



Ollscoil Mhá Nuad Maynooth University

Maynooth International Engineering College (Fuzhou) Professor and Executive Vice Dean (Specified Purpose Contract)

The Role

Maynooth International Engineering College (MIEC) is a joint college established by Maynooth University (MU) and Fuzhou University (FZU) in Fujian Province, China. We are seeking an established academic to join our experienced transnational education team as Executive Vice-Dean to manage the MIEC jointly with their FZU counterpart.

The MIEC is an integral part of Maynooth University's internationalisation strategy, and our goal is to build on the experience gained through extensive engagement in China to enhance the quality and diversity of the MU educational experience both locally and internationally, with a strong emphasis on delivering an exceptional student experience through a student-centred approach. The MIEC currently offers four MU undergraduate programmes in computer science and electronic engineering (BSc in Computer Science and Software Engineering, BSc in Robotics and Intelligent Devices, BSc in Multimedia, Mobile and Web Development, BE in Electronic Engineering). With an annual intake of 300 students per year since its launch in 2019, the College is now at its maximum capacity of approximately 1,200 students. We have recently launched the MIEC Collaborative PhD programme, with the first intake in the 2025/26 academic year, and the Executive Vice-Dean will have responsibility for overseeing this programme.

Successful candidates will be required to spend time in Maynooth University and also in Fuzhou University (FZU) in Fuzhou, China for a number of months each year. The person appointed will be expected to provide leadership in continuing the success of the initiative by ensuring the quality of the academic programmes being offered, managing and strengthening the administrative relationship with FZU, and developing research links between MU, FZU, and the broader Fujian region. While a background in the disciplines of either computer science or electronic engineering is desirable, it is not essential. We welcome applications from suitably qualified candidates from other disciplines who possess the required leadership, management, and strategic skills. The successful applicant will have experience in academic leadership and the management of international programmes or transnational education.

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, placing the student experience at the heart of all activities through a student-centred approach. Professors of the University will be expected to provide significant intellectual leadership through a demonstrated



commitment to both education and research and to contribute to the effective leadership and management of the MIEC and of MU. The role falls under the Vice-President International (VPI) portfolio, and the successful candidate will report to Professor Patrick McCole.

As part of its Strategic Plan 2023-2028, Maynooth University will build on and diversify the existing strengths of the Faculty of Science and Engineering, of which MIEC is a part. In order to lead this exciting strategic future for MIEC, the Executive Vice-Dean will be a senior academic leader in the University and will work in support of the University's strategic ambitions, leading the development of the College, working with key internal and external stakeholders to raise the profile, reputation, and performance of Maynooth University via the College's educational and research strengths, while prioritising an outstanding student experience and adopting a student-centred approach in all aspects of operations.

The Executive Vice-Dean will provide executive leadership of the MIEC and its constituent programmes. They will advocate, internally and externally, for the educational and research activities of the College and the University, and will have a key role in promoting and facilitating cross-University and cross-institutional opportunities for teaching, research, and engagement, including increased mobility of staff and students between MU and MIEC. The Executive Vice-Dean will be supported in their role by a Deputy Vice Dean, by an administrative team, and will be assigned business partners in HR and Finance. The successful candidate will also be part of the VPI's senior management team, where they can draw on additional support for their role.

Principal Responsibilities

Strategic Leadership

- Represent MU as Executive Vice-Dean of the MIEC, overseeing academic staffing, teaching allocation, and related administrative/academic duties;
- Guide strategic development of the MIEC and engage with FZU and relevant academic departments in Maynooth University to ensure academic oversight, operational success and strengthen inter-university relations;
- Align MIEC development with University Strategic Plan, advising the Vice-President International on MIEC matters and driving strategic/operational objectives;
- Provide strategic/academic leadership to MIEC as a governance body; manage operations with collegiality; disseminate University strategy and meet KPIs;
- Demonstrate high professional conduct; serve as University ambassador; foster external partnerships, inter-Faculty/institutional collaboration, and alumni relations;
- Undertake University-wide/external projects; identify growth opportunities for MIEC and MU; contribute to University outreach, collaboration, internationalisation, engagement, and policy;
- Exhibit a strong, personal commitment to the University's Strategic Plan and act as a brand ambassador, behaving at all times in a manner that embodies and promotes these values.

Academic and Programme Management

- Lead research, scholarship, teaching excellence, and innovation in curriculum and programmes within the MIEC, Faculty of Science and Engineering, and University, including oversight of the MIEC Collaborative PhD programme, with a focus on enhancing the student experience through student-centred methodologies;
- Ensure that MIEC has a sufficiently attractive and distinctive academic portfolio to meet its growing recruitment targets;
- Oversee academic programme portfolio (development/revision/discontinuation); ensure teaching quality/standards; promote best practices, innovation, and student success;
- Ensure institutional quality and continuous improvement of all courses at MIEC in line with both internal and external regulations, prioritising student-centred approaches to foster engagement and achievement;
- Design, develop, and implement an innovative learning and teaching approach that best facilitates delivery of this portfolio, centred on the needs and experiences of students.

Operational Leadership & Management

- Develop/manage MIEC financial strategy/budget in line with University policies and objectives;
- Ensure resource availability/efficiency; develop internal structures; promote fair, safe, inclusive environments; maintain risk register;
- Chair MIEC meetings; establish plans for research/teaching/engagement; implement effective management structures; report on performance/progress; conduct reviews;
- Develop MIEC research culture/plan; advocate for research resources; identify growth opportunities; promote cross-Faculty/institute collaboration.

Staff Leadership and Development

- Lead the academic teams of MIEC and ensure a highly effective academic structure;
- Lead and develop a culture of challenge using appropriate tools, governance, committees, and structures;
- Ensure the teaching faculty at MIEC have the right mix of skills, knowledge, experience, and qualities to design and deliver the suite of programmes;
- Ensure consistent, high performance across all academic staff, in line with the University's performance management strategy;
- Identify staffing needs; ensure communication/staff participation; appoint heads; implement performance management; handle HR functions (recruitment/probation/reviews/grievances); foster collaborative culture;
- Develop a coaching culture, and support people development and succession planning.

Other

- Undertake any other duties that may reasonably be requested, appropriate to the grade and responsibilities of the post.
- Professors of the University are required to serve as Head of Department when requested to do so by the President.

Candidate Requirements

Candidates will be shortlisted based on clear evidence provided in their application demonstrating the following essential criteria. A background in science or engineering is desirable but not required; academic leadership, strategic thinking, and international/intercultural competencies are prioritized. We accept applications from suitably qualified candidates from other disciplines with the leadership, management, and strategic skills we are looking for. Candidates must explicitly address, and provide measurable evidence for each criterion in their application.

The ideal candidate will have:

Essential

- Hold a PhD;
- At least 5 years of senior leadership experience in higher education, including management and development of international or transnational education programmes (e.g., evidence of leading joint ventures, partnerships, or overseas campuses);
- Demonstrated experience in strategic planning and implementation, such as developing and executing institutional or faculty-level strategies with measurable outcomes (e.g., increased enrolment, funding secured, or programme expansions);
- Proven track record in building and managing international partnerships, ideally involving China or Asia, with evidence of successful collaborations (e.g., negotiated agreements, joint initiatives, or sustained relationships resulting in tangible benefits);
- Strong evidence of academic leadership across disciplines or institutions, including fostering innovation in teaching, learning, or research environments (e.g., led curriculum reforms,

research initiatives, or cross-disciplinary projects with quantifiable impacts), with a demonstrated commitment to student-centred approaches and enhancing student experience;

- Demonstrated management and administrative skills, including budget oversight, team leadership, and resource allocation (e.g., managed budgets exceeding a specified threshold, led teams of 10+ staff, or implemented efficiency improvements);
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, evidenced by successful stakeholder engagement (e.g., presentations, reports, or negotiations leading to positive outcomes);
- Proven ability to build effective relationships with diverse internal and external colleagues, including in intercultural settings (e.g., collaborations across cultures, resolutions of cross-cultural challenges, or diversity initiatives);
- A strong record of research and scholarship, reflected in a publication profile or equivalent scholarly outputs (e.g., peer-reviewed publications, grants awarded, or citations).

Desirable

- A strong academic record as a university teacher and educational innovator, ideally in the context of Irish or European academic systems (e.g., awards for teaching excellence or innovations adopted institution-wide);
- Background in computer science, electronic engineering, or related STEM fields.

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 dtáithí 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>

Maynooth International Engineering College (MIEC)

Maynooth International Engineering College (MIEC) is a joint college established by Maynooth University (MU) and Fuzhou University (FZU) in Fujian Province, China. The MIEC is an integral part of Maynooth University's internationalisation strategy, and our goal is to build on the experience gained through extensive engagement in China to enhance the quality and diversity of the MU educational



experience both locally and internationally, with a strong emphasis on delivering an exceptional student experience through a student-centred approach. The MIEC currently offers four MU undergraduate programmes in computer science and electronic engineering (BSc in Computer Science and Software Engineering, BSc in Robotics and Intelligent Devices, BSc in Multimedia, Mobile and Web Development, BE in Electronic Engineering). With an annual intake of 300 students per year since its launch in 2019, the College is now at its maximum capacity of approximately 1,200 students. We have recently launched the MIEC Collaborative PhD programme, with the first intake in the 2025/26 academic year, and the Executive Vice-Dean will have responsibility for overseeing this programme. Learn more about the MIEC at [Maynooth International Engineering College | Maynooth University](#)

Selection and Appointment

- Only shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend for interview;
- Candidates will be required to make a brief presentation to staff within the University as part of the selection process;
- Appointments will be made by the President based on the report of the selection board;
- It is anticipated that interviews will be held during late October 2025;
- The appointment is expected to be effective from December 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

Tenure	<p>This is a full-time post, on a specified purpose contract basis, for an anticipated duration of 5 years.</p> <p>The purpose of the role is to lead the MIEC partnership and work with Fuzhou based on the current agreements; as such as the project is not enduring, and the post is not enduring.</p> <p>The appointment will be made at Professorial level, of which there are two: Professor A and Professor B. The Professor will be appointed to the academic staff and subject to the Statutes of the University.</p>
Salary	<p>Professor A (2025): €144,297 - €182,427 (6 points)</p> <p>Professor B (2025): €104,509 - €139,692 (6 points)</p> <p>Appointments will be made in accordance with public sector pay provisions.</p> <p>The decision to appoint as Professor A or Professor B is made by the President based on the report of the Selection Panel and the experience and track record of the successful candidate.</p> <p>To be appointed at Professor A level, the successful candidate will have an excellent record of published work of international quality and demonstrated leadership in their field, will be an excellent teacher and academic innovator, and</p>

	will normally have experience and demonstrated capacity in administrative as well as academic leadership.
Location	The place of work is the campus of Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare. Successful candidates will be required to spend time in Maynooth University and also in Fuzhou University (FZU) in Fuzhou, China for a number of months each year.
University policies and schemes	Employees of the University will be subject to the terms of the University policies and schemes, available on the University website at: https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/university-policies https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/policies
Pension	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
Eligibility	<p>Applications from non-EEA citizens are welcomed. 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 **Tuesday 14th 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

