Job Description

Comp ID: 036241

Job Title: Assistant Professor in Statistics

School/Department: School of Computer Science and Statistics

Job Category & Level: Academic, Assistant Professor (2-year fixed term)

The Purpose of the Role:

The School of Computer Science and Statistics at Trinity College Dublin is a collegiate, friendly, and research-intensive centre for academic study and research excellence. The School has been ranked #1 in Ireland, top 25 in Europe, and top 100 Worldwide (QS Subject Rankings 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021).

The School has successfully secured funding under the HEA Human Capital Initiative, Pillar 3, to develop a new Online Postgraduate Certificate and Diploma in Statistics and Data Science. The School of Computer Science and Statistics is seeking to appoint an Assistant Professor in Statistics on a two year, fixed-term contract. The purpose of the post is to assist with the development and delivery of the Online HCI Postgraduate Certificate in Statistics and Data Science, to meet the needs of the identified stakeholders in the target learner cohort. The employment is not offered on an indefinite duration basis as this employment is for the purpose stated above. If the sustainability of the programme is viable beyond the term of the contract, any resulting post will be filled by open competition.

Context:

The successful candidate will be an excellent researcher and lecturer with an emerging strong international research track record and clear potential for research leadership. They should have a strong commitment to research-led undergraduate and postgraduate teaching.
Applications are encouraged from candidates in the field of Statistics who have a genuine commitment to the role of teaching Statistics at undergraduate and postgraduate level across many disciplines in Mathematics, Science, Engineering and the Humanities. The successful applicant will have a primary degree and a Ph.D. in Statistics or another subject with a strong statistical component. The group particularly welcomes applicants who have experience and interest in working in an interdisciplinary setting that can exploit the Discipline's position within a School of Computer Science and Statistics.

**Main Responsibilities:**

**Research:**
The appointee should have a desire to become a researcher of repute within their chosen research area. As part of their research duties, the appointee is **required** to engage in research and/or other creative and innovative activity as appropriate to the Discipline. The appointee is **required** to disseminate their research in *high impact* academic publications: journals, conferences, or other outlets as appropriate. The appointee is encouraged to actively pursue initiatives by which to seek/secure funding for research in their own field and/or interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary research as appropriate. The appointee would be encouraged to assist in postgraduate research supervision including student recruitment, thesis definition, preparation, advice and regular advisory and guidance meetings.

**Teaching:**
As part of normal teaching duties, the appointee is obliged to give instruction and supervision, as directed by the Head of School (or designated Head of Discipline), to undergraduate and postgraduate students of the University in courses and programmes organised by the School. It is expected that the appointee will be responsible for creating online content for the new Postgraduate Diploma in Statistics (online).

Such duties include curriculum and course design, preparation and delivery of lectures, tutorials and general examination and other assessment duties. The appointee is also required to be available to students for academic guidance and advice. In some disciplines, academic activities may also include laboratory, workshop or clinical instruction, supervision of fieldwork, site visits and other off-campus activities.
Contribution and Scholarly Activity:
As part of the contribution to the School and University, the appointee is required to participate in academic administration at School level (as directed by the Head of School), and/or University level. In representing the University externally, the appointee is required to maintain the highest professional standards. The appointee is also required to commit to engage in scholarly activity such as, but not limited to, refereeing for journals, external examining, membership of learned societies, advisory bodies and peer review panels.

Person Requirements
The appointee will require the following knowledge, skills and attributes for successful performance in the role:

Qualifications
- The successful candidate must have a PhD in Statistics or a cognate discipline.

Knowledge and Experience:
The successful candidate will be expected to clearly demonstrate the following:

Research:
Essential:
- Proven record in research publication and an ability to contribute to the field of Statistics.
- Demonstrate research plans that complement the strategic plans of the School of Computer Science and Statistics.
- Evidence of, or potential to establish, a sustained record of high-quality research and publication in Statistics.
- The potential to attract graduate students.
- Participation in research conferences and seminars.

Desirable:
- Demonstrated ability to secure competitive research funding.
- Evidence of research collaboration with industry, society and universities.
Teaching

Essential:

- Ability to provide lectures and practical classes in Statistics and related fields to undergraduate and postgraduate students.
- Evidence of a personal commitment to excellence in teaching.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

Desirable:

- Experience of developing new modules and/or teaching material.
- Experience of using innovative teaching methods, particularly online.
- Experience of supervising undergraduate dissertations.
- Evidence of high-quality teaching.
- Experience of working collaboratively and effectively in an inter and multidisciplinary environment.

Engagement with the Discipline/Society

Desirable:

- Experience of reviewing papers for scholarly journals and conferences.
- Experience of organizing scholarly events.
- Experience of engagement with the public on matters of research or education.
- Experience of contributing to the wider work of a university or research institution.

Expected Skills and Competencies

- Highly motivated and driven by a desire to succeed.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Good organizational skills.
- Strong leadership skills.
- Ability to work effectively as member of a team.
- Honesty and integrity.
- Ability to be flexible when necessary.
- Willingness to contribute to the Discipline, School, College and the wider community.
- Ability to take the initiative.
- A commitment to own professional development.

In addition, candidates will be assessed on their potential contribution to the School, College and the
Applicants should provide the following information:

1. A comprehensive curriculum vitae, including a full list of publications.
2. The names and contact details (i.e. addresses, e-mail, etc.) of three referees.
3. A research plan summarising research to be carried out in the next two years – max 2 pages.
4. A teaching statement summarising teaching experience and approach, with particular reference to teaching online – max 2 pages.

PLEASE NOTE: Candidates who do not submit this additional information may not be considered for shortlisting.

Candidates should note that the interview process for this appointment will include the delivery of a presentation to the School.

Further Information for Applicants

For further information about the School of Computer Science and Statistics, see:
https://www.scss.tcd.ie/

For further information about Trinity College Dublin, see:
https://www.tcd.ie/
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DbZALsDfLuU
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3YN6asK2ixw

Candidates wishing to discuss the post informally and in confidence should email Professor Simon Wilson Head of the Discipline of Statistics and Information Systems: SWILSON@tcd.ie: and/or Professor Gregory O'Hare, Head of School of Computer Science & Statistics: Gregory.OHare@tcd.ie

Snapshot of the Faculty

The Faculty of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics is located at the east end of the Trinity campus. It brings together eight schools that deliver discipline-specific research and training (Biochemistry & Immunology, Chemistry, Computer Science and Statistics, Engineering, Genetics & Microbiology, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Physics). Each School produces graduates that are leaders, innovators and doers in STEM education and research, in Ireland and beyond.
As well as these eight schools, the Faculty is made up of three Trinity College Research Institutes, five National Research Centres and three Units. Together these represent approximately 30% of the staff in the College.

Researchers in the Faculty address challenges that are complex and multi-faceted. They do this by continuously asking the fundamental questions of how? and why? They seek out answers to current and future challenges in climate change, food and water security, sustainable urbanisation, personal privacy, healthy ageing and eradicating infectious diseases. They lead innovations at the frontiers of science and technology often in high-level multi-disciplinary teams based within the Schools, Research Institutes and Centres.

The three Trinity Research Institutes are:

- **CRANN** - The Centre for Research on Adaptive Nanostructures and Nanodevices
- **TBSI** - Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute
- **TCIN** - Trinity College Institute of Neuroscience

The four National Research Centres are:

- **ADAPT** - The SFI Centre for digital content and media innovation
- **AMBER** - The SFI Centre for Advanced Materials and BioEngineering Research
- **CONNECT** - The SFI Centre for digital content and media innovation
- **ENABLE** - Connecting communities with smart urban environments through the Internet of Things

The three units that support our teaching and learning mission are:

- **Biology Teaching Centre** - responsible for the coordination of all Biology teaching to Junior and Senior Freshman students in Science, as well as providing service teaching to other groups within the College.
- **Comparative Medicine Unit** - aims to advance knowledge and improve the health and well-being of humans and animals by servicing, and providing, world-class facilities and infrastructures, to the Trinity research community.
- **Science Course Office** - responsible for facilitating the Junior and Senior Fresh undergraduate Science Programmes.
Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin

Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin is Ireland’s leading university, one of the top ranked universities in Europe and a member of the League of European Research Universities. It is currently ranked 98th in the QS World University Rankings 2023. Founded in 1592, the University is steeped in history with a reputation for excellence in education, research, and innovation.

Located on an iconic campus in the heart of Dublin’s city centre, Trinity has 18,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students across our three faculties – Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences; Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics; and Health Sciences.

The pursuit of excellence through research and scholarship is at the heart of a Trinity education, and our researchers have an outstanding publication record and strong record of grant success. Our research charter outlines the principles that are central to our research vision: [www.tcd.ie/research/about/charter](http://www.tcd.ie/research/about/charter)

Trinity has developed 19 broad-based multidisciplinary research themes that cut across disciplines and facilitate world-leading research and collaboration within the University and with colleagues around the world. Trinity is also home to five leading flagship research institutes:

- Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute (TBSI)
- Trinity College Institute of Neuroscience (TCIN)
- Trinity Translational Medical Institute (TTMI)
- Trinity Long Room Hub Arts and Humanities Research Institute (TLRH)
- Centre for Research on Adaptive Nanostructures and Nanodevices (CRANN)

Trinity is the top-ranked European university for producing entrepreneurs for the past seven successive years and Europe’s only representative in the world’s top-50 universities (Pitchbook Universities Report 2021).
Trinity has been incorporating sustainability right across the university. Commitments to sustainability have been made in the Strategic Plan (2020 – 2025) and via Trinity’s environmental sustainability practices under nine goals in areas that range from biodiversity to sustainable transport and green procurement.

For more on these sustainability commitments, please visit www.tcd.ie/provost/sustainability/initiatives

Trinity is home to the famous Old Library and to the historic Book of Kells as well as other internationally significant holdings in manuscripts, maps, and early printed material. The Trinity Library is a legal deposit library, granting the University the right to claim a copy of every book published in Ireland and the UK. At present, the Library’s holdings span approximately 7 million printed items, 500,000 e-books and 150,000 e-journals.

With over 130,000 alumni, Trinity’s tradition of independent intellectual inquiry has produced some of the world’s finest, most original minds including the writers Oscar Wilde and Samuel Beckett (Nobel laureates), the mathematician William Rowan Hamilton and the physicist, Ernest Walton (Nobel laureate), the political thinker Edmund Burke, and the former President of Ireland Mary Robinson. This tradition finds expression today in a campus culture of scholarship, innovation, creativity, entrepreneurship, and dedication to societal reform.

**Rankings**

Trinity is the top ranked university in Ireland and ranked 98th in the world (QS World University Rankings 2023). Trinity ranks in the top 50 in the world on 4 subjects and in the top 100 in 17 subjects (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2021).

Full details are available at: www.tcd.ie/research/about/rankings