Post Specification

Post Title:	PhD Studentship (1252 PhD Studentship in Oral Health, Ageing and Intellectual Disability)
Post Status:	Three-year studentship, full-time, fourth year extension option
Research Group / Department / School:	Oral Health and Intellectual Disability Research Group School of Dental Science/Dublin Dental University Hospital
Location:	School of Dental Science/Dublin Dental University Hospital, Trinity College Dublin, University of Dublin, College Green, Dublin 2, Ireland
Reports to:	Dr Caoimhin Mac Giolla Phadraig (Principal Investigator)
Co-Supervisors	Prof Blanaid Daly, Prof Mary McCarron, Prof Philip McCallion
Terms & Conditions:	The studentship will provide an annual stipend (tax free) of €18,000 and fees will be paid at the EU rate
Hours of Work:	40
Closing Date:	Saturday, 1st May 2021

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

Start date: September 2021

Post Summary

IDS-TILDA is a longitudinal study researching ageing in Ireland among people with an intellectual disability aged 40 and over. This study is the first of its kind in Europe, and the only study able to directly compare the ageing of people with intellectual disability with the general ageing population.

The underpinning values of IDS-TILDA are inclusion, choice, empowerment, person centred, the promotion of people with intellectual disability, the promotion of best practice and to contribute to the lives of people with intellectual disability.

The study aims to identify the principal influences on successful ageing in persons with intellectual disability, and then determine if they are the same or different from the influences for the general population. A second aim is to develop a first wave baseline picture of ageing among persons with intellectual disability and a cohort of subjects that may then be followed longitudinally.

At baseline over 750 individuals were interviewed. The domains captured from the interview, health assessment and self-administered components of the study reflect the multi-factorial causes of successful ageing and their interactions.

This studentship will support a PhD Student as part of analyses of the fourth wave of IDS-TILDA.

We have collected clinical data from 200 participants 2019-2020, using a specifically designed and initially validated oral data collection tool shown to be non-invasive, quick, and well tolerated compared to traditional indices. Crucially, it can be completed reliably by non-dentists following a specifically developed training programme.

This PhD offers an opportunity to refine and deploy this innovation in oral health research to change how oral health, function and treatment needs are measured clinically and by self-report among people with intellectual disabilities. These data will enable researchers, clinicians, policy makers and the public to understand oral health, its determinants, and its role in optimal

ageing for people with ID. A crucial benefit of these data is that they will allow secondary analyses in later waves of IDS TILDA so as longitudinal analyses can be undertaken.

Standard Duties and Responsibilities of the Post

- Test the validity of the index as measured clinically and then by self-report.
- Analyse index scores, developing models to understand the role of Oral Health in successful Ageing.
- Work with the Principal Investigator to refine training manuals and resources developed at this research cycle.
- Assist with coordination of training of Clinical Data Collectors / clinical data collection.
- Participate in IDS-TILDA masterclasses and training.

Research questions

Among older adults with intellectual disabilities in Ireland:
1. What is the validity and reliability of an initially validated clinical and self-report oral health index?
2. Quantify oral health status, disease burden and functional status?
3. What are the determinants of oral health, disease, and function?
4. What are the outcomes of oral health, disease, and function?

Student Involvement

The PhD Student who undertakes this structured PhD will have a unique opportunity to integrate with the graduate student programmes offered by the School of Dental Science, IDS-TILDA and The Trinity Centre for Ageing and Intellectual Disability (TCAID) and more generally Trinity College Dublin.

The student will benefit from world leading expertise in oral health for people with disabilities. The supervisors and contributing Centres/Schools have a strong track record in this research field and have undertaken a huge amount of preparatory work within this strong stream to help the PhD Student maximise their outcomes from this programme.

Training

The PhD Student will receive access to training resources essential for novel researchers such as training on ethical research, data management, GDPR, data collection skills, data analysis skills and reporting skills.

The PhD Student will be expected to expand knowledge significantly in this important field. They will publish a number of articles in high impact journals as well as share their findings at National and International conferences. This student will also have the opportunity to teach and training will be provided.

As part of a TCD structured PhD, the PhD Student will have the opportunity to access a number of modules and courses within the School of Dental Science with auxiliary courses available in the Nursing and Midwifery Schools and throughout Trinity College Dublin as part of the structured PhD programme.

It is expected that the student leaving this PhD will have undergone a journey of discovery within the world and themselves. It is expected that the graduate will be highly employable with the skills they gather.

Ethics

The student will help secure the ethical approval of the IDS TILDA project in multiple Ethics Committees.

Funding Information

The post is part funded by Trinity College Dublin and Dublin Dental University Hospital.

The studentship will provide an annual stipend of €18,000 and fees will be paid at the EU rate.

Person Specification

Qualifications

The successful candidate will have a 2.1 or higher undergraduate degree in Health Sciences such as Dental Science or Nursing, Social Sciences or Basic Sciences such as Immunology, Biochemistry, Genetics etc.

Depending on the professional background of the student, the student may either collect biometric data or complete CAPI researcher assisted interviews with participants as part of the study (Wave 5 data).

A satisfactory English Language Competency Certificate for candidates who do not have English as a first language.

Knowledge & Experience (Essential & Desirable)
Essential:
- Suitable academic qualifications and English language competency as specified above.

Desirable:
- Familiarity with diverse data collection techniques (e.g., interviewing; questionnaire design).
- Working knowledge of SPSS or other equivalent statistical software packages.
- Working knowledge of a wide range of statistical methodology applicable to large datasets and to multi-wave longitudinal studies.
- Clinical experience working with older adults with intellectual disability.

Skills & Competencies

- Excellent writing and analytical skills;

- Advanced knowledge of quantitative methods;

- Experience of qualitative research methodologies;

- Willingness to contribute proactively to the development of the project;

- Strong motivation to publish in academic journals;

- Good organisational skills;

- Ability to work effectively in a team;

- Interpersonal and relational skills

Application Procedure

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

Ms. Amy Fisher, Postgraduate Administrative Officer, School of Dental Science

Postgrad.admin@dental.tcd.ie

Further Information for Applicants

URL Link to Area	https://www.tcd.ie/dental/postgraduate/phd-masters-programmes/
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.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 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 6 subjects and in the top 100 in 20 subjects (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2019). 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.

Application Procedure

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Name

Amy Fisher

Email Address

Postgrad.admin@dental.tcd.ie

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