Post Specification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Post Title:</th>
<th>Research Assistant in Academy of the Near Future</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Post Status:</td>
<td>Specific Purpose Contract – Full-time to 31st December 2025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Group / Department / School:</td>
<td>CONNECT Centre, School of Computer Science &amp; Statistics, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>CONNECT Centre, School of Computer Science &amp; Statistics, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reports to:</td>
<td>Prof. Dan Kilper Principal Investigator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salary:</td>
<td>Appointment will be made with salary up to €42033 based on experience in line with Government Pay Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hours of Work:</td>
<td>39 hours per week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Closing Date:</td>
<td>12 Noon (Irish Standard Time), 5pm, 24th July 2023</td>
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</table>

Please note that Garda vetting will be sought in respect of individuals who come under consideration for a post

Academy of the Near Future (ANF) is a flag-ship collaboration between CONNECT, the world leading Science Foundation Ireland Research Centre for Future Networks and Communications in Trinity College Dublin, Dublin City Council and Smart Docklands.

Academy of the Near Future is a smart cities education research project focused on evaluating the delivery and impact of science learning around smart cities and emerging technologies.
Post Summary

This role is within the Academy of the Near Future. The successful candidate will deliver and evaluate ANF learning programmes within primary and post-primary schools with a focus in the Docklands area, in order to support and promote the STEM education field.

The role will be a Trinity College Dublin appointment reporting directly to the Principal Investigator (Prof. Dan Kilper) in the CONNECT Research Centre at TCD. The successful candidate will also liaise on day-to-day activities with the Academy of the Near Future Engagement Programme Manager. While working as part of the project team, the successful candidate will have responsibility for delivery of the project goals and reporting on the project to the CONNECT Centre.

The programme takes a mixed-methods Design-Based Research (DBR) approach. Design-based research is a participatory approach that draws together researchers, practitioners and learners to improve educational practices in iterative cycles of needs analysis, design, implementation and evaluation.

This role also involves supporting a diverse range of collaborative research projects with partner companies to support the delivery of the next phase of the Smart Docklands collaborative research programmes. The ideal candidate will have previous experience in relevant research areas, in coordinating and leading interactive workshops (preferably to a youth audience), as well as working with multiple stakeholder groups. Knowledge of Smart City technologies and current and emerging issues & opportunities relating to these technologies is important. The successful candidate should relish proposing and creating new opportunities while showing agility to ensure successful delivery of existing projects.

Standard Duties and Responsibilities of the Post

- Lead the facilitation of a programme of workshop series and events with young people, with a focus on schools in the Docklands area.
- Travel to venues around Dublin and elsewhere in Ireland for programme activities.
- Work collaboratively with the Academy of the Near Future programme team, and student advisory board to understand the desired outcomes of the programme and use design thinking methodologies to design and deliver an experience that achieves those outcomes.
- Assist in the development of learning resources required for the successful delivery of the project goals.
- Design and implementation of engaged research tools in STEM education.
- Support programme design, content & evaluation processes.
- Build relationships with partner teachers and schools for the programmes.
- Document education activities with photos and videos.
- Assist with the organisation of events and information sessions regarding Smart Docklands, DCC, Smart Dublin and CONNECT smart city activities.
- Attend relevant meetings, learning events and conferences.
• Attend other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Principal Investigator.

Person Specification

Qualifications (Essential):
• Third level qualification

Qualifications (Desirable):
• Qualification in education, STEM, science communication, and/or public engagement
• Driving licence valid in Ireland

Knowledge & Experience (Essential)
• Experience with teaching, facilitation, or research in areas related to STEM education with children or young people.
• A keen interest in innovation, design and how technology is shaping the future of our cities

Knowledge & Experience (Desirable)
• Experience with coding, Micro Bits or Minecraft Education
• Robust understanding of engaged research and experience of quantitative and qualitative methodologies
• Experience in designing learning experiences or workshop design

Skills & Competencies
• Ability to work and build strong relationships at all levels
• Must be able to work independently, deliver quality in a fast-paced environment, and collaborate effectively

Personal attributes
• Enjoy a dynamic and multi-faceted environment, with friendly and collaborative colleagues.
• Enjoy working with young people
• Be interested in making a difference on a local and global scale.
• Passion for user-centred design

Funding Information
The post is part of the Smart Docklands and Academy of the Near Future project, a co-funded collaboration between CONNECT SFI Research Centre for Future Networks and Dublin City Council. CONNECT is funded under the Science Foundation Ireland research centres programme, and is co-funded under the European Regional Development Fund.
Application Procedure

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

Darach Mac Donnacha
dmacdonn@tcd.ie

before 1200 hrs (noon) Irish Summer Time on 24th July 2023

Further Information for Applicants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>URL Link to Area</th>
<th><a href="http://www.tcd.ie">www.tcd.ie</a></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>URL Link to Human Resources</td>
<td><a href="https://www.tcd.ie/hr/">https://www.tcd.ie/hr/</a></td>
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</table>
GARDA CLEARANCE:

Police vetting will be sought in respect of individuals who come under consideration for a post.

PLEASE NOTE: Applicants will be required to complete and return a Garda vetting form should they come under consideration for appointment. In some cases they may be requested to complete the form on the day of interview. This form will be forwarded to An Garda Síochána (Irish Police) for security checks on all Irish addresses at which they have resided. An Garda Síochána will make enquiries with the Police Service of Northern Ireland with respect to addresses in Northern Ireland. If an applicant is not successful in obtaining the post for whatever reason, this information will be destroyed. If an applicant, therefore, subsequently comes under consideration for another position, they will be required to supply this information again.

While applicants must complete information in relation to all addresses at which they have resided, the vetting is only done on addresses on the island of Ireland.

If an applicant has resided / studied in countries outside of Ireland for a period of 6 months or more, it is mandatory for them to furnish a Police Criminal Records Check/ Police Certificate from those countries stating that they have no convictions recorded against them while residing there. Applicants will need to provide a separate Police Criminal Records Check/ Police Certificate for each country in which they have resided. The Police Criminal Records Check/ Police Certificate must be dated after the date the applicant left the relevant country. Applicants should provide documentation in the English and/or Irish language. Translations must be provided by a registered translation company/institute in the Republic of Ireland; all costs will be borne by the applicant. Only original version documents will be accepted.
Applicants should be aware that any information obtained in the Garda Vetting process can be made available to the employing area.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to seek security clearances in a timely fashion as they can take some time. No applicant will be appointed without this information being provided and being in order.

The following websites may be of assistance in this regard:

www.disclosurescotland.co.uk
www.psni.police.uk

This website provides information on obtaining a national police clearance certificate for Australia
www.afp.gov.au

This website provides information on obtaining police clearance in New Zealand.
www.courts.govt.nz

For other countries not listed above applicants may find it helpful to contact the relevant embassies who could provide information on seeking Police Clearance. Original Police Clearance documentation should be forwarded to Human Resources where it will be copied and the original returned to the applicant by post.

Any cost incurred in this process will be borne by the Applicant.
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](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 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

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

Darach Mac Donnacha

dmacdonn@tcd.ie

before 1200 hrs (noon) Irish Summer Time on 24th July 2023