

The University of Dublin Trinity College Dublin



Post Specification

Post Title:	Ussher Lectureship in Paediatric Immunology
Post Status:	5-year contract
Department/School/Faculty:	Department of Clinical Medicine / School of Medicine / Faculty of Health Sciences Location: Institute of Molecular Medicine, St. James's Hospital, Dublin 8
Salary:	Lecturer salary scale: Pre-95: €34,386 - €68,548 / €70,748 - €77,517 per annum / Post-95: €36,156-€72,024 / €74,340-€81,465 per annum *Appointment will be made at a maximum of the 8th point of the Lecturer salary scale i.e. €50,708 per annum (Pre '95 applies to staff who have been employed in the public sector prior to April 1995 / Post '95 applies to existing staff employed in the public sector post April 1995/new entrants to the public sector)
Closing Date:	12 noon on Wednesday, 16 th June, 2010

Post Summary

The School of Medicine (<http://www.medicine.tcd.ie>) seeks to appoint a lecturer in Paediatric Immunology. The lecturer will develop a research programme in the broad area of immunology, with specific relevance to inflammatory diseases of children. Applications are sought from candidates who have a strong record of peer-reviewed publications and successful grant applications in immunology commensurate with their stage of career. S/he will participate in undergraduate and postgraduate lecturing courses and contribute to the development of new postgraduate MSc/PhD/MD training programmes.

Background to the Post

This post is designated to integrate with the College's 2009-2014 strategic plan (http://www.tcd.ie/about/strategic_plan/). The position is relevant to the College's research programmes in Immunology and the priority theme of Biosciences & Translational Research.

The lectureship is central to the School of Medicine research strategy. The lectureship is central to the School of Medicine research strategy (<http://www.medicine.tcd.ie/research/>). The School of Medicine is expanding current research in translational immunology with this position focused on new research programmes on paediatric immunology. This new lectureship position will be integrated into existing and new research programmes in the School of Medicine and affiliated teaching hospitals.

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Standard duties of the Post

- Develop a research programme in immunology with respect to inflammatory diseases of children;
- Participate in existing and future research programmes in paediatric immunology;
- Obtain external research funding;
- To actively collaborate within the School of Medicine, affiliated teaching hospitals and relevant research group within College;
- Contribute to undergraduate programmes, including course co-ordination, lectures, seminars, essay and examination marking, and supervision of undergraduate dissertations;
- Coordinate the development and running of new postgraduate MSc/PhD/MD training programmes;
- Undertake such administrative responsibilities as directed by the Head of School.

Candidates wishing to discuss the lectureship posts informally and in confidence can email Prof. Padraic Fallon (pfallon@tcd.ie)

Funding Information

A start-up package and appropriate support will be provided

*The post is tenable from 1st September 2010 or as soon as possible thereafter but no later than 1st January, 2011

Person Specification

Qualifications

- Candidates must hold a Ph.D. in Immunology

Knowledge & Experience (Essential & Desirable)

Essential

- Evidence of research potential and achievements; including publications in relevant high impact international journals;
- Relevant teaching experience;
- Experience and documented success in obtaining research funding;
- Ability to develop an independent research programme relevant to inflammation.

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Desirable

- Experience of research on clinical samples;
- Experience of undergraduate lecturing or supervision;
- Experience of developing new courses and teaching material;
- Supervision of postgraduate students.

Other

Essential

Ability to work effectively as a member of a team;

Good communication skills;

Good organisational skills;

Willingness to contribute to the College and to the discipline and wider community.

Faculty of Health Sciences and the School of Medicine

The Faculty of Health Sciences has four constituent Schools;

- School of Medicine
- School of Dental Sciences
- School of Nursing and Midwifery
- School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

In the School of Medicine nineteen departments/academic units have been restructured into six academic divisions. One of the Divisions is devoted to education and the other five are interdisciplinary and research driven. There are ongoing discussions on the final arrangements. It is envisaged that departments will be replaced by disciplines and that disciplines may be involved in more than one division.

Postgraduate Education

The Faculty of Health Sciences provides education and training for medical doctors, dentists, nurses, midwives, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, radiotherapists and pharmacists. The Faculty is actively working with its teaching hospitals on joint initiatives in postgraduate education and research. These initiatives complement and underpin the Faculty's own developments in the area of postgraduate studies. A wide range of over 24 taught courses leading to Postgraduate Diplomas and M.Sc. degrees have been developed in recent years and a number of further courses are in the process of development. Some of these courses are targeted at a specific profession, such as the M.Sc. in Physiotherapy; others are directed towards research such as the M.Sc. in Molecular Medicine and the M.Sc. in Molecular Pathology, whilst others are of an interdisciplinary nature, such as the M.Sc. in Health Services Management. Some courses are part-time, providing opportunities for individuals to continue in their professional work and others are full-time. In 2009/10 the School of Medicine has 319 students registered for postgraduate research degrees (Msc/PhD/MSh/MD) in the School. In addition to the traditional approach to PhD training, the School runs structured PhD programmes in Molecular Medicine, Neuroscience and Health Services Management (in collaboration with

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RCSI and UCC), and hosts students from the structured PhD programme in Translational Medicine Research ran by Molecular Medicine Ireland. There are 260 students registered for taught postgraduate courses (MSc/Diploma) in the School.

Students are also accepted in the Faculty to work towards the degrees of M.D., M.Ch., M.A.O., M.Sc. and Ph.D. by research. Such students work under the supervision of a designated member of the Faculty.

The Faculty promotes an environment, which fosters a team approach to the delivery of healthcare in the hospital and the community. This multi-professional ethos seeks to encourage mutual respect and understanding between health professionals and the sharing of knowledge and skills, which facilitates efficient teamwork and healthy professional relationships. This shared experience also promotes co-operation in education and research within the professions and allows more efficient use of expertise and educational facilities.

Undergraduate Education

The School of Medicine is continuously reforming the undergraduate curriculum, a process which is being monitored and encouraged by the Medical Council. To date, the first three years have been restructured and a comprehensive course in medical ethics has been introduced commencing in year three. The task of reforming the clinical years and increasing the linkage with the pre-clinical curriculum is still in progress and it is expected that the successful candidate will play a role in this reform. Small group clinical bedside teaching is the cornerstone of medical training and improvements are in place to ensure that improvements in the quality of medical rotations in the clinical settings.

Student progress is assessed by continuous assessment, multiple choice examination, case reports, individual projects, OSCE [objective structured clinical examination].

There is also an emphasis on providing students with good research skills. Foundations are laid in the first year and project work and special study modules are provided in the fourth year. There is still a strong emphasis on clinical bedside teaching in all the clinical disciplines.

In our undergraduate training, we aim to foster a supportive, enthusiastic attitude among staff and students.

Educational Facilities

Educational facilities for the professional schools in the Faculty are situated both on the city centre campus and in the Trinity Centres associated with affiliated hospitals. In 1994 the College opened major new academic facilities at St. James's Hospital located approximately 2 miles from the main campus, and it has a complementary facility at the Hospital at Tallaght, approximately 7 miles from the main campus. In all, the College undertook a €39m capital programme in Health Sciences in the ten-year period to 2004.

At present, the majority of didactic clinical lectures and teaching in the clinical laboratory sciences is based at the Trinity Centre for Health Sciences at St. James's Hospital where there are lecture theatres, seminar rooms and the John Stearne Medical Library.

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A new Biosciences Building will open in 2010 which will house the School of Medicine including Anatomy, Physiology, lecture theatres, seminar/teaching areas and an administration unit. This will be a significant development for the School of Medicine and the University.

Governance

In February 2010, the Boards of Trinity College, St James's Hospital and AMNCH, Tallaght have fully endorsed the principles of the AMC model as outlined in a Draft Collaborative Agreement. This is a delegated authority model based on trust. The implementation process will now begin. The Academic Medical Centre to be known as Trinity Health (Ireland) will provide for the establishment of a Committee in order to give effect to the goals and objectives of the parties in relation to Trinity Health.

Tercentenary of the School of Medicine

The School will celebrate its Tercentenary in 2011. A Tercentenary Committee has been established and is focussing on fund-raising, emphasising the central role of the medical school in the scientific and cultural life of the city. The primary focus will be on resourcing the capital development of building programmes on the College Green campus (Biosciences Building), St James's Hospital campus and the campus at the Adelaide and Meath Hospital, Dublin Incorporating the National Children's Hospital, Tallaght. Emphasising the key role of the Meath and Adelaide Hospitals in the history of medicine and of medical education, it is proposed to work towards establishing a facility incorporating clinical skills coupled with integrative medicine and surgery and preventative medicine on the Tallaght campus. Translational medicine will be primarily based at the St James's campus, and central administration and non-clinical teaching at the College Green campus. All three strands will be integrated in a historical sense with particular emphasis on: (i) marrying traditional and new technologies; and (ii) complementary developments on the three sites.

Trinity College Dublin – Department of Clinical Medicine at St. James's Hospital

The Department of Clinical Medicine is divided between the two main teaching hospital sites: St James's Hospital and the Adelaide and Meath Hospital incorporating the National Children's Hospital at Tallaght. The Department of Clinical Medicine incorporates Molecular Medicine, Nutrition and Dietetics and Medical Physics. The Department delivers both undergraduate and postgraduate education and has a strong research platform in key areas of the College's strategic plan including, cancer, infection and immunity and neurosciences. The Department is also aligned with the Institute of Molecular Medicine and the new Institute of Preventative Medicine which is in planning phase.

Staff – Department of Clinical Medicine at St James's Hospital

The Headship of the Department of Medicine is currently base at St James's Hospital. As at 1st January 2009 there were 15.56 full time equivalents in the Department. Part-time staff plays a key role in the Department's teaching and research.

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Departmental Governance and Headship

The Head of Clinical Medicine is Professor Dermot Kelleher. Other academic Staff and individual consultant hospital staff and heads of specialist departments contribute substantially to the Department as part-time members of the academic staff. Regular departmental meetings are held with integration of its part-time members into the decision making process, good communication and close contact between the staff in both hospitals.

Teaching

Undergraduate Teaching

The Department of Clinical Medicine, St. James's Hospital and AMNCH is responsible for the teaching of medical undergraduates at Trinity College Dublin.

Second, third, fourth and fifth year medical students are attached to the department in St. James's Hospital, the Adelaide and Meath Hospitals incorporating the National Children's Hospital in Tallaght and affiliated hospitals. Such attachments include clerkships where the medical students join a clinical medicine team, admit patients from the emergency room and present them on ward rounds, as well as seeing patients in the outpatients department and presenting them to the consultant.

Consultant-led tutorials are delivered in the final year with representation from every medical specialty. Lectures are also given to nurses, pharmacists and MSc students in Molecular Medicine, as well as BSc students in Immunology. The department is responsible for examining medical students and M.Sc students in Molecular Medicine in Trinity College Dublin.

Postgraduate Teaching and Research

The Department of Clinical Medicine at St. James's Hospital has a strong reputation for postgraduate training and research and offers the following degree programmes by research:

The Doctor of Medicine (MD and Ph.D)

Research

Research in the Department of Clinical Medicine at St James's Hospital is carried out in the Institute of Molecular Medicine on the St. James's campus and in the Institute of Preventative Health in the AMANCH campus. Research interests include but are not confined to Infection and Immunity, Neurosciences and Cancer. Infectious Diseases currently being investigated with a view to developing vaccines, new treatments and tests include tuberculosis, Helicobacter infection of the stomach, infectious hepatitis, HIV, sepsis syndrome, invasive fungal disease, and parasite infestations. Cancers such as pancreatic cancer, oesophageal and colon cancer, lung cancer, cervical cancer, thyroid cancer, and haematological malignancies are the subject of basic research which seeks to find out the causes and potential cures of these diseases.

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In close collaboration with the Department of Psychiatry, neurologists and radiologists are undertaking research that focuses on advanced imaging techniques to assess brain function in the setting of different neurological conditions.

The investigators also study immune mediated diseases such as celiac disease, rheumatoid arthritis, eczema and skin diseases and nutritional aspects of ill health.

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Trinity College Dublin is currently ranked 43rd in the top world universities by the Times Higher Education Supplement Global University Rankings 2009 and 13th in Europe. Trinity College has overtaken other prestigious institutions such as the London School of Economics, the University of Washington and St Andrew's in Scotland among others.

Founded in 1592, Trinity College Dublin is the oldest university in Ireland and one of the older universities of Western Europe. On today's campus, state-of-the-art libraries, laboratories and IT facilities, stand alongside historic buildings on a city-centre 47-acre campus.

Trinity College Dublin offers a unique educational experience across a range of disciplines in the arts, humanities, engineering, science, human, social and health sciences. As Ireland's premier university, the pursuit of excellence through research and scholarship is at the heart of a Trinity education. TCD has an outstanding record of publications in high-impact journals, and a track record in winning research funding which is among the best in the country.

TCD has developed significant international strength in its research in eight major themes which include globalisation; cancer; genetics; neuroscience; immunology and infection; communications and intelligent systems; nano and materials science as well as Irish culture and the creative arts. TCD aims to become the world reference point in at least one of these areas of research in the next 10 years.

Its current flagship interdisciplinary research institutes are in areas such as molecular medicine, neuroscience and international integration studies and nanostructures and nanodevices. The construction of Ireland's first purpose built nanoscience research institute was opened in January 2008, which houses 150 scientists, technicians and graduate students in specialised laboratory facilities. The building also includes an innovative public venue, the Science Gallery. The Biosciences Development is due for completion in mid 2011 and is the most ambitious construction project in Trinity College's history. This Development will define the scientific research landscape in Trinity College and will allow Ireland to take an international lead on the delivery of quality pharmaceutical and biotechnology research infrastructure. The building will be central to the redevelopment of Pearse Street.

The Library of Trinity College is the largest research library in Ireland and is an invaluable resource to scholars. In addition to purchases and donations accrued over four centuries, the College has had 200 years of legal deposit. By this right Trinity can claim a copy of every book published in Ireland and the UK. The Library contains 4.25 million volumes, 30,000 current serial titles as well as an extensive collection of manuscripts, the most famous being the Book of Kells.

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Trinity continues to attract intellectually strong students from Ireland and abroad. More than half of its incoming undergraduates have earned in excess of 500 out of a maximum 600 points in the national Leaving Certificate examination. The accessibility of a Trinity education to all students of ability is also very important. Trinity College was the first university in Ireland to reserve 15% of first year undergraduate places for students from non-traditional learning groups – students with a disability, socio-economically disadvantaged students as well as mature students. The College has met its target in this respect. There is also an exciting international mix of its student body where 16% of students are from outside Ireland and 40% of these students are from outside the European Union. TCD students also have an opportunity to study abroad in other leading European universities through Trinity's partnership agreements.

Students also benefit from a scholar teacher model where they have the opportunity of being taught by world-leading experts in their field. Interdisciplinarity forms a key element in the College strategy in increasing Trinity's international standing as a research-led university.

Many of Trinity College Dublin's alumni have helped shape the history of Ireland and Western Europe. They include author, Jonathan Swift, philosopher, George Berkeley, political philosopher, Edmund Burke, wit and dramatist, Oscar Wilde, historian, William Lecky, religious scholar, James Ussher, scientists, John Joly, George Johnstone Stoney, William Rowan Hamilton and physicians, William Stokes and Denis Burkitt.

Two of Trinity College's alumni have won Nobel prizes – Ernest Walton for Physics in 1951 and Samuel Beckett for Literature in 1968. The first President of Ireland, Douglas Hyde was a graduate as was the first female President of Ireland, Mary Robinson.

The Selection Process in Trinity

- The Selection Committee (Interview Panel) will include members of the Academic community together with an External Assessor who is an expert in the area.
- Applications will be acknowledged by email. If you do not have confirmation of receipt within 1 day of submitting your application, please get in touch with us 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 College 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 for interviews.

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- The College's selection methods may consist of any or all of the following:
 - Interviews
 - Presentations
 - Psychometric Testing
 - References
- It is the policy of the College to conduct pre-employment medical screening/full pre-employment medicals.

Equal Opportunities Policy

Trinity College Dublin is an equal opportunities employer and is committed to the employment policies, procedures and practices which do not discriminate on grounds such as gender, marital status, family status, age, disability, race, religious belief, sexual orientation or membership of the travelling community.

Application Procedure

Candidates should submit a cover letter together with a full curriculum vitae, to include the names and contact details of three referees, and a research plan relevant to immunology research via e-Recruitment:

APPLICATIONS WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED VIA E-RECRUITMENT

Please forward any query regarding this to: Ms. Joanne Smith, Recruitment Executive, Staff Office, Trinity College Dublin, Tel: 01 896 1749, Email: joanne.smith@tcd.ie