University (DCU) is young and vibrant university with a strong culture of scholarship and enterprise, developed through its strong, active links with academic, research and industry partners in Ireland and around the world. DCU provides a unique learning environment where students are encouraged to develop their creativity and skills as innovators. Researchers at DCU are translating their ideas and discoveries into new solutions in business, technology and society through their engaged with spin out companies and established industrial clients.

General enquires concerning this post can be addressed to teresa.lynn@adaptcentre.ie

Application Procedure

Application forms are available from the DCU Current Vacancies (Open Competitions) website at <http://www4.dcu.ie/hr/vacancies/current.shtml> and also from the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9. Tel: +353 (0)1 700 5149; Fax +353 (0)1 700 5500 Email: hr.applications@dcu.ie.

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.

Along with the application form, please submit a Cover Letter (600 words minimum) and a CV.

Please clearly state the role that you are applying for in your application and email subject line: Job Reference #RF1245 Research Assistant in Irish linguistics

Dublin City University is an equal opportunities employer