

### **Post Specification**

Post Title:	Research Fellow in Computer Science	
Post Status:	Specific Purpose Contract –Full-time	
Research Group /	School of Computer Science and Statistics, Trinity College	
Department / School:	Dublin, the University of Dublin	
Location:	O'Reilly Institute	
	Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin	
	College Green, Dublin 2, Ireland	
Reports to:	Assistant Professor Nina Bresnihan	
Salary:	Appointment will be made on the RI New Post Doctoral	
	Researcher scale at a point in line with Government Pay	
	Policy (€45,847 – €58,479 per annum), Appointment will	
	be at point 1 on this scale.	
Hours of Work:	39 per week	
Closing Date:	12 Noon (GMT), Friday 7th March 2025	

#### **Post Summary**

OurKidsCode is a Research Ireland supported research project delivered by the School of Computer Science & Statistics at Trinity College Dublin. It aims to support parents/guardians who wish to engage their primary-school children's interest and activity in computing. It is currently doing this through creating opportunities for families to learn about computing together through the development and support of a nationwide network of self-sustaining family coding clubs run by families, for families.

We are currently building new partnerships with local authorities, community organisations and libraries who see OurKidsCode as an exciting opportunity for family outreach in their contexts. This is being done with a particular consideration of developing a strategy to involve those who would not typically engage with STEM. Lessons learned from these engagements will help us to make our offering more inclusive across the board.

The hired Research Fellow will work closely with the lead investigator and the project team to coordinate and perform research and development of the programme with a particular emphasis on reaching marginalised communities. They will work on the attendant design and development

iterations required to refine our model in order deepen engagement and understanding of diverse communities' needs.

## Standard Duties and Responsibilities of the Post

- Coordinating and liaising with partner and delivery organisations in the co-design and implementation of OurKidsCode pilot studies in the community. This will involve some travel within Ireland.
- Helping to obtain Ethical Approval for any associated projects.
- Collection, analysis and evaluation of qualitative and quantitative data from pilot studies.
- Leading and assisting with dissemination through contributing to research reports, academic publications, and other outputs from the project.
- Assisting in the development of partnerships with public and private sectors to secure project funding and support development and expansion of the project.

### **Funding Information**

This position is funded through the Research Ireland Discover programme and Meath County Council.

### **Person Specification**

#### Qualifications

The successful candidate must have a PhD qualification in a relevant discipline (e.g. Education or Social Sciences) or significant other relevant experience in research and community development

#### **Knowledge & Experience**

## (Essential)

- Practical experience of mixed-methods research in an Education or Community Development context. This should involve quantitative research, including statistical analysis and expertise in working with qualitative data.
- Excellent organisational skills
- Demonstratable experience of writing for publication.
- Experience with project reporting.

#### (Desirable)

- Experience of developing and delivering training or educational programmes
- Knowledge of Instructional Design and/or Pedagogy
- Experience in Computer Science or Digital Skills Education
- Experience of securing ethical approval for research.
- Knowledge of Computer Programming
- Knowledge of and experience in computing education and/or primary education and/or informal education
- A full clean driving license as the role involves some travel to rural areas

### **Skills and Competencies**

- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Demonstratable skills in both quantitative and qualitative research methods including data collection, data analysis and publication.
- Familiarity with qualitative and quantitative data analysis platforms such as Stata/R/SPSS and NVivo.
- Ability to review appropriate literature and identify relevant funding calls and dissemination opportunities.
- Writing reports and papers for publication.
- Ability to work both independently and as part of a team.
- Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to work on his/her own initiative.
- Motivated: Displays a 'can-do' attitude, is committed to the programme and wishes to contribute to its development.

### **Application Procedure**

Applicants should submit a full Curriculum Vitae to include the names and contact details of 2 referees (including email addresses), to:

Nina Bresnihan: Nina.Bresnihan@tcd.ie

## **Further Information for Applicants**

URL Link to Area	www.tcd.ie
URL Link to Human Resources	https://www.tcd.ie/hr/

## Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin

Trinity is Ireland's leading university and is ranked 108th in the world (QS World University Rankings 2020). Founded in 1592, the University is steeped in history with a reputation for excellence in education, research and innovation.

Located on an iconic campus in the heart of Dublin's city centre, Trinity has 18,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students across our three faculties – Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences; Engineering, Mathematics and Science; and Health Sciences.

Trinity is ranked as the 17th most international university in the world (Times Higher Education Rankings 2020) and has students and staff from over 120 countries.

The pursuit of excellence through research and scholarship is at the heart of a Trinity education, and our researchers have an outstanding publication record and strong record of grant success. Trinity has developed 19 broad-based multidisciplinary research themes that cut across disciplines and facilitate world-leading research and collaboration within the University and with colleagues around the world. Trinity is also home to 5 leading flagship research institutes:

- Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute (TBSI)
- Trinity College Institute of Neuroscience (TCIN)
- Trinity Translational Medical Institute (TTMI)
- Trinity Long Room Hub Arts and Humanities Research Institute (TLRH)
- Centre for Research on Adaptive Nanostructures and Nanodevices (CRANN)

Trinity is the top-ranked European university for producing entrepreneurs for the past five successive years and Europe's only representative in the world's top-50 universities (Pitchbook Universities Report).

Trinity is home to the famous Old Library and to the historic Book of Kells as well as other internationally significant holdings in manuscripts, maps and early printed material. The Trinity Library is a legal deposit library, granting the University the right to claim a copy of

every book published in Ireland and the UK. At present, the Library's holdings span approximately 6.5 million printed items, 400,000 e-books and 150,000 e-journals. With over 120,000 alumni, Trinity's tradition of independent intellectual inquiry has produced some of the world's finest, most original minds including the writers Oscar Wilde and Samuel Beckett (Nobel laureates), the mathematician William Rowan Hamilton and the physicist Ernest Walton (Nobel laureate), the political thinker Edmund Burke, and the former President of Ireland Mary Robinson. This tradition finds expression today in a campus culture of scholarship, innovation, creativity, entrepreneurship and dedication to societal reform.

### Rankings

Trinity is the top ranked university in Ireland and ranked 108th in the world (QS World University Rankings 2020). Trinity ranks in the top 50 in the world on 4 subjects and in the top 100 in 18 subjects (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2020). Full details are available at: <a href="https://www.tcd.ie/research/about/rankings">www.tcd.ie/research/about/rankings</a>.

#### The Selection Process in Trinity

The Selection Committee (Interview Panel) may include members of the Academic and Administrative community together with External Assessor(s) who are expert in the area. Applications will be acknowledged by email. If you do not receive confirmation of receipt within 1 day of submitting your application online, please contact the named Recruitment Partner on the job specification immediately and prior to the closing date/time.

Given the degree of co-ordination and planning to have a Selection Committee available on the specified date, the University regrets that it may not be in a position to offer alternate selection dates. Where candidates are unavailable, reserves may be drawn from a shortlist. Outcomes of interviews are notified in writing to candidates and are issued no later than 5 working days following the selection day.

In some instances the Selection Committee may avail of telephone or video conferencing. The University's selection methods may consist of any or all of the following: Interviews, Presentations, Psychometric Testing, References and Situational Exercises.

It is the policy of the University to conduct pre-employment medical screening/full preemployment medicals. Information supplied by candidates in their application (Cover Letter and CV) will be used to shortlist for interview.

Applications from non-EEA citizens are welcomed. However, eligibility is determined by the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation and further information on the Highly Skills Eligible Occupations List is set out in Schedule 3 of the Regulations <a href="https://dbei.gov.ie/en/What-We-Do/Workplace-and-Skills/Employment-Permits/Employment-Permit-Eligibility/Highly-Skilled-Eligible-Occupations-List/">https://dbei.gov.ie/en/What-We-Do/Workplace-and-Skills/Employment-Permit-Eligibility/Highly-Skilled-Eligible-Occupations-List/</a> and the Ineligible Categories of Employment are set out in Schedule 4 of the Regulations <a href="https://dbei.gov.ie/en/What-We-Do/Workplace-and-Skills/Employment-Permits/Employment-Permit-Eligibility/Ineligible-Categories-of-Employment/">https://dbei.gov.ie/en/What-We-Do/Workplace-and-Skills/Employment-Permit-Eligibility/Ineligible-Categories-of-Employment/</a>. Non-EEA candidates should note that the onus is on them to secure a visa to travel to Ireland prior to interview. Non-EEA candidates should also be aware that even if successful at interview, an appointment to the post is contingent on the securing of an employment permit.

# **Equal Opportunities Policy**

Trinity is an equal opportunities employer and is committed to employment policies, procedures and practices which do not discriminate on grounds such as gender, civil status, family status, age, disability, race, religious belief, sexual orientation or membership of the travelling community. On that basis we encourage and welcome talented people from all backgrounds to join our staff community. Trinity's Diversity Statement can be viewed in full at <a href="https://www.tcd.ie/diversity-inclusion/diversity-statement">https://www.tcd.ie/diversity-inclusion/diversity-statement</a>.

#### **Pension Entitlements**

This is a pensionable position and the provisions of the Public Service Superannuation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2004 will apply in relation to retirement age for pension purposes. Details of the relevant Pension Scheme will be provided to the successful applicant.

Applicants should note that they will be required to complete a Pre-Employment Declaration to confirm whether or not they have previously availed of an Irish Public Service Scheme of

incentivised early retirement or enhanced redundancy payment. Applicants will also be required to declare any entitlements to a Public Service pension benefit (in payment or preserved) from any other Irish Public Service employment.

Applicants formerly employed by the Irish Public Service that may previously have availed of an Irish Public Service Scheme of Incentivised early retirement or enhanced redundancy payment should ensure that they are not precluded from re-engagement in the Irish Public Service under the terms of such Schemes. Such queries should be directed to an applicant's former Irish Public Service Employer in the first instance.

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### Nina Bresnihan

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