

Post Specification

Post Title:	Research Assistant - Research Nurse TILDA-HCAP
Post Status:	Specific Purpose
Research Group / Department / School:	TILDA, Medical Gerontology, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin
Location:	Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin College Green, Dublin 2, Ireland
Reports to:	Project Manager
Salary:	Appointment will be made on the INMO Staff Nurse Salary Scale at a point in line with Government Pay Policy €31,109 to €47,931 per annum, appointment will be made no higher than point 6, €41,163
Hours of Work:	37.5 hours per week – full time and part time

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

Posts are expected to be taken up January 2022.

Post Summary

The Irish Longitudinal Study on Ageing (TILDA) seek to appoint qualified nurses who wish to contribute to a well-established study with a strong reputation for producing high-quality, policy relevant research on ageing. Research nurses will be responsible for collecting data for a **Healthy Cognitive Ageing Project (HCAP)** of the TILDA participants. **This project is a National Institute of Health (NIH) subaward and managed by the University of Michigan Health and Retirement Study (HRS) family of international longitudinal studies of ageing.** TILDAHCAP is a new study within TILDA, focusing on brain health and healthy cognitive ageing. The overall aim of the study is to create a unique harmonised dataset with a rich longitudinal measurement detailing important causes, indicators, connections, and consequences of cognitive decline to strengthen and develop scientific knowledge for the assessment of cognitive performance and functional limitations. This new study will expand the resources available for cross-national research on the epidemiology of Alzheimer's disease and Alzheimer's disease related dementias (AD/ADRD). HCAP was developed to provide a common strong foundation to achieve more comparable assessments of impairment and dementia within this network and better harmonization to studies outside it. This role will involve conducting home based health assessments in TILDA participants' homes nationwide, thus requiring nurses to travel to participants' homes. All successful candidates will be given full training in conducting novel tests. Training will take place in a hybrid manner, both online and in the TILDA Health Assessment Centre, Trinity College Dublin. This position provides a unique opportunity to work on the largest study on ageing ever carried out in Ireland for a health professional to gain valuable training, knowledge and experience in a combined clinical and research setting that is rarely available and will enhance the career progression of all who take up the position.

Background to the Post

The Irish Longitudinal Study on Ageing (TILDA) is the largest and most ambitious study of ageing ever conducted in Ireland and is collecting detailed information on all aspects of the lives of people aged 50 years and over in a nationally representative sample.

The first five waves of data collection are complete, and TILDA are currently in the field of wave six data collection. The study is closely harmonized with other international longitudinal studies such as the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA) and the US Health and Retirement Study (HRS).

At baseline Wave 1 (2009-2011), 8,175 individuals aged 50 and over and 329 partners younger than 50 were interviewed and were invited to participate in a health assessment including world-leading cutting edge cardiovascular investigations, a comprehensive battery of cognitive tests, eye examinations and analysis of gait speed under different conditions. Data collected during the TILDA health assessments has been used to influence health policy and practice in Ireland. For example, the collection of blood pressure data highlighted that 64% of community-dwelling adults aged 50 and over have hypertension with almost half being unaware that they have the condition; two-thirds of adults with atrial fibrillation, a leading contributor to stroke, heart and disease and dementia, are either undiagnosed or mistreated – this data informed an awareness campaign by the Irish Heart Foundation and was used by the HSE to develop its National Clinical Guidelines and recommendations for the care of people with stroke; finally, walking speed data highlighted that two-thirds of adults aged 65 and over would have difficulty crossing the road at pedestrian light crossings, leading to a collaboration with Dublin City Council to review the pedestrian light settings.

The domains captured from the TILDA study reflect the multi-factorial causes of successful ageing and their interactions. These include but are not limited to:

- Economics (wealth and income, pensions, employment, financial transfers),
- Health (physical, cognitive and mental health, disability, health behaviour, service needs and usage)
- Social relationships (quality of relationships and frequency of contacts, formal and informal care, social participation).
- Wellbeing (quality of life, loneliness, perceptions of ageing)

The diversity of the TILDA research group reflects the multi-disciplinary nature of the study and includes world-leading researchers in geriatrics, psychiatry, psychology, social science,

bioengineering, biostatistics, economics and health care management. There are forty full time members in the current TILDA team which is comprised of researchers and administrative staff. TILDA has established a wide network of collaborators both within Ireland and internationally which ensures that TILDA remains on the cutting edge of research into ageing.

Standard Duties and Responsibilities of the Post

- Adhere to nursing policies and procedures for Trinity College Dublin
- Promote a safe clinical environment for participants with due regard to Health and Safety and Risk Management issues
- Work within the standard operating procedures and research protocols associated with academic clinical research activities in accordance with Good Clinical Practice
- Conduct detailed health assessments which adhere to standardised TILDA protocols
- Conduct peer assessments as part of ongoing quality control procedures
- Ensure that participants are fully informed of all relevant details pertaining to TILDA, particularly in relation to the health assessment
- Function as an education resource, where appropriate, for participants
- Provide nursing expertise and care to participants in the study
- Ensure participant confidentiality and dignity is assured and maintained at all times during the study and adhere to all data protection regulations
- Maintain up-to-date, accurate and complete clinical research documentation
- Work with a multidisciplinary team within TILDA
- Perform research and administrative duties as required, including filing research documentation, managing clinical consumables, updating expenses and data entry
- Ensure prompt management of all study related correspondence
- Carry out other duties as appropriate to the post as may be assigned from time to time by the Research Nurse Manager or Project Manager

Person Specification

Qualifications

- Must have current registration as a general nurse with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland

Knowledge & Experience (Essential)

- Minimum of 2 years post registration experience
- Availability to work on a shift basis
- Demonstrated excellence in motivational, organisational, interpersonal, and clinical nursing skills
- Full driver's licence and access to a car

Knowledge & Experience (Desirable)

- Phlebotomy qualification and experience
- Post graduate qualification in dementia or gerontology
- Experience in clinical or translational "bench to bedside" research
- Certificate in Good Clinical Practice (ICH-GCP)
- Good IT skills including Microsoft Office, in particular excel

Skills & Competencies

- Good interpersonal skills required to integrate as part of a diverse research team and the ability to relate to a broad spectrum of research participants
- Ability to effectively work both independently and as a member of a team
- Self-motivated, showing strong leadership and initiative
- Ability to communicate findings to specialists from other research disciplines

- Excellent written and oral communication skills – requires attention to detail and meticulous record keeping
- Excellent organisational and problem solving skills

Informal enquiries about this post should be made to Mary O’Shea, moshea9@tcd.ie

Further Information for Applicants

URL Link to Area	www.tcd.ie
URL Link to Human Resources	https://www.tcd.ie/hr/
URL Link to TILDA	www.tilda.ie

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 premier university, with a proud tradition of excellence stretching back to its foundation in 1592. The oldest university in Ireland, and one of the oldest in Europe, today Trinity sits at the intersection of the past and the future, and is ideally positioned as a major university in the European Union. Our 47-acre campus is located in the heart of Dublin city centre and is home to historic buildings dating from the University's establishment, as well as some of the most cutting-edge teaching and research facilities in Ireland. Students at Trinity benefit from a unique educational experience across a range of disciplines in our three faculties – Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences; Engineering, Mathematics and Science; and Health Sciences. 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 [18 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. These internationally recognised themes include such diverse areas as Cancer, Immunology, Telecoms, Identities in Transformation, Nanoscience, Neuroscience, and Making Ireland. Researchers from across the University work together in innovative ways to develop new and exciting approaches to their research and explore the frontiers of knowledge in the 21st century. In creating these dedicated research themes, Trinity's researchers are able to become a more powerful force on the global stage, successfully competing for large-scale grants and attracting top students and faculty to the University. Trinity is home to Ireland's first purpose-built Nanoscience research institute, CRANN, which opened in January 2008. This state-of-the-art facility houses 150 scientists, technicians, and graduate students in specialised laboratories, fostering creative innovations that have seen Trinity's researchers make significant breakthroughs.

The Trinity Long Room Hub for Arts and Humanities Research Institute is the University's flagship institute for research in the Arts and Humanities, providing a world-class environment for cross-disciplinary collaborative projects. The Long Room Hub provides a central location through which the University's internationally respected Arts and Humanities research can become more visible, demonstrating its relevance for contemporary and future societies.

Researchers from across the University regularly participate in debates on topical issues facing the world today. As well as operating an International Visiting Research Fellowship programme, the Long Room Hub also hosts major EU-funded Digital Humanities projects.

One of the most instantly recognised parts of Trinity's campus is the famous Old Library, home to the historic Book of Kells as well as other internationally significant holdings in manuscripts, maps, and early printed material. Trinity's Library is the largest research library in Ireland and is an invaluable resource to Trinity's students and research community. Built up over the four centuries of the University's existence, the Library's collections have benefitted from its status as a Legal Deposit library for the past 200 years, granting Trinity the right to claim a copy of every book published in Ireland and the UK. At present, the Library's holdings span approximately 4.25 million books, 22,000 printed periodical titles, and access to 60,000 e-journals and 250,000 e-books.

Trinity attracts top students from Ireland and abroad and prides itself on the consistently high standard of student admitted to the University every year. These students are drawn to Trinity for the excellence of our research-led teaching and for the quality and prestige a degree from this University confers. Trinity has also pioneered accessibility to education in Ireland, becoming the first university in the country to reserve 15% of its undergraduate places for students from non-traditional learning groups. Trinity is the top-ranked European university for student entrepreneurship and Europe's only representative in the world's top-50 universities.

Our alumni have gone on to shape the history of Ireland and of Western Europe in a wide range of fields. These include such notable figures as Jonathan Swift, Oscar Wilde, William Rowan Hamilton, Edmund Burke, William Stokes, Denis Burkitt, Louise Richardson, Lenny Abrahamson, and Anne Enright. Three of Trinity's graduates have been awarded Nobel prizes: Ernest Walton for Physics in 1951; Samuel Beckett for Literature in 1968; and William Campbell for Physiology / Medicine in 2015. Trinity also counts the first female President of Ireland among its alumni in Mary Robinson, as well as other notable former Presidents Douglas Hyde and Mary McAleese. At Trinity we are justifiably proud of our tradition, and we strive to uphold this excellence as we face the demands of the 21st century.

Ranking Facts

Trinity is the top ranked university in Ireland. Using the QS methodology, the University is ranked 104th in the world and using the Times Higher Education World University Rankings methodology Trinity is 117th in the world.



Overall

- Trinity is Ireland's No.1 University in the QS World University Ranking, THE World University Ranking and the Academic Ranking of World Universities (Shanghai).
- Trinity is ranked 104th in the World, and 36th in Europe, in the 2018/2019 QS World University Ranking.
- Trinity is ranked in the Top 120 for Graduate Employability in the QS 2018 Rankings.
- Trinity is in the Top 50 most innovative universities in Europe according to Reuters.¹
- Between 2010 and 2015, Trinity was ranked the top university in Europe for entrepreneurship according to Pitchbook's independent analysis.²

¹ <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-innovative-stories-europe-idUSKCN0Z00CT>

² <http://pitchbook.com/news/reports/2015-2016-pitchbook-universities-report>

Internationalisation

- Trinity is ranked 52nd in the world in the THE World University Ranking for international outlook.

Research Performance

- Of the 981 institutions included in the THE World University Rankings for 2017, Trinity is in the top 15% internationally for research performance.
- Trinity is ranked in the top 15% internationally by QS for citations.

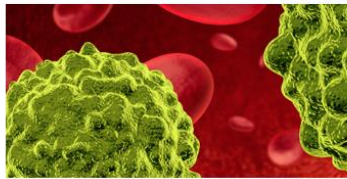
In the QS World University Subject Rankings:

- Trinity is ranked in the top 50 worldwide in four subject areas according to the QS World University Subject Rankings 2018. The University is ranked in the top 100 globally for 20 subjects overall.
- Trinity's Top 50 subjects include Nursing (25th), Classics (28th), English (28th) and Politics (43rd).
- Trinity is ranked in the top 100 for each of the following 16 subjects: History, Languages, Philosophy, Theology, Computer Science, Biology, Medicine, Pharmacy, Chemistry, Geography, Materials Science, Education, Law, Social Policy, Sociology and Sport.
- The University is ranked in the top 100 for three broad subject areas: Arts & Humanities (57th), Life Sciences & Medicine (87th), and Engineering & Technology (89th).

Research Themes



Ageing



Cancer



Creative Arts Practice



Creative Technologies



Digital Engagement



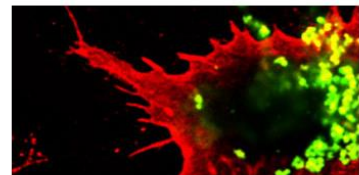
Digital Humanities



Genes & Society



Identities in Transformation



Immunology, Inflammation & Infection



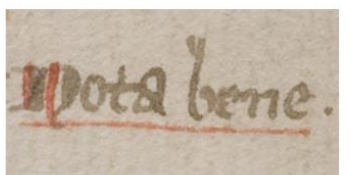
International Development



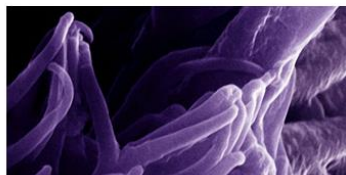
International Integration



Making Ireland



Manuscript, Book and Print Cultures



Nanoscience



Neuroscience



Telecommunications



Smart Sustainable Planet



Next Generation Medical Devices

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 Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation and further information on the Highly Skills Eligible Occupations List is set out in Schedule 3 of the Regulations <https://www.djei.ie/en/What-We-Do/Jobs-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://www.djei.ie/en/What-We-Do/Jobs-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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Applicants should submit a cover letter and full Curriculum Vitae to include the names and contact details of 3 referees (including email addresses), to:-

Name: Lucy Doogan

Email Address: dooganl@tcd.ie



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