



# Ollscoil Mhá Nuad Maynooth University

## Department of Biology Post-Doctoral Researcher (Antifungal Resistance) (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 an excellent postdoctoral researcher to join the Genome Evolution Laboratory in the Biology Department at Maynooth, led by Prof. David Fitzpatrick.

This position is part of a multidisciplinary collaborative project involving partners at Maynooth University and St James's Hospital Dublin. The primary objective of the project is to determine the genetic basis of antifungal drug resistance in human fungal pathogens and to evaluate the efficacy and molecular targets of a novel antifungal therapeutic.

The successful candidate will evolve drug-susceptible fungal isolates into antifungal-resistant isolates under laboratory conditions. Using whole-genome sequencing and comparative genomics, they will identify the genetic basis of drug resistance. The impact of genetic alterations associated with resistance will be further explored using comparative OMICs approaches, including but not limited to transcriptomics, proteomics, and metabolomics.

The ideal candidate will have a PhD in Biology, Microbiology or Genetics with an interest in Fungal Biology and Antifungal resistance.

### Principal Duties

#### Administrative and other duties:

This will include:

- Conduct a specified programme of research under the supervision and direction of the Principal Investigator.
- Engage in the outreach and dissemination of the research at project meetings, workshops and conferences and contribute to writing reports and academic papers for publication and broader research dissemination.



- Mentor and assist, as appropriate and as directed, graduate research students.
- Liaise with national and international collaborators.
- Assist in developing and submitting new research proposals to EU and national funding agencies.
- Carry out additional duties as may reasonably be required within the general scope and level of the post.

#### **The ideal candidate will have:**

##### **Essential**

- A PhD in Biology, Microbiology, Genetics, or a related discipline.
- Strong interest in fungal biology and antifungal resistance.
- Demonstrated experience in microbiology techniques, including fungal culture and phenotypic assays.
- Experience in molecular biology techniques relevant to the project.

##### **Desirable**

- Experience with genomic data analysis and comparative genomics.
- Familiarity with OMICs approaches (transcriptomics, proteomics, metabolomics).
- A track record of publishing research in peer-reviewed journals.
- Ability to work independently while contributing to a collaborative research environment.

### **Faculty and Research Institutes**

The Faculty of Science and Engineering comprises the departments of Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Electronic Engineering, Physics, Mathematics and Statistics, and Psychology. 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.

### **Department**

The Department of Biology has a full-time academic staff of 31. It provides teaching in multiple degree programmes to almost 1300 students, ranging from undergraduate to doctoral level. The Department offers BSc Honour degree programmes in Biology, Biomedical Sciences, and Biotechnology and an award-winning taught MSc programme in Immunology and Global Health. It has a strong tradition in PhD education and currently directs a number of structured PhD programmes. The Biology Department has a strong international reputation in research and particularly in the fields of Immunology, Sustainability and Microbiology

### **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 18<sup>th</sup> century roots and 21<sup>st</sup> 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 late August;
- The appointment is expected to be effective from 01 October 2025.

## 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

<b>Tenure</b>	This is a full time, temporary post for a specified purpose, anticipated to be 48 months duration.
<b>Location</b>	The place of work is the campus of Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.
<b>Salary</b>	Post Doctoral Researcher € 45,847 p.a (1 point) - with increment)  Appointments will be made in accordance with public sector pay provisions.
<b>Hours of work</b>	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.
<b>Annual Leave</b>	Annual leave and public holidays are provided for in the University policy: <a href="https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/policies/annual-leave-policy">https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/policies/annual-leave-policy</a>  Annual leave will be allocated on a pro-rata basis for part-time and temporary positions.
<b>University policies and schemes</b>	Employees of the University will be subject to the terms of the University policies and schemes, available on the University website at:  <a href="https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/university-policies">https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/university-policies</a>  <a href="https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/policies">https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/policies</a>
<b>Pension</b>	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

Athena  
Swan  
IrelandAthena  
SWAN  
Bronze Award

HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

Taighde Éireann  
Research Ireland

	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: <a href="https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/pension-information">https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/pension-information</a>
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Applicants should note that eligibility is determined by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment. Further information regarding eligibility is available at: <a href="https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/what-we-do/workplace-and-skills/employment-permits/employment-permit-eligibility/">https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/what-we-do/workplace-and-skills/employment-permits/employment-permit-eligibility/</a></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><b>Former Irish Public Service employees - Certain Restrictions on Eligibility</b></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"> <li>• Collective Agreement: Redundancy Payments to Public Servants</li> <li>• Incentivised Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER)</li> <li>• Department of Health and Children Circular (7/2010)</li> <li>• Department of Environment, Community &amp; Local Government (Circular Letter LG(P) 06/2013)</li> </ul> <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>
<b>Garda vetting</b>	Garda vetting or clearance may be required by the University.
<b>Medical</b>	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 **10<sup>th</sup> of August 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**

