



## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

### **Laboratory Attendant Faculty of Science & Health 12 Months Fixed Term Contract**

#### **Dublin City University**

Dublin City University (DCU) is a young, ambitious and vibrant university, with a mission 'to transform lives and societies through education, research, innovation and engagement'. Known as Ireland's 'University of Enterprise', DCU is a values-based institution, committed to the delivery of impact for the public good. DCU was named Sunday Times Irish University of the Year 2021.

DCU is based on three academic campuses in the Glasnevin-Drumcondra region of north Dublin. More than 18,000 students are enrolled across five faculties – Science and Health, DCU Business School, Computing and Engineering, Humanities and Social Sciences and DCU Institute of Education.

DCU is committed to excellence across all its activities. This is demonstrated by its world-class research initiatives, its cutting-edge approach to teaching and learning, its focus on delivering a transformative student experience, and its positive social and economic impact. The university continues to develop innovative programmes in collaboration with industry, such as the DCU Futures suite of degrees, which are designed to equip graduates with the skills and knowledge required in a rapidly evolving economy.

DCU's pursuit of excellence has led to its current ranking among the top 2% of universities globally. It is also one of the world's Top Young Universities (QS Top 100 under 50, Times Higher Top 150 under 100). In the Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings 2021, DCU ranked 23rd in the world for its approach to widening participation in higher education and its ongoing commitment to eradicating poverty, while it ranks 38th globally for its work in reducing inequality and 89th globally for gender equality.

The university is ranked 23rd in the world and first in Ireland for its graduate employment rate, according to the 2020 QS Graduate Employability Rankings. Over the past decade, DCU has been the leading Irish university in the area of technology transfer, as reflected by licensing of intellectual property.

#### **Overview of the department**

The National Centre for Sensor Research (NCSR) is a state of the art Research Centre with infrastructure for dedicated sensor-driven research (>3000 sqm of research laboratory space) hosted on the DCU Glasnevin campus, established in 1999. The Centre plays host to over 20 DCU academics and their research teams who are active in research challenges related to chemical and biochemical sensor development. The Centre uses its extensive research laboratory facility to host research teams in an open, collaborative research environment for where PIs can use the space to undertake research and works closely with the NRF at DCU to provide its researchers with access to high-end instrumentation. Sensor research is multidisciplinary and requires a host of expertise across a range of sciences e.g. biotechnology, chemistry, physics and engineering. As such, the NCSR plays host to academics from across multiple DCU Schools and

Faculties. The NCSR as a Centre aims to exploit this concentration of expertise to address current and future challenges in chemical and biological sensor development for future applications.

The School of Chemical Sciences (SCS) is one of Ireland's most progressive and highest achieving Schools with outstanding facilities, housed within a modern city campus. We strive for teaching and research excellence by helping students to develop critical thinking and problem solving. We prepare our students to meet the challenges of modern industry and cutting-edge research environments. The School is one of the most successful in Ireland at attracting large-scale research funding. Our researchers are recognised as leaders at both national and international levels.

### **Role Profile**

The role will be across the NCSR and the SCS within the Faculty of Science and Health. Within the NCSR, the role will involve the day-to-day management of the research laboratories and office space hosting researchers in dedicated NCSR space. Duties such as basic maintenance of centralised laboratory equipment and general space, space/chemical/equipment inventory management, and Health & Safety auditing of labs is required.

Within the SCS, the role will involve the development and implementation of virtual learning content to support the teaching of practical undergraduate laboratory modules delivered by the School of Chemical Sciences. The types of content that will be developed to meet the learning outcomes of modules include H5P interactive content, virtual reality software and experimental simulation software. The person will be based primarily in the NCSR, in the Stokes Building on Glasnevin Campus. The person will be reporting into Dr Aoife Morrin (Director of the NCSR and lead academic on the HCI Virtual Labs project).

### **Duties and Responsibilities**

The duties and responsibilities of the position include, but are not restricted to, the following:

- To ensure that NCSR research laboratory equipment and facilities are maintained to a high level.
- To maintain inventories of equipment, chemicals and space for NCSR research laboratories,
- To assist the auditing of compliance with health and safety rules and regulations in the day to-day work environment in the NCSR
- To design of virtual lab content for integration with practical module content for undergraduate teaching in the SCS
- To develop new virtual lab content for integration with DCUs online learning platform
- To assist with the roll-out of the virtual lab content into academic modules
- To assist with the evaluation of the virtual lab initiative in DCU
- To assist promotional activities such as open days, secondary school workshops and other outreach events
- To perform any other duties that Dr Morrin may allocate as required.

### **Qualifications and Experience**

#### **Essential:**

- Hold a Leaving Certificate with 5 passes including one science subject.
- Relevant educational/industrial experience working in research and/or teaching laboratories.

#### **Desirable:**

- Qualification at NFQ Level 6 or above in a relevant discipline
- At least 12 months lab attendant experience within a chemistry laboratory setting is desirable.
- Expertise/experience in education and information technology where experience in creating virtual laboratory content for delivery at undergraduate level is desirable.
- Demonstrable track record of working independently
- Excellent social, communication and IT skills.

### **Essential Training**

The postholder will be required to undertake the following mandatory compliance training: Orientation, Health & Safety and Data Protection (GDPR). Other training may need to be undertaken when required.