Post Specification

Post Title:	**Research Assistant** in Perception
Post Status:	Specific Purpose Contract – Full-time.
Research Group / Department / School:	Multisensory Cognition Lab, Institute of Neuroscience, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin
Location:	Trinity College Institute of Neuroscience
Reports to:	Professor Fiona Newell
Salary:	Appointment will be made on the Irish Universities Association Research Assistant pay scale, at a point in line with Government Pay Policy [€22,400 to €27,080 per annum], and the appointment will be made no higher than point 2.
Hours of Work:	Full time
Closing Date:	12 Noon (GMT), 19th July, 2021

Post Summary

Applications are invited for the role of Research Assistant at Trinity College Institute of Neuroscience (TCIN) to work in the Multisensory Cognition Lab headed by Prof. Fiona Newell. The Multisensory Cognition lab has dedicated laboratory facility equipped with state-of art facilities for behavioural testing, including eye tracking and VR technology (HTC Vive and Oculus). TCIN also houses a research-dedicated MRI scanner, accessible to all principal investigators and their groups. The Research Assistant will join a project aimed at elucidating the behavioural and brain processes underpinning multisensory object recognition in children and in adults. The research adopts a multidisciplinary approach involving cognitive neuroscience, statistical modelling, psychophysics and computer science, particularly Virtual Reality. The Research Assistant will join a research team of PhD students, postdoctoral researchers and will have the opportunity to collaborate with colleagues within the Institute

of Neuroscience and industrial partners. The candidate will participate in regular lab and collaborator meetings, learn about diverse methodologies in perceptual science.

The position is funded for **1 year** with a possibility for continuation for another year. Successful candidates are expected to take up the position immediately, but ideally no later than **September 2021**.

Standard Duties and Responsibilities of the Post

The Research Assistant will be expected to support the administration and management of the project (e.g. Ethical approval, project website, recruitment of participants, setting up data storage protocols). The will also be required to help with the research, including stimulus creation (i.e. collating and building a database of visual, haptic and auditory stimuli for experiments on multisensory perception), participant testing and data collection. The Research Assistant will also be involved in the initial stages of setting up and testing using a VR/AR apparatus (Oculus or HTC Vive), under the guidance of other team members and collaborators.

Funding Information

The position is funded by Science Foundation Ireland, from a Frontiers for the Future Award granted to Fiona Newell (Principal Investigator).

Qualifications

The candidate must have a primary degree in Psychology, Neuroscience or other cognate discipline (e.g. Computer Science) with an interest in Human Perception. This position is ideally suited to candidates with a strong interest in pursuing a Post-Graduate career in research.

Knowledge & Experience (Essential & Desirable)

The candidate should have a desire to work within the field of Human Perception and show some knowledge of the area. The should also be able to provide demonstrable evidence of excellent organisational skills.

Skills & Competencies

The candidate will have experience in conducting experiments as well as collecting and analysing data and demonstrable knowledge of statistical analyses. Experience in Matlab, Python or R or other related programming tools (e.g. PsychoPy) is desirable. Some knowledge and usage of VR technology is also desirable but not essential.

The candidate is expected to engage with the general public, particularly for the recruitment of both adults and children for the research, and are therefore expected to have a professional manner. They should also be an excellent team member with a positive approach to facilitating various aspects of the research programme.

Application Procedure

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

Professor Fiona Newell at the following email address: Fiona.newell@tcd.ie

Informal enquiries can also be made to the same email address.
Applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis up until the application deadline.

Further Information for Applicants

URL Link to Area	https://multisensorytcd.com/

Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin

Trinity is Ireland's leading university and is ranked 101st in the world (QS World University Rankings 2021). 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 101st in the world (QS World University Rankings 2021). Trinity ranks in the top 50 in the world on 4 subjects and in the top 100 in 17 subjects (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2021). Full details are available at: www.tcd.ie/research/about/rankings.

The Selection Process in Trinity

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.

Information supplied by candidates in their application (Cover Letter and CV) will be used to shortlist for interview. 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, and References. Outcomes of interviews are notified in writing to candidates and are issued no later than 5 working days following the selection day.

It is the policy of the University to conduct pre-employment medical screening/full pre-employment medicals.

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