

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the following position:

Research Centre
Post title
Level on Framework
Post duration

DCU Anti-Bullying Centre Research Fellow -Cilter Level 2 12 Month Fixed Term Contract

Dublin City University

Dublin City University (DCU) is a leading innovative European University. It is proud to be one of the world's leading Young Universities and is among the world's top 2% globally. DCU is known as Ireland's University of Impact, with a mission to 'transform lives and societies' and focuses on addressing global challenges in collaboration with key national and international partners and stakeholders.

DCU has over 20,000 students in five faculties spread across three academic campuses in the Glasnevin-Drumcondra area of North Dublin. Thanks to its innovative approach to teaching and learning, the University offers a 'transformative student experience' that helps to develop highly sought-after graduates. DCU is currently No. 1 in Ireland for Graduate Employment Rate, and for graduate income (CSO).

DCU is a research-intensive University and is home to a number of SFI-funded Research Centres. The University participates in a range of European and international research partnerships. DCU is also the leading Irish university in the area of technology transfer as reflected by licensing of intellectual property.

As a 'People First' institution, DCU is committed to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion - a University that helps staff and students to thrive. The University is a leader in terms of its work to increase access to education, and is placed in the world's Top 10 for reducing inequalities in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings.

Research Career Framework

As part of this role the researcher will be required to participate in the DCU Research Career Framework. This framework is designed to provide significant professional development opportunities to Researchers and offer the best opportunities in terms of a wider career path.

Background & Role

We are looking for a research fellow (more than 5 years of postdoctoral research experience) to conduct research into optimizing the detection of harmful online content for the development of Cilter technology. Cilter is a parental control software modification at the kernel level that allows for cyberbullying, self-harm, suicide-related and grooming content detection on all apps on the child's phone (from WhatsApp to various social media apps). Cilter technology development is funded by the Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund (DTIF) Ireland and it is a partnership between Cilter (SME), DCU Anti-Bullying Centre, ADAPT Science Foundation Ireland and Amarach research. The research fellow will work with the PI in leading the work of three postdoctoral researchers who are working across the three domains of detection of harmful online content; in order to ensure the timely provision of deliverables related to: development of research methodologies that will contribute to machine-readable content classification and modeling.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities

Please see the Job Description for a full list of duties and responsibilities:

Essential Criteria:

- Ph.D. in a relevant social scientific discipline (e.g., Communication, psychology, education, sociology etc.)
- Applicants should have a minimum of 4 years relevant postdoctoral research experience or equivalent at Level 1 of the Research Career Framework
- Evidence of high-quality publications in top ranked journals in the relevant fields or other significant publication outputs
- Evidence of significant research dissemination experience (including leading conferences in the field)
- Evidence of public engagement such as media interviews and ability to successfully interact with a range of stakeholders (academia, industry, regulators)
- Evidence of previous engagement with interdisciplinary teams
- Evidence of previously acquired research funding
- Excellent qualitative and quantitative social science research skills
- Demonstrable knowledge of and previous research in the field of children and digital media work, and online safety in particular

Desired criteria:

- Previous teaching experience is a plus
- Evidence of collaboration with computational scholars (natural language processing, machine learning/artificial intelligence in the field of online safety) is a plus
- Dataset development experience is a plus
- At least 1 year of research team management experience

Individuals will be assessed on the following competencies:

Discipline knowledge and Research skills – Demonstrates the ability to design and implement part of a programme of research (for example by using critical thinking and the application of relevant research methodologies).

Understanding the Research Environment – Demonstrates a thorough understanding of the research environment both nationally and internationally and the ability to contribute substantially to grant applications.

Communicating Research – Demonstrates the ability to communicate their research effectively to the research community and wider society (for example by publishing their research in high quality peer reviewed journals) and the ability to teach and tutor students.

Managing & Leadership skills - Successfully manages research projects including the management and supervision of postgraduates and/or junior research staff.

Essential Training

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

Salary Scale:

IUA Research Fellow Salary Scale - point 1 €61,318

Appointment will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and in line with current Government pay policy

Closing date: Friday, 10th November 2023

For more information on DCU and benefits, please visit Why work at DCU?

Informal Enquiries in relation to this role should be directed to:

Professor, James O Higgins Norman, Director of DCU Anti-Bullying Centre. Email: james.ohigginsnorman@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 website at https://www.dcu.ie/hr/vacancies-current-vacancies-external-applicants

Applications should be submitted by e-mail with your completed application form to hr.applications@dcu.ie

Please clearly state the role that you are applying for in your application and email subject line: Job Ref #RF1879a Research Fellow Cilter

Dublin City University is an equal opportunities employer. In line with the Employment Equality Acts 1998 – 2015, the University is committed to equality of treatment for all those who engage with its recruitment, selection and appointment processes. The University's Athena SWAN Bronze Award signifies the University's commitment to promoting gender equality and addressing any gender pay gaps. Information on a range of university policies aimed at creating a supportive and flexible work environment are available in the DCU Policy Starter Packs