



Ollscoil Mhá Nuad Maynooth University

Department of Biology Post-Doctoral Researcher (Specified Purpose Contract)

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 a highly motivated Postdoctoral Researcher to join a Research Ireland-funded research project, part of an internationally collaborative initiative between Ireland and Vietnam. This multidisciplinary project focuses on converting coffee industry side streams in Vietnam into valuable bioproducts such as mycoproteins, enzymes, and nutraceuticals.

The successful candidate will be based in the **Fungal Genetics, Secondary Metabolism and Fermentation Laboratory**, led by [Professor Dr. Özgür Bayram](#), within the Department of Biology. The role will involve collaboration with internal and external partners, including Professor David Fitzpatrick (Bioinformatics) and Associate Professor Van Tuan Tran (Vietnam National University).

The lab is internationally recognized for its research on fungal biotechnology, with a focus on transforming agri-food and beverage industry side streams into high-value enzymes, biomaterials, and metabolites.

This position offers an exciting opportunity for a post-PhD researcher to gain broad, hands-on experience in a dynamic, international research environment and to develop further as an independent scientist.

Principal Duties

Administrative and other duties:

This will include:

- Design and conduct laboratory experiments related to fungal secondary metabolism and fermentation.
- Analyse and interpret research data, including large-scale proteomics, transcriptomics, and metabolomics datasets.



Taighde Éireann
Research Ireland

- Participate in regular lab meetings and contribute to collaborative discussions.
- Present findings at national and international conferences, and publish in peer-reviewed journals.
- Supervise and mentor final-year undergraduate students.
- Provide training and supervision for two Vietnamese postdoctoral researchers, particularly in HPLC and LC-MS techniques.
- Support general laboratory operations, including ordering consumables and maintaining lab equipment.
- Fulfil administrative and record-keeping responsibilities as required.
- Perform any additional tasks assigned by the Principal Investigator or Head of Laboratory.

The ideal candidate will have:

Essential

- A PhD in Molecular Biology, Microbiology, Molecular Genetics, or Biochemistry.
- Demonstrated experience in proteomics research and RNA-sequencing projects.
- Strong skills in bioinformatics and analysis of large-scale omics datasets (proteomics, genomics, transcriptomics).
- A solid publication record and evidence of prior postdoctoral experience.
- Ability to work independently while contributing to a collaborative research environment.

Desirable

- Experience in the areas of fungal biology, LC-MS for protein detection and HPLC

Faculty and Research Institutes

The Faculty of Science and Engineering comprises the Departments of Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Psychology, Sports Science and Nutrition and Mathematics & Statistics, Department of Physics, Electronic Engineering and Maynooth International Engineering College. 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 activities and programmes. The University has also developed a number of interdisciplinary Institutes to support excellent research and to build research capacity across disciplines.

Department

The Department of Biology has a full-time academic staff of 32. It provides teaching in multiple degree programmes to almost 1200 students, ranging from undergraduate to doctoral level. The Department of Biology has a strong international reputation in research and has prioritised the following two research themes for strategic development and investment:

1. Immunology and Microbiology.
2. Sustainable ecosystem.

Both themes are strongly supported by state-of-the-art infrastructure and research.



Taighde Éireann
Research Ireland

The University

Maynooth University is a very distinctive university, a collegial institution focused on science and engineering, humanities, and social sciences, and equally committed to research, teaching and community engagement. Located in Ireland's only university town, its distinctive features and character owe much to its unique history and heritage. It provides a high-quality educational experience to over 15,000 students on a campus with 18th century roots and 21st century dynamism.

The strategic trajectory and accomplishments of Maynooth University, in the 25 years since its establishment as an autonomous public university, are exceptional, and a source of great pride to the university community, staff, students and alumni. Maynooth University in 2024 ranked in the top 90 global Times Higher Education (THE) Young University rankings, placing 86th in the world. Maynooth University's growing global reputation is based on the originality, quality, importance and impact of its research and scholarship, commitment to teaching and learning, the quality of academic programmes, and its leadership in widening participation in higher education. The sources of success are the dedication of its staff and the energy and engagement of its students.

Maynooth University is a place of lively contrasts – a modern institution, dynamic, rapidly-growing, research-led and engaged, yet grounded in historic academic strengths and scholarly traditions. With over 15,000 students Maynooth offers a range of programmes at undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral level in the humanities, science and engineering and social sciences, including business, law and education. The University also offers a range of international programmes and partnerships.

Maynooth's unique collegial culture fosters an interdisciplinary approach to research, which its world-class academics bring to bear in tackling some of the most fundamental challenges facing society today. The University's research institutes and centres consolidate and deliver this impact as vibrant communities of learning, discovery and creation. Research at Maynooth also is very much central to its teaching and the University prides itself on placing equal value on its research and teaching missions.

Maynooth University's Values

Our values define who we are, what we believe in and how we act as a community. They underpin our future success and guide our expectations of ourselves and each other. Our values apply to everyone in the University community:

- Integrity
- Collegiality
- Responsibility
- Freedom of expression
- Ambition

Maynooth University Strategic Plan 2023 – 2028

The University's Strategic Plan 2023 - 2028 builds on our rich academic history and strong foundations to set out an ambitious and forward-looking path for the future of our University. This roadmap underscores our commitment to adapt to a changing world while staying true to our values.

Our vision is to be a university of excellence, opportunity and impact, having a significant stake in all three.

For more information about Maynooth University's future direction, please visit:
<https://strategy.maynoothuniversity.ie/>



Plean Straitéiseach Ollscoil Mhá Nuad 2023 - 2028

Tógann Plean Straitéiseach na hOllscoile 2023 - 2028 ar ár stair acadúil shaibhir agus ar ár mbunchlocha láidre chun conair uailmhianach agus cheannródaíoch a leagadh amach do thodhchaí ár nOllscoile. Soiléiríonn an treochlár seo ár dtiomantas do dhul i dtaithí ar dhomhan atá ag síorathrú agus ár ngníomhaíochtaí a chur in oiriúint dó, agus san am céanna a bheith dílis dár luachanna Ollscoile. Is í an fhís atá againn a bheith mar ollscoil feabhais, deiseanna agus tionchair, agus lámh láidir a bheith againn i ngach ceann de na trí ghné seo.

Léigh anseo le haghaidh breis eolais faoi thodhchaí Ollscoil Mhá Nuad:
<https://strategy.maynoothuniversity.ie/?lang=ga>

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 mid-June 2025;
- The appointment is expected to be effective from 1st September 2025, or as soon as possible thereafter.

Equality and Diversity

Maynooth University actively works to ensure equality, celebrate the diversity of our community, and promote inclusion. To learn more about our commitment to Equality and Diversity, please read the Maynooth University [Equality and Diversity Policy](#) / [Polasaí Comhionannais agus Éagsúlachta](#), our policy on the [Employment of People with Disabilities](#), and our [Gender Equality Action Plan 2023-2026](#). We aim to reflect the diversity of the community we serve and welcome applications from all individuals across our society.

Terms and Conditions

Tenure	This is a full time, temporary post for a specified purpose, anticipated to be 22 months duration. Project end date is anticipated to be 01/09/2027.
Location	The place of work is the campus of Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.
Salary	Post-Doctoral Researcher (2025): €45,847 p.a. (Point 1 - with increment) Appointments will be made in accordance with public sector pay provisions.
Hours of work	A 37-hour working week is in operation in respect of full-time positions (pro-rated for part-time positions). This can be reviewed or adjusted from time to time through national agreements.



Taighde Éireann
Research Ireland

Annual Leave	<p>Annual leave and public holidays are provided for in the University policy: https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/policies/annual-leave-policy</p> <p>Annual leave will be allocated on a pro-rata basis for part-time and temporary positions.</p>
University policies and schemes	<p>Employees of the University will be subject to the terms of the University policies and schemes, available on the University website at:</p> <p>https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/university-policies</p> <p>https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/policies</p>
Pension	<p>This is a pensionable post. Employees of the University will enter into a public sector pension scheme, and as such, applicants must ensure they are eligible to become a member of a public sector pension scheme for the duration of the appointment. Details of the public sector pension schemes are available at: https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/pension-information</p>
Eligibility	<p>Applicants should note that eligibility is determined by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment. Further information regarding eligibility is available at: https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/what-we-do/workplace-and-skills/employment-permits/employment-permit-eligibility/</p> <p>Non-EEA applicants are responsible for ensuring they can secure a visa to travel to Ireland. Any offer of employment is conditional on applicants securing the appropriate employment permissions.</p> <p>Former Irish Public Service employees - Certain Restrictions on Eligibility</p> <p>Eligibility of applicants formerly employed by an Irish Public Sector body, and who availed of an Irish Public Service Redundancy or Incentivised Retirement Scheme under the Schemes below, may be affected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collective Agreement: Redundancy Payments to Public Servants • Incentivised Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER) • Department of Health and Children Circular (7/2010) • Department of Environment, Community & Local Government (Circular Letter LG(P) 06/2013) <p>Applicants should ensure that they are eligible to be re-engaged in the Irish Public Service under the terms of such Schemes. Applicants should address queries with their former Irish Public Sector employer.</p>
Garda vetting	Garda vetting or clearance may be required by the University.
Medical	The University may require a medical examination as a condition of employment.

Data Protection Law

Applications to the University will be treated in accordance with the University Data Protection Policies. For information on the University's Data Protection Policies and Privacy Notice, please see our website: <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/data-protection>

Application Procedure

Closing Date:

23:30hrs (local Irish time) on **Sunday, 1st June 2025**.

Please note all applications must be made via our **Online Recruitment Portal** at the following link:

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/vacancies>

Applications must be submitted by the closing date and time specified above. Any applications which are still in progress at the closing time on the specified closing date will be cancelled automatically by the system.

Late applications will not be accepted.

Maynooth University is an equal opportunities employer

The position is subject to the Statutes of the University



**Taighde Éireann
Research Ireland**