



Trinity College Dublin

Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath

The University of Dublin

Post Specification

Post Title:	Research Assistant, CMAP
Post Status:	Specific Purpose Contract – Full-time
Research Group / Department / School:	Department of Geography, School of Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin
Location:	Department of Geography, School of Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin College Green, Dublin 2, Ireland
Reports to:	Professor Iris Möller
Salary:	Appointment will be made on the IUA Research Assistant Scale at Point 8 (€39,696 per annum), in line with Government Pay Policy
Hours of Work:	39 hours per week
Closing Date:	12 Noon (Irish Standard Time), Thursday 24th September 2026

Post Summary

This 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 work with others in the project over the duration of the post to particularly engage with the first and second work package of the research project ('Coastal Change Monitoring' and 'Ecosystem Recovery and Baseline Evidence') by (a) building on existing 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) implementing monitoring protocols and assisting in the placement of monitoring equipment 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 assist project partners in the implementation of sedimentation-elevation table and bed-mounted water pressure based water level and wave monitoring and will keep a detailed notebook on the condition of, and activities at, all salt marsh sites as well as build the data record and archive for all key sites.

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, and archiving literature and spatial data products for the seven saltmarsh field sites at Grangemouth, Ards Forest Park, Larne Lough, Belfast Lough, Dundrum, Carlingford Lough and Dundalk Bay.
- 2) Continuing existing analysis of available geospatial data, documenting and summarising any multi-annual and seasonal changes observed at the CMAP salt marsh sites.

- 3) Building on an existing literature review of international literature involving citizen science on salt marshes.
- 4) Reviewing and revising and assisting in the training of project partners in 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) Assisting project partners in 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 CMAP project. Regional CMAP 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.

Person Specification

Qualifications (Essential)

- An undergraduate degree in geography, environmental sciences, or allied area.

Knowledge & Experience (Essential)

- Experience of working with geospatial datasets.
- Experience of conducting literature reviews and synthesis reports.
- Experience of working in the coastal intertidal environments of the North of the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland
- Working 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 & Experience (Desirable)

- Knowledge of coastal geology and geomorphology of the coast of Northern Ireland.
- Demonstrable knowledge and understanding of coastal conservation and habitat restoration.
- Prior experience of setting up Sedimentation Elevation Table (SET) monitoring stations.
- Prior experience of wave exposure assessment / monitoring in salt marsh settings.

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 in setting up SET stations and water level monitoring.
- 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.

Application Procedure

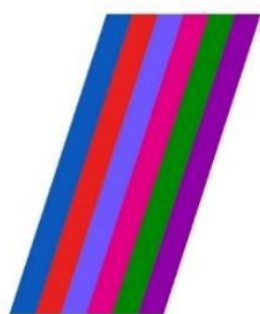
In order to assist the selection process, candidates should submit **in one document with the surname of the applicant as file name**: a Curriculum Vitae (2 x A4 pages maximum), the names and contact details of two referees (with e-mail address), and a cover letter (2 x A4 pages maximum) setting out motivation and suitability for applying for this position.

Closing Date: 12 noon (Irish Standard Time) Thursday 24th September 2026.

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

Interviews for this position will take place online on Friday 2nd October 2026 with the successful candidate starting work on 1st November 2026.

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



PEACEPLUS
Northern Ireland - Ireland

Co-funded by the



European Union



UK Government



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Northern Ireland
Executive
www.northernireland.gov.uk

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 is ranked as the 12th most international university in the world (Times Higher Education Rankings 2020) and is also the highest ranked university in Ireland.

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 1st in Europe for Producing Entrepreneurs for the 7th year in a row and Europe's only representative in the world's top-50 universities (Pitchbook University Report 2021-2022).

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 College Dublin is the top ranked university in Ireland. Using the QS methodology we are ranked 98th in the world and using the Times Higher Education World University Ranking methodology we are 146th in the World.

- Trinity College Dublin is Ireland's No.1 University
(QS World University Ranking 2023, Times Higher Education Rankings 2022)
- Trinity is ranked 98th in the World
(QS World University Ranking 2023)
- Trinity is ranked No.1 in Europe for Producing Entrepreneurs for the 7th year in a row
Pitchbook 2021-2022

Full details are available at: www.tcd.ie/research/about/rankings.

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 hiring lead 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.

The Selection Committee may avail of telephone or video conferencing or in person interview. 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 pre-employment 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 <https://dbei.gov.ie/en/What-We-Do/Workplace-and-Skills/Employment-Permits/Employment-Permit-Eligibility/Highly-Skilled-Eligible-Occupations-List/> and the Ineligible Categories of Employment are set out in Schedule 4 of the Regulations <https://dbei.gov.ie/en/What-We-Do/Workplace-and-Skills/Employment-Permits/Employment-Permit-Eligibility/Ineligible-Categories-of-Employment/> . 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 <https://www.tcd.ie/diversity-inclusion/diversity-statement>.

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.

Application Procedure

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 (2 x A4 pages maximum) setting out motivation and suitability for applying for this position.

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