



Post Specification

Post Title:	Research Fellow
Post Status:	Fixed-term Contract. Full-time.
Research Group / Department / School:	Viral Immunology, School of Biochemistry and Immunology, Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute (TBSI), Trinity College Dublin, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin.
Location:	Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute (TBSI), Trinity College Dublin, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin College Green, Dublin 2, Ireland.
Reports to:	Prof. Nigel Stevenson
Salary:	Appointments will be made on SFI Postdoctoral Researcher (level 2A) salary scale (€37,222- €43,029), depending on experience and in line with current Government pay policy. Appointment will be made no higher than point [2A.4].
Hours of Work:	40
Closing Date:	12 Noon (GMT), 31st May 2021

Post Summary

Applications are invited for a fully funded Postdoctoral Research Fellow position in Trinity's Viral Immunology Research Group (<https://www.tcd.ie/Biochemistry/research/stevenson/>), to study on the Immunology of COVID-19. The research will be carried out in the School of Biochemistry and Immunology, which is housed in the state-of-the-art Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute (TBSI) at Trinity College Dublin.

Our research focuses on the immune evasion mechanisms of viruses. We investigate how the innate immune system senses viruses via pathogen recognition receptors, leading to intracellular signalling and the subsequent production of inflammatory and anti-viral cytokines. We are particularly interested in how Type 1 Interferons signal via the JAK/STAT pathway, leading to the upregulation of hundreds of anti-viral genes and the subsequent clearance of viral infection. We have a specific interest in understanding how viruses evade and block these anti-viral and proinflammatory immune mechanisms.

This project will focus on **investigating the innate immune responses to SARS-CoV-2 and how the virus blocks responses to Type 1 Interferon**. In particular, the project will examine the IFN responses in immune and epithelial cells, using both primary human cells from infected patients and primary immune cells and cell lines infected with replicating SARS-CoV-2.

The Stevenson lab and much of Trinity's COVID-19 research programme is situated in the Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute, a global centre of excellence for Immunology research (www.tcd.ie/biosciences). Within TBSI, all the necessary facilities required, including CL3 labs, are available for the project.

Standard Duties and Responsibilities of the Post

The post holder will fulfil the defined work programme of the project. Duties will include: proposing, planning and executing experiments, analysing and interpreting data, maintaining current knowledge of relevant literature, disseminating research findings by writing/publishing in journals, presenting data regularly at internal meetings and national/international

conferences, contributing to project by engaging with collaborators/team members and advising on experimental design, ordering consumables and maintaining a budget record, provide training and assistance to undergraduate and postgraduate students working within the group.

Funding Information

The role is funded by grants from Science Foundation Ireland.

Person Specification

Qualifications

PhD in Virology, Immunology, Molecular Biology, Microbiology or a related discipline

Knowledge & Experience (Essential & Desirable)

The successful candidate must have a proven publication record. They will be highly motivated individuals, with a passion to work on an intellectually-stimulating project at the cutting edge of current knowledge of anti-viral innate immunity. They will enjoy working as part of a team, and have excellent oral and written communication skills.

Skills & Competencies

Required Experience in:

- Human blood processing (PBMCs, neutrophils and serum isolation)
- Tissues culture of cell lines
- Real-Time qRT-PCR
- Flow cytometry
- Immunoblotting
- Molecular cloning of genes into DNA constructs and sequencing analysis
- Over-expression and knock-down of genes by transfection
- Bioinformatic Analysis.
- Statistical Analysis

- Manuscript preparation/writing
- Experience working with infectious viruses and basic virology experience.

Experience in any of the following would be an advantage: Experience working with containment level 3 (CL3) pathogens, global transcriptome analysis (RNA-Seq, ChIP-Seq), CRISPR/Cas9 genome editing, retroviral transduction of mammalian cells, confocal microscopy, ELISA Genie multiplex analysis and Nanostring analysis.

Application Procedure

Applicants should submit an application letter and full Curriculum Vitae to include the names and contact details of 2-3 referees (including email addresses), to:-

Name: Prof. Nigel Stevenson

Email Address: n.stevenson@tcd.ie

Further Information for Applicants

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

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 4 subjects and in the top 100 in 18 subjects (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2020). 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>.

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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Prof. Nigel Stevenson

N.Stevenson@tcd.ie



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universityvacancies.com



**DIVERSITY
CHAMPIONS**

