



## Post Specification

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| <b>Post Title:</b>                               | PhD Studentship  |
| <b>Post Status:</b>                              | Full-time or Part-time   |
| <b>Research Group /<br/>Department / School:</b> | School of Psychology, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin                                     |
| <b>Location:</b>                                 | Aras an Phiarsaigh<br>Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin<br>College Green, Dublin 2, Ireland |
| <b>Reports to:</b>                               | Professor David Hevey  |
| <b>Terms &amp; Conditions:</b>                   | Maintenance stipend of €25,000 per annum, tax-free, plus full tuition fees (EU/non EU) for 4 years         |
| <b>Hours of Work:</b>                            | 1 FTE  |
| <b>Closing Date:</b>                             | 12 Noon (GMT), 5 <sup>th</sup> June, 2026  |

**NOTE: Applicants must have been resident in an EU member state for 3 out of the last 5 years to be eligible for EU fees**

## **Post Summary**

You will contribute to an interdisciplinary research programme at Trinity College Dublin, (TCD), investigating hereditary cardiac conditions associated with sudden cardiac death (SCD). These conditions have a significant impact on affected individuals as well as their relatives at risk of disease development as it may often be difficult to predict individual risk of SCD and adverse disease complications.

The successful candidate will join an interdisciplinary research environment with Primary Investigators (PI) representing psychology, clinical cardiology, biomedical engineering, and social sciences. The PI's are key experts in their fields of research and based at TCD, St. James's University Hospital, Children's Health Ireland, Crumlin and the clinic for hereditary cardiac conditions (Cardiac Risk in The Young, CRY) at Tallaght University Hospital.

This position offers a unique opportunity to contribute to highly clinically relevant and patient-centred research with the aim of improving risk stratification, clinical management and counselling of individuals at risk of SCD. The research project takes advantage of a large collection of affected families which have already been clinically and genetically characterised.

This is a research-focused role, where you will conduct a specified programme of research supported under the supervision and direction of Prof. David Hevey. It will examine how individuals perceive their vulnerability, how they interpret medical advice, and what motivates or inhibits engagement with preventative behaviours such as medication adherence, lifestyle modification, and regular clinical monitoring. It examines how processing of health risk information impacts on behaviours. Such processing may relate to both individual-level constructs (e.g., powerlessness, denial) and social-level constructs (e.g., cultural factors, distrust of medical professionals, fatalism). This work will draw on health psychology, behavioural science, and risk communication research to identify psychological barriers to care, motivational drivers, and decision-making under uncertainty. Findings will inform the design of personalised, culturally sensitive interventions.

### **Standard Duties and Responsibilities of the Post**

- Conduct a specified programme of research and scholarship under the supervision and direction of the Principal Investigators.
- Manage the day to day running of the project
- Engage in appropriate training and professional development opportunities as required
- Engage in the dissemination of the results of the research in which you are engaged as directed by and with the support of and under the supervision of the Principal Investigators
- Assist, as appropriate and as directed, any research students contributing to the project
- Carry out administrative work associated with the programme of research
- Participate in regular interdisciplinary team meetings and workshops
- Engage with patients, families, and the Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) committee
- Disseminate findings through peer-reviewed publications and conference presentations

### **Funding Information**

TRDA – Trinity Research Doctorate Award

### **Person Specification**

#### **Qualifications**

**The person appointed to this post will have:**

- A good primary degree in Psychology (2.1 or higher)

### **Knowledge & Experience (Essential & Desirable)**

- Understanding of theory and research related to health outcome assessment- Essential
- Excellent communication skills (oral, written, presentation, etc) - Essential
- Excellent IT skills - Essential
- Experience of working to tight deadlines, multi-tasking and managing different and conflicting demands - Essential.
- Experience fostering collaborative working relationships across a diverse range of stakeholders - Desirable
- Evidence of research activity (peer-reviewed publications, conference presentations, awards and commitment future scholarly output (working papers, research proposals, and ability to outline a research project. - Desirable
- Experience in health research, including direct contact with patients and families- Desirable
- Ability to conduct statistical analyses- Desirable
- Ability to conduct qualitative analyses, such as thematic analysis- Desirable
- Experience setting own research agenda- Desirable

### **Skills & Competencies**

- Analytical and critical thinking skills
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to work both independently and as part of a multidisciplinary team
- High level of organisation and attention to detail
- Commitment to patient-centred, ethically sound research practice
- Ability to operate flexibly within a busy work environment and be able to shift focus, when required.
- Ability to problem-solve, prioritise, and work on own initiative
- Relationship management and interpersonal skills with demonstrable ability to build trust and relay expertise. Ability to network and build partnerships.

### **Application Procedure**

Applicants should submit their Curriculum Vitae with names and contact details of two referees and a one-page personal statement detailing your interest:

Professor David Hevey (heveydt@tcd.ie)

### **Further Information for Applicants**

Informal queries can be directed to Professor David Hevey (heveydt@tcd.ie)

### **Further Information for Applicants**

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| URL Link to Area            | <a href="http://www.tcd.ie">www.tcd.ie</a>                  |
| URL Link to Human Resources | <a href="https://www.tcd.ie/hr/">https://www.tcd.ie/hr/</a> |

## **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 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 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 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 98<sup>th</sup> in the world and using the Times Higher Education World University Ranking methodology we are 146<sup>th</sup> 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 98<sup>th</sup> in the World  
(QS World University Ranking 2023)
- Trinity is ranked No.1 in Europe for Producing Entrepreneurs for the 7<sup>th</sup> year in a row  
Pitchbook 2021-2022

Full details are available at: [www.tcd.ie/research/about/rankings](http://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 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 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>.

## Application Procedure

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Applicants should submit their Curriculum Vitae with names and contact details of 2 referees and a one-page personal statement detailing your interest:

**Name: Professor David Hevey**

**Email Address:** [heveydt@tcd.ie](mailto:heveydt@tcd.ie)



**UNIVERSITY  
VACANCIES IRELAND**  
[universityvacancies.com](http://universityvacancies.com)

