Senior Research Development Lead  
Professional 7  
DCU Bio-Design Europe  
5 Year 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.

Bio-Design Europe

Biodesign Europe, based in Dublin City University (DCU), partners with Arizona State University’s (ASU) Biodesign Institute to translate critical scientific innovations to today’s complex global challenges for the betterment of people’s lives.

The Biodesign Europe was established by DCU and ASU in 2020, arising from the Transatlantic Higher Education Partnership, signed by both universities in 2013. This successful partnership has provided students and researchers with unique education and research experiences while making a positive impact on communities in Arizona and Ireland.

ASU’s Biodesign Institute — which seeks inspiration from nature for solutions to human health, community safety and global sustainability issues — is well-aligned with the DCU strategic research objective of translating such scientific knowledge into technological advancements and practices that can positively impact people’s lives.
In the context of the Transatlantic Higher Education Partnership, the universities established Biodesign Europe at DCU to develop collaborative applied research programs that take advantage of the institutions’ complementary strengths across the key research areas of healthcare technology, sustainable manufacturing, biotechnology, bioanalytical systems, and sustainability for health.

Crucially, Biodesign Institute Europe works closely with Biodesign Institute at ASU to help translate scientific discoveries into the market, where they can benefit society as a whole.

Biodesign Europe seeks to engage continuously with both industry and end users. The location of Biodesign Europe in Ireland is advantageous as 20 of the world’s top 25 multinationals working within the spaces of biopharmaceuticals, biotechnology, medical device technology, and information and communications technology are situated here.

ASU enjoys strategic partnerships through the Global Consortium for Sustainability Outcomes, Mayo Clinic, Banner Health and PLuS Alliance.

Role Profile

Biodesign Europe, based in Dublin City University (DCU), are now seeking to recruit a Senior European Research Development Lead. The Postholder will gain an understanding of research capabilities within DCU and the Biodesign Institute at Arizona State University (ASU) to match with national and international research and industrial engagement funding opportunities as they arise. They will be tasked with scanning and assessing the research funding landscape to identify strategic research funding opportunities in a number of areas listed below.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities

- Working with the Executive Director of Biodesign Europe (BDE), gain an understanding of research capabilities within DCU and the Biodesign Institute at Arizona State University (ASU) to match with national and international research and industrial engagement funding opportunities as they arise.
- Scan and assess the research funding landscape to identify strategic research funding opportunities with a specific focus in the areas of:
  - Healthcare Technologies,
  - Sustainable Manufacturing,
  - Biotechnology,
  - Bioanalytical Systems,
  - Sustainability for Health.
- Lead on brokering and developing research relationships between DCU and ASU researchers and academics with a specific focus on developing and securing external research funding that are strategically aligned to the strategic research themes of BDE and ASU’s Biodesign Institute.
- Build relationships across the University to support and maximise academic engagement with BDE.
- Develop a pipeline of high-quality collaborative research funding proposals for BDE.
- Provide a full application management service to include:
  - Awareness generation,
  - Concept determination,
  - Research team co-ordination (including with industrial partners),
  - Provision of expert advice to improve application quality,
• Liaison with Finance and Human Resources colleagues,
• Peer review and submission.

• Overall operational management of the research partnership with ASU’s Biodesign Institute to include planning and delivering presentations, attending events and planning and delivering partnership building activities.

Qualifications, Skills and Experience Required

Applicants for the Senior European Research Development Lead must hold a primary degree or equivalent (NFQ Level 7) and have a minimum of five years’ relevant experience of working in a research or knowledge exchange environment.

Essential Criteria

• Experience of developing medium and large-scale national and international research investments including in research funding application management and bid writing.
• Experience of managing and supporting multi-partner medium and large-scale research projects.
• Business engagement expertise and experience of relevant industry sectors, e.g. Manufacturing, Medical Technology, Biopharmaceutical and Sustainable Engineering.

Desirable Criteria

• Experience of working in Higher Educational institutions.
• Strong understanding of national and international research funding landscape.

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. They will also be expected to engage with DCU/ADAPT training on Gender, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. Other training may need to be undertaken when required.

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.