



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHĒ
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

Research Assistant
Epigenetic regulation of Nematostella development
School of Biological and Chemical Sciences
Ref. No. 011832

JOB ADVERTISEMENT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for a full-time, fixed-term position as a Research Assistant with the lab of Dr. James Gahan at the University of Galway, Ireland.

This position is funded by Research Ireland and is available from 18/11/26 for a period of 2 years with the possibility of renewal.

In the Gahan lab we use the sea anemone *Nematostella* to investigate chromatin function during development and differentiation. *Nematostella* is part of the phylum cnidaria, the sister group to the majority of animals and thus in a pivotal phylogenetic position for understanding early animal evolution. We work to dissect chromatin regulation during development and cell differentiation, using the nervous system as a model. In doing so we aim to understand how the processes underlying developmental gene regulation in more “complex” animals first evolved while simultaneously addressing more general questions about the role of chromatin in development and differentiation. The selected candidate will support work on this project by maintaining animal cultures as well as participating in the generation and characterization of transgenic lines.

Salary: Research Assistant salary scale €34,129 - €44,311 per annum, (subject to the project’s funding limitations), and pro rata for shorter and/or part-time contracts.

The default position for all new public sector appointments is the 1st point of the salary scale. This may be reviewed, and consideration afforded to appointment at a higher point on the payscale (subject to the project’s funding limitations), where evidence of prior years’ equivalent experience is accepted in determining placement on the scale above point 1, subject to the maximum of the scale.

[\(Research Salary Scales - University of Galway\)](#)

Closing date for receipt of applications is 17:00 (Irish Time) on 30/06/26. It will not be possible to consider applications received after the closing date.

***Please review full job description for further details and essential requirement**

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Description:



The successful candidate will assist in animal care, maintenance as well as the generation and characterization of transgenic lines.

Duties

- Carry out original research on the project entitled 'Epigenetic regulation of *Nematostella* development'
- Prepare presentations for internal and external meetings
- Present data at meetings
- Assist with preparation of papers for publication
- Assist with training of students and researchers
- Assist with research-related administrative tasks
- Other duties as may be required by Dr. James Gahan
- Assist with lab organization, ordering etc.
- Any other duties assigned commensurate to this level of post

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Essential Requirements

- Bachelor's degree (Level 8) in biochemistry or a related discipline
- Experience working with *Nematostella vectensis*
- Experience in procurement policies and procedures
- Experience in molecular biology (PCR, cloning, gel electrophoresis etc.)

Desirable Requirements

- Masters degree in a relevant discipline
- Knowledge on animal evo-devo
- Highly motivated and passionate about research
- Excellent organization skills

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Continuing Professional Development/Training:

Researchers at University of Galway are encouraged to avail of a range of training and development opportunities designed to support their personal career development plans. University of Galway provides continuing professional development supports for all researchers seeking to build their own career pathways either within or beyond academia. Researchers are encouraged to engage with our Researcher Development Centre (RDC) upon commencing employment - see [HERE](#) for further information.

FURTHER INFORMATION/LINKS

- **TO APPLY:** [Search Current University of Galway vacancies](#). Applications must be submitted online.
 - [How to apply guide](#)



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- For informal enquiries, please contact James Gahan. Email james.gahan@universityofgalway.ie
- [University's Strategic Plan](#)
- [Working in Research at University of Galway](#)
- [Moving to Ireland \(Euraxess\)](#)
- [Applicant Information](#)
- We reserve the right to re-advertise or extend the closing date for this post.
- University of Galway is an equal opportunities employer.
- All positions are recruited in line with Open, Transparent, Merit (OTM) and Competency based recruitment.

