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**Research Assistants (2 posts) - Neuroscience/Neuropharmacology**

**Neuroscience Centre and Centre for Pain Research**

**College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences**

**National University of Ireland, Galway**

**Ref. No. NUIG 056-15**

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for two (2) fixed-term contract Research Assistant positions in Neuroscience/Neuropharmacology based at the National University of Ireland, Galway. Appointments will be made on a full-time fixed-term contract basis for four years subject to successful completion of probationary period. The successful candidates will work on a research programme that will employ an integrative, multidisciplinary, whole-systems neuroscience approach to elucidate the role of the brain’s opioid system in preclinical models of relevance to depression, anxiety, pain and autism.

These posts are funded by a Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) Strategic Partnership Programme Grant totalling ~ €1.6 million to [Professor John Kelly](http://www.nuigalway.ie/pharmacology/professor_john_kelly.html), [Professor David Finn](http://www.nuigalway.ie/pharmacology/professor_david_finn.html) and [Dr Michelle Roche](http://www.nuigalway.ie/physiology/michelle_roche.html) in collaboration with [Professor Shane O’Mara](https://www.tcd.ie/Neuroscience/partners/PI%20Profiles/Shane_OMara2.php) at Trinity College Dublin and [Alkermes plc.](http://www.alkermes.com/) Successful candidates will join a vibrant group of researchers in NUI Galway’s [Neuroscience Centre](http://ncbes.eurhost.net/neuroscience.aspx) and [Centre for Pain Research](http://www.nuigalway.ie/centre_pain_research/)

**Applicant specifications:** Candidates should hold, or have in prospect, a first class or upper second class honours BSc in a relevant biology-based subject, a relevant MSc would be an advantage. Applicants must demonstrate a keen interest in pre-clinical research in the area of neuroscience and neuropharmacology relating to affective disorders, pain and autism. Experience in one or more of the following would be desirable: Behavioural neuroscience/neuropharmacology; pre-clinical pain, stress, anxiety, depression or autism research models; stereotaxic surgery; intracerebral microinjection; *in vivo* microdialysis coupled to HPLC; immunohistochemistry; mass spectrometry for quantitation of small molecules; Western immunoblotting; RT-qPCR; radioligand binding.

**Start date:** 1stSeptember 2015 **Starting salary:** €21,865 per annum

(public sector pay policy rules pertaining to new entrants will apply)

**NB**: Work permit restrictions apply to this category of post.

Informal enquiries about these posts via e-mail to**:** David.Finn@nuigalway.ie

**To apply:** Candidates should send a detailed curriculum vitae and a covering letter (Word or PDF format only) with a 300 word statement explaining their interest in the post and in this field of research, together with the names and contact details of at least two referees by e-mail to: David.Finn@nuigalway.ie

Please ensure to put the reference number **NUIG-056-15** in the subject line of the email application.

**Closing date for receipt of applications is 5.00 p.m. Friday 26th June 2015.**

National University of Ireland, Galway is an equal opportunities employer.

 