



Maynooth University Ollscoil Mhá Nuad

Department of Biology Research Fellow

FamilySleeps; Disruption of Circadian Rhythms in Families
(24-month contract)

The Role

The Family Genomics Research Group in the Department of Biology, Maynooth University invites applications for a Research Fellow to join our **"FamilySleeps"** research project, funded by a **European Research Council** Starting Investigator Award to Dr Lorna Lopez.

FamilySleeps will be the first study to investigate circadian rhythms in autism in context of the genetic, environmental, and social synchrony of the family. **FamilySleeps** will bring together a team of scientific and clinical researchers, with public patient involvement experts, to work on the underlying biological basis of disrupted circadian rhythms in families.

The Research Fellow will join a multidisciplinary research team of geneticists, chronobiologists and psychiatrists investigating circadian rhythms in families. We are looking to appoint a chronobiology researcher with experience in the analysis of human circadian rhythms. The successful candidate will lead studies on circadian rhythms in families with neurodevelopmental conditions, prepare and publish their results and develop research applications for upcoming funding opportunities. This post is for 24 months, with an anticipated commencement month of September/October 2023.

Maynooth University is committed to a strategy in which the primary University goals of excellent research and scholarship and outstanding education are interlinked and equally valued.

Principal Duties

Administrative and other duties:

This will include:

- Working under the supervision of principal investigator Dr Lorna M. Lopez, in collaboration with a team of researchers in Maynooth University, in Trinity College Dublin, and other national and international collaborators;
- Leading project tasks to support the programme of research on circadian rhythms in families with neurodevelopmental conditions;



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH



- Liaising with industry partners to develop novel sensor methods to access circadian rhythms
- Conducting statistical analysis, managing and performing analyses on sensor data output, and neuroendocrine secretion in neurodevelopmental conditions;
- Conducting systematic reviews of the circadian and neuropsychiatric literature;
- Communicating research at meetings, workshops and conferences;
- Actively assisting and contributing to the writing of reports and academic papers for publication;
- Assisting in the development and submission of new research proposals to Irish, EU and other funding agencies;
- Undertaking relevant training and development;
- Assisting in the supervision of team members;
- Carrying out additional duties as may reasonably be required within the general scope and level of the post.

The ideal candidate will have:

Essential:

- Applicants will have a PhD in biology, biomedical science or a related field and a minimum of 4–6 years of relevant post PhD research experience, in a relevant field;
- Knowledge and postdoctoral research experience in chronobiology and the assessment of circadian rhythms;
- Experience in statistical analysis of large datasets, and in the use of Stata, R or equivalent;
- Experience in the design and application of sensor-based systems for analysis of circadian rhythms;
- Self-motivation to direct and manage the development and application of novel methods to assess circadian rhythms;
- Excellent research, analytical and oral and written communication skills to contribute to, or in some cases lead, papers, grants, and technical reports;
- Excellent interpersonal skills and highly collaborative;
- Experience of project management in an academic setting.

Desirable:

- Postgraduate qualification in statistics or data analytics

Faculty and Research Institutes

The Faculty of Science and Engineering comprises the Departments of Biology, Computer Science, Chemistry, Experimental Physics, Mathematical Physics, Mathematics and Statistics, Psychology and Electronic Engineering. The University has also developed a number of interdisciplinary Institutes to support excellent research and to build research capacity across disciplines, including the Institute of Immunology and the Kathleen Lonsdale Institute for Human Health Research.

Kathleen Lonsdale Institute for Human Health Research

The Kathleen Lonsdale Institute for Human Health Research at Maynooth University, takes a uniquely integrated approach to address some of the major health problems of today, including obesity and antimicrobial resistance, as well as researching many chronic inflammatory diseases like Crohn's and ulcerative colitis. The primary objective of the institute is to study key determinants of human health from childhood to adulthood, through to old age. Researchers at the institute explore how environmental, psychological, behavioural and biological factors affect health. The Institute consists of



43 research groups featuring over 100 researchers from disciplines such as Biology, Chemistry, Psychology, Computer Science as well researchers from other Maynooth University departments. While most of the groups focus on the biology of diseases and treatment, researchers also examine the various factors across the life course that determines health.

Department

The Department of Biology has a full-time academic staff of 26. It provides teaching in multiple degree programmes to almost 1,100 students, ranging from undergraduate to doctoral level. The Department of Biology offers well-established BSc Honours degree programmes in Biology, Biological and Biomedical Sciences, and Biotechnology and an award-winning taught MSc programme in Immunology and Global Health. It has a strong tradition in PhD education and currently directs a number of structured PhD programmes. The Department of Biology has a strong international reputation in research and has prioritised the following two research themes for strategic development and investment: 1. Immunology and Microbiology 2. Science underpinning sustainable exploitation of crop plants. Both themes are strongly supported by state-of-the-art approaches and research in Genomics, Proteomics and Chemical Biology.

The University

Maynooth University is a very distinctive university, a collegial institution focused on science and engineering, humanities, and social sciences, and equally committed to research, teaching and community engagement. Located in Ireland's only university town, its distinctive features and character owe much to its unique history and heritage. It provides a high-quality educational experience to over 15,000 students on a campus with 18th century roots and 21st century dynamism.

The strategic trajectory and accomplishments of Maynooth University, in the 25 years since its establishment as an autonomous public university, are exceptional, and a source of great pride to the university community, staff, students and alumni. Maynooth University is now acknowledged to be one of the leading young universities in the world, and in 2022 ranked # 1 in Ireland in the latest Times Higher Education (THE) Best Young University Rankings. Maynooth University's growing global reputation is based on the originality, quality, importance and impact of its research and scholarship, commitment to teaching and learning, the quality of academic programmes, and its leadership in widening participation in higher education. The sources of success are the dedication of its staff and the energy and engagement of its students.

Maynooth University is a place of lively contrasts – a modern institution, dynamic, rapidly-growing, research-led and engaged, yet grounded in historic academic strengths and scholarly traditions. With over 15,000 students Maynooth offers a range of programmes at undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral level in the humanities, science and engineering and social sciences, including business, law and education. The University also offers a range of international programmes and partnerships.

Maynooth's unique collegial culture fosters an interdisciplinary approach to research, which its world-class academics bring to bear in tackling some of the most fundamental challenges facing society today. The University's research institutes and centres consolidate and deliver this impact as vibrant communities of learning, discovery and creation. Research at Maynooth also is very much central to its teaching and the University prides itself on placing equal value on its research and teaching missions.

Principles and Values

Maynooth University is committed to the following values:

- Scholarly rigour;



Athena
Swan
Ireland



Athena
SWAN
Bronze Award



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

- Academic freedom;
- Integrity and ethical behaviour;
- Collegiality, transparency and trust;
- Equality, inclusiveness and social justice;
- Operational excellence, organisational flexibility and responsiveness;
- Dignity, respect and care for the individual.

Strategy 2018 - 2022

The University's Strategic Plan 2018-22 builds from a position of confidence. Maynooth University is a University with ambition, vision and values, a clear identity and sense of purpose, a history of achievement, and a future of considerable promise. The Strategy builds on the University's accomplishments and concentrates institutional energy and resources on further development of research and postgraduate education.

For more information please visit <http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/about-us/university-strategic-plan>

Selection and Appointment

- Only shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend for interview;
- Candidates invited for interview will be required to make a brief presentation;
- Appointments will be approved by the President based on the report of the selection board;
- It is anticipated that interviews will be held during the week of the 11th September 2023.
- The appointment is expected to be effective from 1st November 2023.

Equality and Diversity

Maynooth University values the enrichment that comes from a diverse community and seeks to promote equality, prevent discrimination and protect the human rights of each individual. To learn more about our commitment to Equality and Diversity, please read the Maynooth University [Equality and Diversity Policy](#). Additionally, as an [Athena SWAN Bronze Award](#) Institute, we are committed to advancing gender equality across the University.

We aim to reflect the diversity of the community we serve and welcome applications from all individuals, in particular from people underrepresented in our workforce.

Terms and Conditions

Tenure	This a full-time, temporary post, of 24 months duration. This is a full-time position; consideration will also be given to filling the position on a part-time or job share basis.
Location	The place of work is the campus of Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.
Salary	Research Fellow (2023): € 60,412 p.a. (Point 1) with increments Appointments will be made in accordance with public sector pay provisions.



Athena
Swan
Ireland



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH



Hours of work	<p>A 37-hour working week is in operation in respect of full-time positions (pro-rated for part-time positions).</p> <p>This can be reviewed or adjusted from time to time through national agreements.</p>
Annual Leave	<p>Annual leave and public holidays are provided for in the University policy: https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/policies/annual-leave-policy</p> <p>Annual leave will be allocated on a pro-rata basis for part-time and temporary positions.</p>
University policies and schemes	<p>Employees of the University will be subject to the terms of the University policies and schemes, available on the University website at:</p> <p>https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/university-policies</p> <p>https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/policies</p>
Pension	<p>This is a pensionable post. Employees of the University will enter into a public sector pension scheme, details of the schemes are available at: https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/pension-information</p>
Eligibility	<p>Applications from non-EEA citizens are welcomed, applicants should note that eligibility is determined by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment. Further information regarding eligibility is available at: https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/what-we-do/workplace-and-skills/employment-permits/employment-permit-eligibility/</p> <p>Non-EEA applicants are responsible for ensuring they can secure a visa to travel to Ireland. Any offer of employment is conditional on applicants securing the appropriate employment permissions.</p> <p>Former Irish Public Service employees - Certain Restrictions on Eligibility</p> <p>Eligibility of applicants formerly employed by an Irish Public Sector body, and who availed of an Irish Public Service Redundancy or Incentivised Retirement Scheme under the Schemes below, may be affected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collective Agreement: Redundancy Payments to Public Servants • Incentivised Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER) • Department of Health and Children Circular (7/2010) • Department of Environment, Community & Local Government (Circular Letter LG(P) 06/2013) <p>Applicants should ensure that they are eligible to be re-engaged in the Irish Public Service under the terms of such Schemes. Applicants should address queries with their former Irish Public Sector employer.</p>
Garda vetting	<p>Garda vetting or clearance may be required by the University.</p>
Medical	<p>The University may require a medical examination as a condition of employment.</p>



Athena
Swan
Ireland



Athena
SWAN
Bronze Award



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

5



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

Data Protection Law

Maynooth University will process any personal data provided by you in connection with an application for this role in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Acts 2018.

If your application is successful and you accept an offer of employment at Maynooth University, then your personal data will continue to be processed in accordance with Maynooth University's Staff Data Privacy Notice.

Both the privacy notices and further information relating to data protection, including Maynooth University's other data protection policies and processes, can be viewed at <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/data-protection>

Application Procedure

Closing Date:

23:30hrs (local Irish time) on **Sunday, 27th August 2023**

Please note all applications must be made via our **Online Recruitment Portal** at the following link:

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/vacancies>

Applications must be submitted by the closing date and time specified above. Any applications which are still in progress at the closing time on the specified closing date will be cancelled automatically by the system.

Late applications will not be accepted.

Maynooth University is an equal opportunities employer

The position is subject to the Statutes of the University

This project has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme.



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

