

Post Specification

Post Title:	Research Assistant, C-MAP
Post Status:	Specific Purpose Contract – Full-time (13 months)
Research Group / Department / School:	Geography, Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin
Location:	Geography, Natural Sciences Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin College Green, Dublin 2, Ireland
Reports to:	Professors Iris Möller
Salary:	IUA Researcher Salary Scale 1 (€44,351)
Hours of Work:	39 hours per week

Post Summary

The Research Assistant will play a key role in the delivery of the PEACEPLUS 'CMAP' (Coastal Monitoring and Adaptation Planning) project as part of the Trinity Coastal Research Group based in Geography, School of Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin. CMAP's key objective is to promote climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention and resilience, taking into account eco-system based approaches.

The Research Assistant will particularly engage with the first and second work package of the research project ('Coastal Change Monitoring' and 'Ecosystem Recovery and Baseline Evidence') by (a) drawing together historical (e.g. map) evidence of the geomorphological evolution of salt marsh sites within the project, (b) reviewing best practice and lessons learnt in the application of citizen science approaches to salt marsh monitoring, and (c) co-developing monitoring protocols and assisting in the selection of monitoring locations for salt marsh elevation, accretion, sediment composition, tidal inundation and wave exposure. The first two components will involve desk-based and some field based work, the third will be largely field based.

Together with the project Principal Investigator (PI), Prof Iris Möller, the Research Assistant will co-develop training on the above monitoring methodology for other partners in the project and will conduct a rapid condition and pressure assessment at focal salt marsh sites as well as assist in a systematic hydrodynamic and morphodynamic change monitoring / assessment at key sites.

How to apply: In order to assist the selection process, candidates should submit in one document: A Curriculum Vitae (2 x A4 pages maximum), the names and contact details of two referees (with e-mail address), and a cover letter (max two pages) setting out motivation and suitability for applying for this position. **Closing Date: 12 noon (Irish Standard Time) Monday 8th December 2025.**

Applications must be emailed by the date and time specified to Professor Iris Möller: moelleri@tcd.ie.

Interviews for this position will take place on Monday 15th December with the successful candidate starting work 1st January 2025 or as soon as possible thereafter.

Standard Duties and Responsibilities of the Post

The successful candidate will be closely supervised by PI Iris Möller but will be expected to carry out the majority of the work independently. Tasks will include:

- 1) Sourcing, checking for suitability, and archiving available aerial photography and satellite image products for the seven saltmarsh field sites at Grangemouth, Ards Forest Park, Larne Lough, Belfast Lough, Dundrum, Carlingford Lough and Dundalk Bay.
- 2) Completing a first analysis of available geospatial data from task 1 and summarising any multi-annual and seasonal changes evident from the imagery.
- 3) Conducting a literature review on international literature involving citizen science on salt marshes and produce a report on the results.
- 4) Reviewing and revising for the purpose of this project existing monitoring protocols/approaches for elevation change, accretion, sediment characteristics (loss-on-ignition) monitoring, tidal water level and wave exposure monitoring on salt marshes.
- 5) Initiating the first field measurements of key saltmarsh state indicators: elevation change, accretion, sediment characteristics, tidal water level and exposure.
- 6) Work with the institutional lead (Prof Iris Möller) to produce accurate and timely project reports, support communication activities, meetings and community engagement.

The successful candidate will be expected to work independently but within the context of the Trinity Coastal Group and the wider network of partners of the C-MAP project. Regional C-MAP partners will offer assistance and guidance during fieldwork. The candidate will engage in appropriate training and development opportunities to develop own transferable skills and career-building activities.

The position would suit a candidate with an undergraduate degree, some post-graduate experience, and the potential interest in embarking on further post-graduate study and/or a career within nature conservation or environmental consultancy.

Funding Information

The post is supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB), the Coastal Monitoring and Adaptation Planning (CMAP) project is a €9.6M cross-border initiative, led by Ulster University. CMAP will enable communities, stakeholders and decision-makers to better understand and adapt to the challenges of coastal change driven by climate change.

Job Description

Person Specification: Essential

- An undergraduate degree in geography, environmental sciences, or allied area.
- Experience of working with geospatial datasets.
- Experience of conducting literature reviews and synthesis reports.
- Experience of working in coastal, intertidal environments.

Knowledge and Expertise: Essential

- Demonstrates knowledge of GIS, literature search engines, spreadsheet-based analysis.
- Experience of high quality academic writing, field data analysis and writing up research findings.
- Demonstrable knowledge of, and expertise in working with, diverse communities and individuals.
- Demonstrable knowledge of working in challenging physical environmental conditions.

Knowledge and Expertise: Desirable

- Knowledge of coastal geomorphology and particularly coastal wetland science.
- Demonstrates knowledge and understanding of coastal conservation and habitat restoration.

Skills & Competencies: Essential

- Valid driving licence (Ireland/UK).
- Excellent academic learning and research skills.
- Excellent computer literacy (Microsoft Office, GIS).
- Excellent outdoor / field working skills.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Excellent interpersonal skills including experience in working within diverse teams.
- Strong problem-solving skills including anticipating and preventing problems as well as ability to think laterally and propose innovative solutions.
- Ability to manage competing priorities and a dynamic workload, and capacity to maintain high level of professionalism when working under pressure.
- Resourceful / conscientious and self-motivated individual with a 'can do attitude'.

Personal Attributes: Essential

- Understands the importance of quality service and pro-actively delivers this.
- Pays close attention to quality standards.
- Takes pride in providing a helpful and courteous approach to all colleagues and collaborators.

- Committed to achieving results, putting in additional effort as required.
- Flexible approach to working hours as the demands of the post may require work outside normal office working hours from time to time.

Languages

ENGLISH

Level

Excellent

Research Field

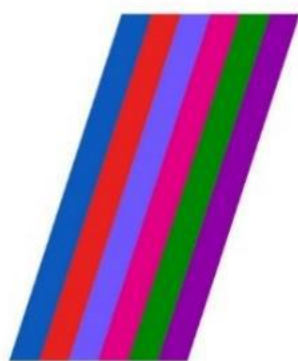
Geography, environmental science and related areas

Additional Information

Benefits

Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin

Trinity is Ireland's leading university and is ranked 98th in the world (QS World University Rankings 2023). 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 welcomes applications from all individuals, including those applicants with disabilities, those who may have had non-traditional career paths, those who have taken time out for reasons including family or caring responsibilities. We also welcome international applicants including those who have been displaced due to war. We are ranked third in the world for gender equality (Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2020) and we hold an Athena SWAN Bronze award, recognising our work to advance gender equality. The University is actively pursuing a Silver level award, which it has committed to achieving by 2025. Trinity is committed to supporting the work-life balance and to creating a family-friendly working environment.



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