

## Post Specification

<b>Post Title:</b>	Post-doctoral researcher in Perception and Cognition
<b>Post Status:</b>	Specific Purpose Contract – Full-time.
<b>Research Group / Department / School:</b>	Multisensory Cognition Lab, Institute of Neuroscience, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin
<b>Location:</b>	Institute of Neuroscience, Lloyd Building, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin, College Green, Dublin D02 PN40, Ireland
<b>Reports to:</b>	Professor Fiona Newell
<b>Salary:</b>	Appointment will be made on the Irish Universities Association Post-Doctoral pay scale, at a point in line with Government Pay Policy [€37,874 to €45,041 per annum], and the appointment will be made no higher than point 7.
<b>Hours of Work:</b>	Full time
<b>Closing Date:</b>	Currently open

## **Post Summary: Post-doctoral researcher in Perceptual Neuroscience**

Applications are invited for the role of Post-doctoral Researcher at Trinity College Institute of Neuroscience (TCIN). The aim of the project is to elucidate the behavioural and brain processes underpinning combined visual, auditory and haptic object categorization, in children and in adults, and assess the extent to which such categories adapt to changes in task conditions. The research adopts a multidisciplinary approach involving cognitive neuroscience, statistical modelling, psychophysics and computer science, particularly Virtual Reality.

The candidate will work within the Multisensory Cognition lab, headed by Professor Fiona Newell, and will also work in collaboration with Prof. Robert Whelan and his research team. Both groups are based in TCIN and affiliated with the School of Psychology. The Multisensory Cognition lab has dedicated laboratory facility equipped with state-of art facilities for behavioural testing, including eye tracking and VR technology (HTC Vive and Oculus). TCIN also houses a research-dedicated MRI scanner, accessible to all principal investigators and their groups.

The position is funded for **2 years initially**, with a possibility for continuation. Applications will be considered on an ongoing basis but, ideally, the successful candidate is expected to take up the position **as soon as possible, ideally by January 2023**. The post-doctoral researcher will join a research team of PhD students, postdoctoral researchers, and a research assistant/lab manager and have the opportunity to collaborate with colleagues within the Institute of Neuroscience, across other disciplines in Trinity College, and industrial partners. They will participate in regular lab and collaborator meetings, learn about diverse methodologies in perceptual science and have the opportunity to attend major international conferences in the field.

### **Standard Duties and Responsibilities of the Post**

The candidate will be required to help lead this project and work collaboratively with other members of the research team. Specifically they will be required to design and conduct novel experiments in multisensory object perception, both behavioural and neuroimaging, to analyse the results and disseminate the findings (as journal articles, and conference

presentations). This project also includes an outreach component to engage the public in science, and the candidate is expected to be involved in these efforts.

### **Funding Information**

The position is funded by Science Foundation Ireland, from a Future Frontiers Award to Fiona Newell (Principal Investigator).

### **Qualifications**

The candidate must have a PhD in Experimental Psychology and/or Cognitive Neuroscience. Those with a relevant background in Human Perception from other cognate disciplines are also invited to apply.

### **Knowledge & Experience (Essential & Desirable)**

An experienced post-doctoral researcher is required to lead on the behavioural and neuroimaging studies that form part of the research programme. A strong background and expertise in Human Perception and Cognition is required as demonstrated through publications in the field, whilst experience in multisensory processes is desirable but not essential.

The candidate will have excellent experimental skills, with experience in psychophysical and behavioural studies. Ideally the candidate should have some experience in conducting neuroimaging work but this is not essential as on-site training can be provided. Experience in Matlab, Python, R or related programming tools (e.g. PsychoPy) is highly desirable. The candidate should be competent in statistical analyses.

### **Application Procedure**

Applicants should submit a full Curriculum Vitae to include the names and contact details of two academic referees (including email addresses), and list of publications to:-

Professor Fiona Newell at the following email: [Fiona.newell@tcd.ie](mailto:Fiona.newell@tcd.ie)

Informal enquiries can also be made to the same email address. Applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis up until the application deadline.

## Further Information for Applicants

URL Link to Area	<a href="https://multisensorytcd.com/">https://multisensorytcd.com/</a>
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### Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin

Trinity is Ireland's leading university and is ranked 101st in the world (QS World University Rankings 2021). 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; Engineering, Mathematics and Science; and Health Sciences.

Trinity is ranked as the 17th most international university in the world (Times Higher Education Rankings 2020) and has students and staff from over 120 countries.

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. 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 5 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 five successive years and Europe's only representative in the world's top-50 universities (Pitchbook Universities Report).

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 6.5 million printed items, 400,000 e-books and 150,000 e-journals.

With over 120,000 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 101st in the world (QS World University Rankings 2021). 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](http://www.tcd.ie/research/about/rankings).

### **Equal Opportunities Policy**

Trinity is an equal opportunities employer and is committed to employment policies, procedures and practices which do not discriminate on grounds such as gender, civil status, family status, age, disability, race, religious belief, sexual orientation or membership of the travelling community. On that basis we encourage and welcome talented people from all backgrounds to join our staff community. Trinity's Diversity Statement can be viewed in full at <https://www.tcd.ie/diversity-inclusion/diversity-statement>.

### **Pension Entitlements**

This is a pensionable position and the provisions of the Public Service Superannuation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2004 will apply in relation to retirement age for pension purposes. Details of the relevant Pension Scheme will be provided to the successful applicant.

Applicants should note that they will be required to complete a Pre-Employment Declaration to confirm whether or not they have previously availed of an Irish Public Service Scheme of incentivised early retirement or enhanced redundancy payment. Applicants will also be required to declare any entitlements to a Public Service pension benefit (in payment or preserved) from any other Irish Public Service employment.

Applicants formerly employed by the Irish Public Service that may previously have availed of an Irish Public Service Scheme of Incentivised early retirement or enhanced redundancy payment should ensure that they are not precluded from re-engagement in the Irish Public Service under the terms of such Schemes. Such queries should be directed to an applicant's former Irish Public Service Employer in the first instance.

## Application Procedure

### Application Procedure

*Interested candidates should first get in touch with Fiona Newell by email (see below) to check the status of this position.*

Applicants should submit a cover letter, a full Curriculum Vitae to include the names, contact details of two academic referees (including email addresses), and copies of relevant

publications to:-

**Professor Fiona Newell**

**Fiona.newell@tcd.ie**



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