Research Assistant

Developing sustainable functional aquafeeds for farmed aquatic species

College of Science and Engineering and Ryan Institute

Ref. No. University of Galway 293-22

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for a full-time fixed-term position as a Research Assistant with the College of Science and Engineering and Ryan institute at the University of Ireland, Galway.

This position is available immediately to the contract end date of 31st December 2025.

Job Description:
The successful candidate will be in assisting in investigating and developing sustainable bioactive feed ingredients for farmed aquatic species. Specifically, the project that the candidate will work on is the EU Horizon Europe-funded project SAFE- SmartAqua4FuturE. This project is comprised of partners from the EU and non-EU nations in addressing the integrated and sustainable freshwater bioeconomy by combining aquaculture, biodiversity preservation, biotechnology and other uses. The position will be based at the Ryan Institute’s Carna Research Station. The research station is in a remote location (75km west of Galway).

The Carna Research Station is the Ryan Institute’s base for large-scale, exploratory aquatic investigations, and both applied and basic research, on existing and novel species for aquaculture. This site also acts as a shore base for many research groups within the Ryan Institute to undertake active research and field training programmes on the West coast of Ireland.

Duties: What the successful candidate will do attached to the specific post:
- Conduct aquatic and biodiversity field surveys
- Fish feed production
- Monitoring and maintaining fish welfare and health
- Research aquarium maintenance and development
- Data collection and processing
- Provide guidance as required for any support staff, research students, and placement students assisting with the research project, as agreed with the line manager
- Provide input to the project dissemination
- Will be part of the weekend cover rota pool for Carna Research Station
- Carry out field sample collections
- Assist with organising research activities and training
- Other duties as required.

Essential Requirements: (i.e criteria for shortlisting (minimum of four)
- Possess a Master’s degree (Level 9) in aquatic biology, aquaculture, or a relevant discipline
- Evidence of fish biology and aquatic animal husbandry
• Ability to work independently as well as a part of a team
• Proficient in report writing and data handling
• Knowledge of fish farming and aquaculture
• Knowledge of the recirculating aquaculture systems and aquaculture wastewater management
• Hold a full driving licence and own transport (candidates must specifically note this on their CV to be considered for this role as it will be expected from the start)

Desirable Requirements: (i.e criteria for shortlisting (minimum of four)
• Experience in fish feed production and feed trials
• Knowledge of salmonid production and fish breeding
• Experience in water quality analysis
• Knowledge of the latest aquaculture biotechnology and blue bioeconomy.

Employment permit restrictions apply for this category of post

Salary: €27,380-€29,360 per annum (public sector pay policy rules pertaining to new entrants will apply)

Start date: The position is available immediately

Continuing Professional Development/Training:
Researchers at University of Galway are encouraged to avail of a range of training and development opportunities designed to support their personal career development plans.

Further information on research and working at University of Galway is available on Research at University of Galway

For information on moving to Ireland please see www.euraxess.ie

Further information about Carna Research Station and Ryan Institute is available at https://www.universityofgalway.ie/ryaninstitute/corefacilities/carnaresearchstation/
https://www.universityofgalway.ie/ryaninstitute/

Informal enquiries concerning the post may be made to Dr Alex Wan, Alex.Wan@Universityofgalway.ie

To Apply:
Applications to include a covering letter, CV, and the contact details of three referees should be sent, via e-mail (in word or PDF only) to Dr Alex Wan: e-mail Alex.Wan@Universityofgalway.ie

Please put reference number University of Galway 293-22 in subject line of e-mail application.

Closing date for receipt of applications is 5.00 pm 9th December 2022

Interviews are planned to be held on the 16th of December 2022
We reserve the right to re-advertise or extend the closing date for this post.

University of Galway is an equal opportunities employer.

All positions are recruited in line with Open, Transparent, Merit (OTM) and Competency based recruitment

'University of Galway provides continuing professional development supports for all researchers seeking to build their own career pathways either within or beyond academia. Researchers are encouraged to engage with our Researcher Development Centre (RDC) upon commencing employment - see www.universityofgalway.ie/rdc for further information.'