



Ollscoil Mhá Nuad Maynooth University

Department of Chemistry Senior Postdoctoral Researcher in Synthetic Chemistry (Specified Purpose)

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 and enthusiastic candidate with a PhD in synthetic chemistry for a 3-year specified purpose position as senior post-doctoral researcher. The advertised position will be part of the Frontiers for the Future Award, Research Ireland funded project entitled "Constrained Bismuth / (Precious) Metal-free Scaffolds for Ammonia Activation". The recruited senior postdoctoral researcher will be involved in the development of new concepts that combine organic ligand design with *d*- and *p*-block chemistry aiming at the preparation of new catalysts pertinent to the activation of ammonia.

The post requires extensive experience in organic (ligand oriented) and organometallic/organo-main group synthesis (Schlenk line and glovebox techniques), including the handling, purification and characterisation of air- and moisture-sensitive compounds using state-of-the-art methods including 1D and 2D NMR spectroscopy (^1H , ^{13}C , hetero-nuclei), single crystal X-ray diffraction analysis, IR spectroscopy and mass spectrometry. Applicants will further benefit from experience in small molecule activation, homogeneous catalysis and electrochemistry.

Principal Duties

Administrative and other duties:

This will include:

- Planning and execution of research in accordance with the project aims.
- Taking initiative in the planning of research.
- Management of some administrative tasks.
- Assisting in the practical supervision of PhD/MSc students and advising on laboratory techniques.
- Ensuring the validity and reliability of data at all times, and maintain accurate and complete records of all findings.
- Undertaking specific safety responsibilities – e.g. preparation of standard operation procedure / documentation risk assessments.



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- Presenting research results at group meetings, departmental seminars, and national/international conferences.
- Preparing draft publications for submission to peer-reviewed journals.
- Undertaking any necessary training and/or development.
- Any other duties commensurate with the grade of the post as directed by the supervisor/head of department.
- Complying with all University policies.

The above list of responsibilities may not be exhaustive, and the post holder will be required to undertake such tasks and responsibilities as may reasonably be expected within the scope and grading of the post.

The ideal candidate will have:

Essential

- A completed PhD degree (or equivalent) in molecular inorganic chemistry, with an established track record for innovative and effective experimental research in this field.
- To be appointed at the grade of Senior Post Doctoral researcher, candidates will need at least two years post-doctoral relevant relative research experience.
- Extensive experience in experimental techniques: organic and inorganic (Schlenk-line and glovebox) synthesis, SC-XRD, NMR and FTIR spectroscopy.
- Experience in the use of high-pressure equipment (glassware and reactors) required for the handling of gaseous substrates.
- We value a diverse and inclusive working environment with a variety of international collaborators. Therefore, a good command of written and spoken English and openness to exchange with international co-workers are essential.
- Excellent communication skills and experience of writing-up research results for publication are expected.
- Ability to work effectively, both independently and as part of a team of researchers, with excellent time management skills.

Desirable

- Demonstrated experience in carbene chemistry
- Demonstrated experience in molecular / homogeneous catalysis and / or photocatalysis.
- Demonstrated experience in EPR spectroscopy and basic cyclic voltammetry.

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>

Our Strategic Plan sets out an ambition to be an excellent place to learn and work, and an inclusive community where students and staff can flourish and make a distinctive contribution to the national system of higher education and the public good. Achieving this requires staff to have a strong sense of

connection to the University and support from colleagues. We recognise that our people are our greatest resource and actively seeks to attract, develop, and retain a talented workforce by creating a positive and welcoming University environment. As well as offering a competitive salary, access to a public sector pension scheme, and annual leave allowance, the University also provides other facilities and benefits including, but not limited to:

- Family-friendly leave schemes
- Tax Saver travel scheme and Cycle to Work scheme
- On-campus crèche
- On-campus restaurants and coffee shops
- Employee Assistance Programme
- Health and Well-Being programmes
- Education support opportunities
- Continuous Professional Development opportunities, including leadership programmes, mentoring, Aurora programme.
- Study and Exam leave
- Sports facilities and gym

To learn more about being part of the Maynooth University team, please visit our website at <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/come-work-with-us>

Selection and Appointment

- Please include the following in your application:
 - Cover letter / personal statement
 - Curriculum Vitae including list of publications
- 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 October 2025.
- The appointment is expected to be effective from February-March 2026, with some flexibility in the start date.

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 a full time, temporary post for a specified purpose, anticipated to be 3 years duration.
Location	The place of work is the campus of Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.
Salary	Senior Postdoctoral Researcher €54,308 p.a. (1 st point with annual increments)



	<p>Postdoctoral Researcher €46,305 - €52,862 p.a (6 points)</p> <p>Appointments will be made in accordance with public sector pay provisions.</p>
Hours of work	<p>A 37-hour working week is in operation in respect of full-time positions (pro-rated for part-time positions).</p> <p>This can be reviewed or adjusted from time to time through national agreements.</p>
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	<p>Garda vetting or clearance may be required by the University.</p>

Medical	The University may require a medical examination as a condition of employment.
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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 **Wednesday, 1st October 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



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