

# **Post Specification**

| Post Title:          | Research Assistant – Smart Docklands Programme               |  |
|----------------------|--|--|
|                      | Manager  |  |
| Post Status:         | Specific Purpose Contract – Full-time                        |  |
| Research Group /     | CONNECT Centre, School of Computer Science &                 |  |
| Department / School: | Statistics, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin |  |
| Location:            | CONNECT Centre, Dunlop Oriel House,                          |  |
|                      | Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin             |  |
|                      | College Green, Dublin 2, Ireland                             |  |
| Reports to:          | Professor Siobhán Clarke / Professor Marco Ruffini           |  |
| Salary:              | Appointment will be made at Level 3, up to point 4, with     |  |
|                      | salary up to €61,422, commensurate with experience.          |  |
| Hours of Work:       | 39 hours per week  |  |
| Closing Date:        | 12 Noon (Irish Standard Time), 15 <sup>th</sup> August 2021  |  |

Enable is a research programme (http://enable-research.ie/), which is hosted by the CONNECT Research Centre (https://connectcentre.ie/), part of Trinity College, Dublin. Enable's focus is on connecting communities to smart urban environments through the Internet of Things. It is funded by Science Foundation Ireland and is co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund.

Enable, CONNECT and Dublin County Council (DCC) are currently leading a multi-stakeholder collaboration programme focused on exploring the development of Smart Cities. The project includes a number of collaborations working with academics, technology companies, local businesses/residents and the relevant Council departments. The programme aims to develop applications which exploit the capabilities of sensing technologies, identify innovative new

business models and consider how the implementation of technologies will impact city life in the decades to come. A key initiative of this collaborative programme has been the establishment of Dublin's first Smart City Testbed Smart Docklands.

Smart Docklands is a unique world-class smart city testbed in the heart of Dublin's Docklands. It is a first of its kind in Ireland and globally, where the municipality and academia have funded a programme team to play an 'honest broker' role amongst government, the tech and startup community, business owners, universities and research centers, and citizens of Dublin.

The Smart Docklands Testbed was officially launched in February 2018 at a global gathering of city technology and information leads hosted in partnership with Harvard Technology and Entrepreneurship Centre. The Docklands area was chosen as it has unique potential as a smart city district, having a mix of infrastructure, mobility options and a diverse demographic. There is also a high concentration of new buildings and investment in the area thanks to its designation as a 'Strategic Development Zone' by Dublin City Council. In addition, the area already contains a wide range of connectivity options (3G, 4G, LPWAN) and 'smart' connectivity assets.

Equally important is the engagement of local businesses, startups, community and residents. Our mantra is do not deploy "tech for tech's sake". Through our community engagement programme we work closely with a diverse range of stakeholder groups including physical infrastructure companies, property developers, building owners, schools and local resident groups to identify challenges which can be addressed through new smart city technology and applications. Our engagement programme also includes the Academy of the Near Future (www.nearfuture.ie) Smart City Education Programme which has scaled to become an independently funded project, with close affiliation with Smart Docklands.

Smart Docklands showcases what can happen when a unique city district develops the level of sensor density and connectivity to make a significant jump in the quality of life for all people of the area.

Smart Docklands was the first to 'Smart District' to be established under the Smart Dublin initiative. The concept has now been replicated across four additional 'Smart Districts' in Dublin and used in cities across the globe. You can learn more about the project on <a href="https://www.smartdocklands.ie">www.smartdocklands.ie</a> and <a href="https://www.smartdublin.ie">www.smartdublin.ie</a>

We are currently seeking a Programme Manager to lead the Smart Docklands Team. Core to this will be leading the development and growth of the Smart Docklands programme. This will include enhancing the existing testbed programme, scaling the community engagement activities and co-ordinate opportunities between Dublin City Council, CONNECT and Enable.

The job also involves managing a diverse range of collaborative projects with partner companies ranging from Internet of Things solutions in cities to 3D modelling, and crucially to support the delivery of the next phase of the Smart Docklands initiative. The appointee will be expected to take up his/her duties as soon as possible.

#### **Post Summary**

Enable's research strands address a variety of challenges, specifically those relating to sensing and actuation at large scale in dynamic environments, analysis of large volumes of data (with challenging properties such as uncertainty and heterogeneity, security and privacy concerns) and engaging citizens in a co-design approach. CONNECT is Ireland's Future Networks and Communications Research Centre whose mission is to research, develop and innovate new communications solutions to address many of the challenges facing society. Enable is also linked to Insight (https://www.insight-centre.org/), which is Ireland's Data Analytics Research Centre, and Lero (https://www.lero.ie/), Ireland's Software Research Centre.

The academic researchers at these organisations work in partnership with over 25 companies aiming to address a wide range of topics including water management, air pollution, transport congestion, data privacy and cyber security. The DCC-CONNECT-Enable programme involves collaboration across multiple research groups, industry partners and co-funding agencies, and an ability to understand and explain these structures will be important for the role. The successful candidate will lead the Smart Docklands team in coordination with Dublin City Council, Enable and CONNECT. S/he will be expected to develop and enhance the Smart

Docklands District programme. S/he will have responsibility for the delivery of allocated funded research projects/programmes.

The ideal candidate will have previous experience in programme management in a complex stakeholder environment. A knowledge of Smart City technologies and current issues / opportunities relating to these technologies. As well as a drive to learn and adapt as new technologies and ways of working emerge. The candidate should relish in creating new opportunities while showing agility to ensure successful delivery of existing projects.

#### Standard Duties and Responsibilities of the Post

- Ensuring the overall efficient project management of the Smart Docklands programme including; needs identification, planning, implementation and coordination of project activities.
- Identifying opportunities for collaboration between Dublin City Council, CONNECT and Enable.
- Developing a strong network of relevant stakeholders and project partners including;
  researchers, industry partners, local communities and local authority staff.
- Generate opportunities to collaborate with industry and academic partners;
- Identifying, developing and delivering on project leads and funding opportunities.
- Monitoring, collection and timely reporting of all project outputs, milestones, and deliverables to the DCC, CONNET and Enable Management team and associated cofunding partners.
- Engaging with the enterprise and research base in Enable (and its partners/network)
  to identify suitable technologies and solutions for Smart Docklands.
- Management of Smart Docklands team currently one project manager, one engagement manager and two interns.
- Organising events and information sessions regarding Smart Docklands, DCC, Smart Dublin, Enable and CONNECT smart city activities.
- Working with relevant groups in DCC to advance the smart city and innovation ecosystem internally
- Attending relevant meetings, learning events and conferences.
- Other duties as assigned by the Enable Director, CONNECT Director, DCC Smart City
  Programme Lead or Smart Dublin

 Assist the Engagement Manager in the facilitation of a programme of community workshops and events, in-person and remotely.

#### **Funding Information:**

The post is co-funded by the CONNECT research centre 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.

## Person Specification/Qualifications (Essential)

Candidates must have a BSc or equivalent experience in a relevant discipline.

# **Skills and Competencies**

- The ideal candidate will have a background in Smart Cities technologies.
- Candidates must have three years of relevant work experience.
- Ability to identify, develop and deliver new partnerships.
- Ability to identify, develop and deliver new funding opportunities with experience in grant/bid writing.
- Experience in managing projects in complex environments with multiple stakeholders and partners (tech, business, and academic or public sector context highly desirable).
- Excellent, interpersonal, communication and presentation skills both written and verbal.
- Track record of research would be advantageous.
- Knowledge of citizen engagement principles and processes and experience in the design and facilitation of workshops.
- Excellent written and oral proficiency in English to write to an academic standard.
- Excellent time management skills, highly organized and able to prioritise workload and meet deadlines.
- Resourceful/conscientious and self-motivated individual with a 'can do attitude' –
  ability to see tasks through to completion.
- Enjoy working both with teams and independently.
- Excellent IT skills including experience with MS Excel, Word, Access, PowerPoint,
  Outlook and Google Business Suite.

## **Desirable Knowledge and Experience**

- An interest in Smart City challenges, research technology and its applications.
- Knowledge/desire to learn about latest Enable's research and Smart City Technology
  Developments.
- Knowledge/desire to learn about Dublin's Technology (specifically IoT) Ecosystem and research landscape.
- Strong desire to learn and make a difference on local and global scales.

### **Application Information**

Applicants should submit a full Curriculum Vitae to include the names and contact details of 3 referees (including email addresses) together with a cover letter (1 x A4 page), that specifically address the following points in their application:

- Give examples of your involvement in managing complex customer relationships, and projects involving multiple stakeholders;
- Illustrate, through past example, the ability to work on your own initiative and resolve problems, deliver results and impact;
- Relevant knowledge or experience related to smart cities and urban development.

Applications should be sent to Marco Ruffini - mail address: admin@connectcentre.ie

Please note: Candidates who do not address the application requirements above in their cover letter will not be considered at the shortlist stage. Candidates should note that the interview process for this appointment may include the delivery of a presentation and may include a test of practical skills.

# **Further Information for Applicants**

| URL Link to Area            | www.tcd.ie             |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
|                             | www.connectcentre.ie   |
|                             | www.smartdocklands.ie  |
|                             | www.smartdublin.ie     |
| URL Link to Human Resources | https://www.tcd.ie/hr/ |

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Any query can be directed to <a href="mailto:admin@connectcentre.ie">admin@connectcentre.ie</a>









