



# Maynooth University Ollscoil Mhá Nuad

## Department of Theoretical Physics Assistant Professor / Lecturer (10-month 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 academic to join our staff as an Assistant Professor / Lecturer in Theoretical Physics. The person appointed will have a proven record of teaching, research and publication, appropriate to career stage. He/she will be expected to make a strong contribution to the teaching programme of the Department and undertake teaching duties on the Department's undergraduate and postgraduate programmes as well as the supervision of Master's and PhD students.

The appointee will be expected to build a strong research profile, that supports the University's research strategy including affiliating to the Research Institutes, where appropriate and working with colleagues on national and international research. The appointee will be expected to sustain and conduct research, engage in scholarship of quality and substance and generate publications of international standard.

### Principal Duties

#### Teaching:

Undergraduate and postgraduate teaching duties are assigned by the Head of the Department. The duties will include:

- Teaching and assessing students at undergraduate level in theoretical physics. This may include lecturing, tutoring, leading practical learning activities, project supervision, and setting, supervising and grading assessments;
- Teaching, supervising and assessing postgraduate students in theoretical physics, including lecturing, leading seminars and other learning activities, supervision of student research activities, and setting, supervising and grading assessments;
- Enhancing and innovating in teaching and assessment practice;
- Contributing as required, to the assurance and enhancement of teaching quality;
- Outreach and promotional activities and the recruitment and selection of undergraduate and post-graduate students;
- Developing and enhancing the curriculum;



- Designing and delivering of new courses.

### **Research & Scholarship:**

Building a research and scholarly profile is an essential part of an academic career. This will include:

- Conducting research and engaging in scholarship of quality and substance in the discipline;
- Generating external income or securing resources to support scholarly activity as necessary;
- Disseminating research and scholarly outcomes through: peer reviewed publication; presentation at national and international conferences; preparation of professional reports; commercialisation; or other appropriate means;
- Affiliating with a University Research Institute, where appropriate;
- Building research capacity;
- Fostering links with other institutions which will benefit both research and teaching at Maynooth University;
- Integrating research into the teaching curriculum;
- Supervising research students and post-doctoral fellows.

### **Service:**

The academic staff members of the University are critical to achieving the strategic objectives of the University, and as such are required to engage in work that serves the collective strategic needs of the University. This may include:

- Administrative and service duties;
- Leading or contributing to strategic projects and initiatives;
- Contributing to the internationalisation of the university;
- Outreach and engagement activities;
- Collaborative work with external partners;
- Activities to promote the University locally, nationally and internationally;
- Carrying out any other duties within the scope, spirit and purpose of a Maynooth University academic post.

### **Administrative and other duties:**

This will include:

- Undertaking administrative tasks within the Department, Faculty and University as required and as assigned by the Head of Department, the Dean or the President;
- Attending and serving on Departmental, Faculty, Institute and University committees as appropriate;
- Attending courses and engaging in other activities associated with professional development as appropriate;
- Complying with all University policies.

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

- A PhD in a relevant discipline;
- A strong academic record in teaching and research;
- A record of scholarly work and publication of international quality, demonstrating potential to become a significant contributor in their field;
- Experience of and a demonstrated commitment to undergraduate and postgraduate teaching, programme development and academic innovation;
- Experience supervising graduate research students;
- Experience of, and commitment to, working in an interdisciplinary setting;



- Good administrative, organisational, teamwork and communication skills.

## The University

Maynooth University is one of the four constituent universities of the National University of Ireland and in 2019 was placed in the global top 50 universities under 50 years old in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings. Formally established as an autonomous university in 1997, but tracing its origins to the foundation of the Royal College of St. Patrick in 1795, Maynooth University draws on a heritage of over 200 years' commitment to education and scholarship. It is located in the University town of Maynooth, 25km from the centre of Dublin, Ireland's capital city.

The University is a modern institution - dynamic, research-led, engaged, and grounded in the traditions of liberal education. With more than 12,000 students, Maynooth is Ireland's fastest-growing university, yet we retain a collegial campus culture that is central to our ability to bring significant interdisciplinary expertise to bear in tackling some of the most fundamental challenges facing society today. MU has a distinctive disciplinary profile compared to other universities in Ireland, with research and teaching strengths in humanities and social sciences, science, electronic engineering, business, law and teacher education. The University has major research institutes and centres in the areas of: humanities; social sciences; mathematics, computation and communication; human health; business and service innovation; climate change; and Geocomputation.

The University has, under the *University Strategic Plan 2012-17*, further enhanced its capacity and reputation for research, transformed its undergraduate curriculum, grown postgraduate enrolments and become even more international, diverse and engaged. MU makes, and is seen to make, an important and distinctive contribution to our national system of higher education.

Maynooth University is now embarking upon a new and exciting phase with the development of the *University Strategic Plan 2018-22*, with a vision to consolidate the international reputation of Maynooth University "as a university known for outstanding teaching, excellent research, a global outlook, effective engagement with the society we serve, and our distinctive approach to the challenges facing modern higher education."

The *University Strategic Plan 2018-22* builds on the institution's strengths and accomplishments, concentrating energy and resources on further development in research and postgraduate education. The strategy focuses on:

- targeted investment in research capacity in a number of priority areas;
- extending the postgraduate portfolio and growing the postgraduate community;
- realising the full benefits of our innovative undergraduate curriculum;
- enhancing the student experience;
- comprehensive and ethical internationalisation;
- equality diversity inclusion and interculturalism as enablers of academic excellence

These strategic goals are underpinned by a commitment to invest, first and foremost in people and opportunities for their development and success, and also in the systems and infrastructure required to achieve scholarly and educational objectives.

## Faculty and Research Institutes

The Faculty of Science & Engineering comprises the Departments of Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Electronic Engineering, Experimental Physics, Mathematics & Statistics, Psychology and Theoretical Physics. 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.

## The Department

The Department of Theoretical Physics at Maynooth University was established in 1960 as the Department of Mathematical Physics, building on a tradition of natural science in Maynooth that stretches back to the founding of the college in 1795.

The Department of Theoretical Physics has six full-time academic staff offers high quality education in theoretical physics and the associated mathematics at both undergraduate and postgraduate level and hosts an active community of Ph.D. students and postdoctoral fellows. It is also responsible for teaching of modules in mathematics for Engineering and Robotics students, and mathematics and physics for Product Design students.

The strong and thriving research environment in the Department is evidenced by its extensive network of international collaborations and by its continuing success in securing external funding. Particular research strengths exist in quantum field theory, cosmology, topological aspects of high energy and condensed matter physics, lattice gauge theory, strongly correlated systems and quantum information and computation.

The department has excellent facilities on the Maynooth University North campus, including a dedicated computing laboratory. For more information on the Department, please visit <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/theoretical-physics>

## 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 during the week of the 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2020;
- The appointment is expected to be effective from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020.
- This post is a 10-month sabbatical cover contract post.

## Equality and Diversity

Maynooth University values the enrichment that comes from a diverse community and seeks to promote equality, prevent discrimination and protect the human rights of each individual. To learn more about our commitment to Equality and Diversity, please read the Maynooth University [Equality and Diversity Policy](#). Additionally, as an [Athena SWAN Bronze Award](#) Institute, we are committed to advancing gender equality across the University.

We aim to reflect the diversity of the community we serve and welcome applications from all individuals.

## Data Protection Law

Maynooth University will process any personal data provided by you in connection with an application for this role in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Acts 2018.



If your application is successful and you accept an offer of employment at Maynooth University, then your personal data will continue to be processed in accordance with Maynooth University's Staff Data Privacy Notice.

Both the privacy notices and further information relating to data protection, including Maynooth University's other data protection policies and processes, can be viewed at <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/data-protection>

## Salary

Assistant Lecturer (2020): €34,065 per annum pro rata

Appointment will be made in accordance with the Department of Finance pay guidelines.

## Application Procedure

### Closing Date:

23:30hrs (local Irish time) on **Sunday, 12 July 2020**

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**

