



Co-Funded Doctoral Scholarship in Citizen Science

EPA Scholarship # 2019-PhD-AF-26

Mary Immaculate College Geography Department Assistantship

Closing date for applications: 30th August 2019

Start date: Preferably before October 1st 2019 (or asap thereafter)

Scholarship: The scholarship grant will be up to c. €25,000 per annum, comprising of student stipend (€13,800), academic fees (EU rates) and an annual contribution towards consumables and travel and subsistence.

Supervisor: Dr. Catherine Dalton Department of Geography, University of Limerick (Mary Immaculate College)

Co-Supervisors: Dr. Julian Bloomer (Department of Geography, University of Limerick (Mary Immaculate College) & Ruairí Ó Conchúir (LAWPRO)

Title: Citizen Science Investigations – river environmental stewardship (CSI-River)

Project Summary

This interdisciplinary science-society project, **CSI-River**, will partner individual citizens, the Mague Rivers Trust (MRT), and a Community Water Officer with a postgraduate researcher to support, motivate, jointly implement and measure environmental stewardship. The project is based on the fundamental concept that that our relationship to nature is ultimately shaped locally but has been underdeveloped in an Irish context. The PhD will, 1. Examine the socio-cultural context for citizen science (CS) and environmental monitoring, 2. Analyse a range of biodiversity and in-stream CS projects on a local scale and 3. Develop a template to mainstream CS in water quality monitoring. The project will use a mixture of natural and social sciences to bring together the knowledge and skills of lay-citizens and academics in field-based activities within a River Trust framework in a catchment which is 'At Risk'. The project addresses the need to ensure the promotion, involvement, cooperation and co-ownership of water (and biodiversity) management by local people and communities living and working within their local catchments.

Applications are invited for the above Co-funded Doctoral Scholarship. For full project details please contact Dr. Catherine Dalton (catherine.dalton@mic.ul.ie).

Candidates must have or expect to gain a First or strong Upper Second class degree, in Geography, Environmental Sciences, Biology, Geology or a related subject. A related MA/MSc degree would be an advantage, as would a full clean driving licence and access to a vehicle. Holders of this Scholarship/Assistantship will provide up to a maximum of 120 hours of teaching assistance to the Geography Department across the academic year.

Applicants for the PhD scholarship should send a letter or application and a copy of their curriculum vitae, including names of at least 2 referees, to:

Dr. Catherine Dalton
Department of Geography
Mary Immaculate College (University of Limerick)
South Circular Road
Limerick
Ireland
Tel: +353 61 204931
Email: catherine.dalton@mic.ul.ie

Interviews for the doctoral position will take place in the week of the 16th of September 2019