



Post Specification

Post Title:	Research Assistant - Smart Balbriggan Technology Engagement
Post Status:	Specific Purpose Contract
Research Group / Department / School:	CONNECT Centre, School of Computer Science & Statistics, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin
Location:	Embedded TCD researcher in Fingal County Council's Balbriggan Office, Georges Square, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin.
Reports to:	Education and Public Engagement Manager Daniel Ferrick
Salary:	Appointment will be made with salary up to a €51,035 based on experience
Hours of Work:	37 hours per week
Closing Date:	12 Noon (GMT), [31 August 2022]

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

Post Summary

This is a research role embedded within the project team for the Smart Balbriggan Project. The role will be a Trinity College Dublin appointment, will report to the TCD Smart Balbriggan PI in the CONNECT Centre, and will also informally report and brief on day-to-day activities to the Fingal County Council Digital Strategy Officer, who is a project team member. While working as part of a team, the role-holder will have responsibility for delivery of the research project goals and reporting on the project to the CONNECT Centre and its research collaboration partner Fingal County Council.

The Smart Balbriggan Project is a collaborative targeted research project between Fingal County Council (FCC) and CONNECT - the Science Foundation Ireland Research Centre for Future Networks and Communications. Balbriggan is, socially, a unique large town in Ireland, comprising an historic old fishing and manufacturing town onto which has been grafted a large modern suburban area, in effect a dormitory suburb of both the cities of Dublin and Drogheda. The modern Balbriggan, due to its proximity to Mosney direct provision centre, has become an attractive location for many of our new citizens to settle, creating a quite international and multicultural community unique in Ireland.

CONNECT has engaged with a number of Dublin metro area councils in research on the deployment of communications network and Internet of Things assets in the public realm of a number of so-called Smart Dublin districts. In each area, the societal needs require to be researched early in the process, by engagement with the local communities. CONNECT has always been a STE(A)M research centre, marrying a large engineering and computer science focus to an arts/creative/social science focus. CONNECT research is directed at society and its needs, and therefore engages, and is expected to engage by its prime funder SFI, in some research projects directed towards education and public engagement.

Smart Balbriggan is the initial project for Fingal County Council. It has a significant challenge in that Fingal has not embarked on such a project to date, and the learnings in other Smart Dublin districts cannot be assumed to translate to the unique circumstances of Balbriggan.

The conclusions of this research will inform the design of subsequent technology projects to research and develop Smart solutions for Balbriggan. Examples of Smart solutions which could be envisaged in a typical community would be Smart bins, shared bicycles and cars, Smart lighting, and drone delivery (which has already been piloted significantly by a private operator in Balbriggan).

The role of the Research assistant is to assist in the management and delivery of the goals of the Smart Balbriggan Project, through organising and facilitating local community education and engagement activities, supporting and collaborating with the Council's research, academic and administrative staff's engagement with the project and reporting on project goals, deadlines and budgets to the project management team, steering group, local stakeholders and funding organisations. The research outcomes will be conclusions about the needs and priorities of the people and communities of Balbriggan for Smart solutions in the public realm of the town.

The Research assistant will be embedded with the Council for this reason – the project “laboratory” is the town of Balbriggan and the engagement opportunities with its people. The Research assistant will engage with a diverse range of collaborative programmes between various stakeholders, that align with the goals of the project; Technology Education, Technology & Community Engagement and Community Research & Development Co-creation. This role will be a research assistantship in Trinity College Dublin but embedded in the Fingal County Council's Balbriggan Office, located on Georges Square, Balbriggan.

Standard Duties and Responsibilities of the Post

Research

- Undertake research into the societal needs of the town of Balbriggan for Smart technology solutions, in collaboration with the Smart Balbriggan research project team at Fingal County Council. This will be largely field-based research, therefore located off campus.

- From enquiry and data, reach conclusions in collaboration with the other members of the research team directed towards the project objectives.
- Develop a strong network of relevant stakeholders and project partners including researchers, industry partners, local communities and local authority staff.

Research Management

- Coordinate and deliver the implementation of the Smart Balbriggan project goals.
- Report on deliverables, timelines and budget of the project to the relevant stakeholders.
- Develop implementation plan of manageable tasks and deadlines from high level project goals.

Societal Engagement Research

- The main research focus is on the social science perspective of citizens interaction.
- Manage and deliver schedule of quarterly town hall webinar/events to update local community and stakeholders on Smart Balbriggan programme.
- Design and deliver engagement activities that provide participants with an opportunity to explore the application and impacts of technology projects, emphasising local IoT use-cases, and using best practice public enegement research methodologies.
- Convene regular meetings with CONNECT’s researchers to provide information leading to the identification of potential research opportunities

General

- Attending relevant meetings, learning events and conferences.
- Any other duties that arise from time to time as directed by the Education and Public Engagement Manager , the CONNECT Director, or on request of the Fingal County Council Digital Strategy Programme Lead or other Smart Balbriggan research collaborators.

Funding Information

Smart Balbriggan

The establishment of a Smart District within the county of Fingal was identified as an objective in the FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL Digital Strategy 2020-2023. Under the Smart Dublin

umbrella, Smart Districts are “strategically selected locations where innovation projects are fast-tracked”. A number of established Smart Districts have been developed through research partnerships with SFI-funded research centres. As the fastest growing, youngest and one of the most culturally diverse towns in Ireland, Balbriggan is the ideal location to deliver a community-focused Smart District. Smart Balbriggan has been initiated by FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL to complement and support the delivery of the town rejuvenation plan by trialling new technology projects and delivering technology education initiatives.

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.

Person Specification

Qualifications

The candidates must have a BA, BSc or similar degree, and/or equivalent experience in a relevant discipline – essential.

Knowledge & Experience (Essential & Desirable)

- Familiarity with the work of smart cities/IOT and telecommunications research.
- Minimum of 3 years’ experience working within Technology / Consulting or an environment where you had substantial contact with either;
- Experience in public engagement, both offline and online, to improve the profile of a project / initiative / company
- Previous experience in preparing funding applications and a practical understanding of national, European funding schemes;
- Understanding of latest technologies and the social sciences approach to evaluating impact on humans.
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Office, e-mail and the web - essential.

Skills & Competencies

- Have at least 3 years of relevant working experience – essential.
- Have experience with applying innovation or IoT/Smart City technologies in research and/or operational setting.

- Have excellent time management and prioritisation skills in a fast moving landscape that has multiple stakeholder interests and cross-matrix requirements.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Event management and organisation.
- Can produce detailed and accurate reports.
- Be comfortable in cultivating multiple relationships, but also be able to work independently and autonomously.
- Have an eye for detail, but also have the ability to take a step back and 'look at the big picture'.
- Have excellent administrative IT skills including competencies in MS Excel, Word, Access, PowerPoint, Outlook and Google Business Suite.

Personal attributes

- Enjoy a dynamic and multi-faceted environment, with friendly and collaborative colleagues.
- Be interested in making a difference on a local and global scale.
- Be excited about being on the forefront of change to positively impact our societies.
- Understands the importance of quality service and pro-actively delivers this.
- Pays close attention to quality standards.
- Takes pride in providing excellent customer service providing a helpful and courteous approach to colleagues.
- 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

Applicants should submit a cover letter (1x A4 page) and full Curriculum Vitae to include the names and contact details of 2 referees (including email addresses), to:

Daniel Ferrick, Educational and Public Engagement Manager – CONNECT Centre

Daniel.Ferrick@tcd.ie

Further Information for Applicants

URL Link to Area	www.tcd.ie www.connectcentre.ie www.fingal.ie/digital-fingal-landing-page/smart-balbriggan
URL Link to Human Resources	https://www.tcd.ie/hr/

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.psnipolice.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 108th in the world (QS World University Rankings 2020). 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 the top-ranked European university for producing entrepreneurs for the past five successive years and Europe's only representative in the world's top-50 universities (Pitchbook Universities Report).

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 is the top ranked university in Ireland and ranked 108th in the world (QS World University Rankings 2020). Trinity ranks in the top 50 in the world on 4 subjects and in the top 100 in 18 subjects (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2020). 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 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>.

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

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Name: Daniel Ferrick

Email Address Daniel.Ferrick@tcd.ie



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universityvacancies.com

