



Maynooth University Ollscoil Mhá Nuad

Department of Geography Lecturer in Environment/Human Interaction (Coastal/Ocean Systems and Dynamics) (Permanent)

The University

Formally established as an autonomous university in 1997, but tracing its origins to the foundation of the Royal College of St. Patrick in 1795, Maynooth University, (National University of Ireland Maynooth) draws on a heritage of over 200 years' commitment to education and scholarship. The last two decades have seen the University grow rapidly in scale, strength and stature. Maynooth University is today a university of international standing, renowned for the quality and value of its research and scholarship, for its dedication to excellent teaching, for providing an outstanding learning experience for its 10,000 students, and as a uniquely collegial environment in which to pursue scholarly work.

Maynooth University is embarking upon a new and exciting phase of its development under the *University Strategic Plan 2012-17* with a vision to consolidate the international reputation of Maynooth University "as a university known for outstanding teaching, excellent research, a global outlook, effective engagement with the society we serve, and our distinctive approach to the challenges facing modern higher education."

The *University Strategic Plan 2012-17* sets seven strategic goals for the university:

- to offer students an outstanding university education, the best available in Ireland, an education which challenges and supports all students to achieve their full potential, and prepares students for life, work and citizenship, and for complexity, diversity and change;
- to be recognised by 2017 as playing a leading international role and being the clear national leader in a number of thematic areas of research that address the major societal challenges of the 21st century;
- to achieve a step change in our international activities, doubling the number of international students on campus and doubling the number of domestic students spending time abroad, in order to create a truly intercultural and multilingual institution;
- to strengthen our engagement with all stakeholders through sustained partnerships with enterprises, communities, civil society and public bodies, to build support for the mission of the university, to serve the needs of society, and to open new opportunities for research and learning;
- to maximise our unique and distinctive contribution to the national system of higher education through a set of purposeful and sustained strategic partnerships at regional and national level, and to extend our international reach through a network of global partnerships;
- to be an excellent place to work, known for a collegial ethos which empowers all staff to contribute fully to the development of the university;

- to enable the achievement of ambitious strategic objectives in challenging circumstances through careful planning, excellent services and infrastructure, and sound governance and management.

The University has distinctive institutional strengths in six thematic priority areas:

- People, Place and Environment;
- Social and Economic Transformations;
- Human Health;
- Mathematics, Communications and Computation;
- Humanities in Practice; Sources, Resources & Discourses;
- Human Cultures, Experience & Creativity.

The University has 27 academic departments which are organised into three Faculties: Arts, Celtic Studies and Philosophy; Science and Engineering; and Social Sciences. The University is also home to a number of multi- and trans-disciplinary research institutes, including the Hamilton Institute, the National Centre for Geocomputation, the National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis, and Institute of Immunology.

In a pioneering recent development, Maynooth University, Dublin City University and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland have established the 3U Partnership, a new strategic association that brings together the distinctive and complementary strengths of the three institutions.

Faculty and Research Institutes

The Faculty of Social Sciences comprises the Departments of Adult and Community Education; Anthropology; Applied Social Studies; Design Innovation; Economics, Finance & Accounting; Education; Geography; Law; Sociology; the Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education; and the School of Business. The role of the Faculty is to co-ordinate the academic activities of individual departments, to oversee the strategic development of departments, and to support interdepartmental programmes. The University has also developed a number of interdisciplinary institutes to support excellent research and to build research capacity across disciplines, notably the new Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute (MUSSI) which incorporates the National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis (NIRSA) and the National Centre for Geocomputation (NCG).

The Department

The Department of Geography has 20 FTE staff, three emeritus professors, two emeritus senior lecturers, two administrators, one technician and, in cognate research institutes, several affiliate staff. Based on its research strengths in Climate Change, Environmental Change, Spatial Planning and Place-Making, the Department offers courses to about 500 FTE undergraduate and postgraduate students, including three Masters programmes (Geography, Climate Change, and GIS and Remote Sensing). The Department recently graduated its 50th PhD student. We have a lively and well-attended programme of seminars and symposia. The vigor of Geographical research in the Department has led to the formation of two University Research Institutes: the National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis (NIRSA) and the National Centre for Geocomputation (NCG). The Irish Climate Analysis and Research Unit (ICARUS) is based within Geography, along with the Environmental Physics Research Unit, and the Centre for Health Geoinformatics.

ICARUS houses the Irish Sediment Core Research Facility (ISCORF) dedicated to the analysis of marine sediment archives. Dr. Stephen McCarron and Dr. Paul Gibson enjoy research collaborations involving the mapping and monitoring of the Irish coastline and offshore regions in conjunction with national research centres (e.g. iCRAG Irish Centre for Research in Applied Geosciences) and agencies (e.g. INFOMAR programme of the Geological Survey of Ireland and Marine Institute). Maynooth Geographers are highly visible in public debate on topics of climate change, extreme weather events spatial planning, migration, elections, politics of memory, geopolitics and the politics of gender.

Staff in Geography are internationally recognized for their scholarship and service in both Physical and Human Geography and take leading roles in national and international learned societies. Professor Peter Thorne chairs the International Surface Temperature Initiative and is lead author of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change AR5 report. Dr Rowan Fealy is Chair of the Science of Climate Change Working Group of the Institute of European Affairs, Dr Conor Murphy sits on the National Climate Change Adaptation Committee. Dr Chris van Egeraat currently Chairs the Irish branch of the Regional Studies Association. Prof. Mark Boyle is Chair of the ERDF-funded URBACT Ireland programme. Prof. Rob Kitchin is on the Board of the Irish Research Council. Prof. Karen Till has served on the council of the Association of American Geographers. Several journals are currently edited by staff at Maynooth (Irish Journal of Earth Sciences, Irish Geography, Social and Cultural Geography, Dialogues in Human Geography) and staff serve on the boards of many more (ACME, Geographical Journal, Journal of Geography in Higher Education, Progress in Human Geography, Political Geography, Historical Geography, Journal of Historical Geography, Journal of Extreme Events, AAG Review of Books, Irish Journal of Earth Sciences).

Our scholarship is acknowledged by research councils with recent awards from the European Research Council, Science Foundation Ireland, Environmental Protection Agency, Health Research Board EU Horizon 2020, Marie Cure, Irish Research Council, Fulbright Commission, and Irish Water. The Department's staff and students have cooperated on an annual journal, *Mileu*, since 1976, and staff and students have produced our departmental blog, *Eye on the World*, since 2009. The Department is in the top 200 Geography departments worldwide as assessed by the QS rankings.

The Role

Maynooth University is committed to a strategy in which the primary University goals of excellent research and scholarship and outstanding education are interlinked and equally valued.

We are seeking an excellent academic to join our staff as a Lecturer in Environment-Human Interactions (Coastal/Ocean Systems and Dynamics). This appointment will extend the community of scientists within the University working in the areas of Physical Geography and Global Environmental Change. We recognise the importance of coastal environments, where, in fact, the majority of the world's population lives. For instance, in Ireland the majority of the population, most economic activity and critical infrastructure exist at or near the coast. The new lecturer will add to our understanding of, and our teaching and research on these environments. The complexity and interaction of environmental and social change in coastal environments requires contributions from a particular type of scholar – a geographer - capable of understanding the connections between the physical and the social sciences. Their own research will perhaps be primarily focused upon one part of this set of relations but it will be undertaken with an understanding of its wider setting and in teaching the Lecturer will be cognisant of the broader set of interactions comprehended as a geographical synthesis.

Specifically this post will:

- Fill a critical gap in the Geography teaching programme;
- Build capacity within the People, Place and Environment research theme and the Environment and Climate Research Cluster within the University;
- Develop further collaborative opportunities between ICARUS, NCG, NIRSA and MUSSI and;
- Position Maynooth to increase success in drawing down funds from Horizon 2020, build research collaborations with a growing Marine Industry, produce societal and policy relevant research in this key area and link to existing Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) research centres and resources (e.g. MaREI).

The person appointed will have a proven record of teaching, research and publication, appropriate to career stage. He/she will be expected to make a strong contribution to the teaching programme of the Department and undertake teaching duties on the Department's undergraduate and postgraduate programmes as well as the supervision of Master's and PhD students.

The appointee will be expected to build a strong research profile, that supports the University's research strategy including affiliating to the Research Institutes, where appropriate and working with colleagues

on national and international research. The appointee will be expected to sustain and conduct research, engage in scholarship of quality and substance and generate publications of international standard.

Principal Duties

Teaching:

Undergraduate and postgraduate teaching duties are assigned by the Head of the Department. The duties will include:

- Teaching and assessing students at undergraduate level. This may include lecturing, tutoring, leading practical learning activities, project supervision, and setting, supervising and grading assessments;
- Teaching, supervising and assessing postgraduate students, including lecturing, leading seminars and other learning activities, supervision of student research activities, and setting, supervising and grading assessments;
- Enhancing and innovating in teaching and assessment practice;
- Contributing as required, to the assurance and enhancement of teaching quality;
- Outreach and promotional activities and the recruitment and selection of undergraduate and post-graduate students;
- Developing and enhancing the curriculum;
- Designing and delivering of new courses.

Research & Scholarship:

Building a research and scholarly profile is an essential part of an academic career. This will include:

- Conducting research and engaging in scholarship of quality and substance in the discipline;
- Generating external income or securing resources to support scholarly activity as necessary;
- Disseminating research and scholarly outcomes through: peer reviewed publication; presentation at national and international conferences; preparation of professional reports; commercialisation; or other appropriate means;
- Affiliating with a University Research Institute, where appropriate;
- Building research capacity;
- Fostering links with other institutions which will benefit both research and teaching at Maynooth University;
- Integrating research into the teaching curriculum;
- Supervising research students and post-doctoral fellows.

Service:

The academic staff members of the University are critical to achieving the strategic objectives of the University, and as such are required to engage in work that serves the collective strategic needs of the University. This may include:

- Administrative and service duties;
- Leading or contributing to strategic projects and initiatives;
- Contributing to the internationalisation of the university;
- Outreach and engagement activities;
- Collaborative work with external partners;
- Activities to promote the University locally, nationally and internationally;
- Carrying out any other duties within the scope, spirit and purpose of a Maynooth University academic post.

Administrative and other duties:

This will include:

- Undertaking administrative tasks within the Department, Faculty and University as required and as assigned by the Head of Department, the Dean or the President;
- Attending and serving on Departmental, Faculty, Institute and University committees as appropriate;
- Attending courses and engaging in other activities associated with professional development as appropriate;
- Complying with all University policies.

The ideal candidate will have:

- A PhD in a relevant discipline;
- A strong academic record in teaching and research;
- A record of scholarly work and publication of international quality, demonstrating potential to become a significant contributor in their field;
- Experience of and a demonstrated commitment to undergraduate and postgraduate teaching, programme development and academic innovation;
- Experience supervising graduate research students;
- Experience of, and commitment to, working in an interdisciplinary setting;
- Good administrative, organisational, teamwork and communication skills.

Selection and Appointment

- Only shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend for interview;
- Candidates invited for interview will be required to make a brief presentation;
- Appointments will be approved by the President based on the report of the selection board;
- It is anticipated that interviews will be held during the week of the 3 July 2017;
- The appointment is expected to be effective from 1 September 2017.

Terms and Conditions

The appointment will be made at Lecturer level, of which there are two grades: Lecturer and Assistant Lecturer. To be appointed at the Lecturer level, the successful candidate will have a strong record of research, publications, teaching and academic leadership.

The University will make a permanent appointment where the preferred candidate has an established track record in research and teaching; where it is in the best interests of the university, the post may be filled on a fixed-term contract basis.

Salary

Lecturer (Post 1995*):	€50,808 – €76,936 p.a. (7 points)
Assistant Lecturer (2013):	€31,820 – €56,603 p.a. (14 points)

Appointment will be made in accordance with the Department of Finance pay guidelines.

*New entrants to the public sector will be appointed on the first point of the Assistant Lecturer (2013) payscale or the Lecturer (Post 1995) payscale.

Application Procedure

Please ensure that you USE THE FOLLOWING REFERENCE '**Lec_Geog**' in the subject line of your application email. This will clarify which role you are applying for.

Please note applications should be made by sending the following information as **ONE single attachment** (either in PDF or word format) incorporating all of the below required information:

- A Curriculum Vitae, including all qualifications and experience, and a covering letter addressing your interest and suitability for the role;
- The names, email addresses, correspondence addresses and telephone numbers of three referees whom the University may contact.

Once attachment is compiled please send your single document application to recruitment@nuim.ie

The completed application documents should be forwarded by email to arrive no later than **midnight, Sunday 18 June 2017**. Late applications will not be accepted.

Maynooth University is an equal opportunities employer

The position is subject to the Statutes of the University