



Trinity College Dublin

Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath

The University of Dublin

Job Description

Comp ID:	036123
Job Title:	Executive Manager, Precision ALS
School/Department:	School of Computer Science & Statistics)
Job Category and Level:	Administrative & Support: AO1 to the Bar grade [€60,692 - €78,512

The Purpose of the Role

The Executive Manager for Precision ALS will be responsible for coordinating the execution of the Precision ALS Project & work packages. The Executive Manager is responsible for achieving the programme objectives and will report to the Spoke Director, Prof. Orla Hardiman and will work directly with the Director and Executive Director at ADAPT (the Programme Host research centre), and with the Centre Directors (ADAPT, Future Neuro), the Business Development and the operations teams within the participating Centres. The role holder will drive the realisation of the PrecisionALS research programme and strategy and will be responsible for ensuring the coherency of the overall programme and the provision of a consistent interface to industry and enterprise partners, team members, researchers and the prime sponsor (SFI).

Context

Precision ALS is a €10 million collaborative research programme involving researchers at the SFI Research Centres ADAPT and FutureNeuro along with the TRICALS Consortium, Europe's largest ALS research initiative. National and International industry partners and charities including patient organisations are also actively participating.

Precision ALS will provide an innovative and interactive platform for all clinical research in ALS across Europe, that will then harness artificial intelligence (AI) to analyse large amounts of clinical and research data. The programme cements Ireland's world leadership position in ALS research and Artificial Intelligence, and will generate scores of new jobs in clinical and data science research, new technologies and drug development for Ireland.

Precision ALS is a unique programme that brings together Clinicians, Computer Scientists, Information Engineers, Technologists, and Data Scientists. The researchers will work together with a number of companies including Biogen, Novartis, Takeda, IQVIA, Roche and Accenture to generate a sustainable precision medicine-based approach towards new drug development that will have many benefits including better clinical outcomes for patients and reducing the economic cost of these diseases.

On completion, Precision ALS will be a first-in-kind modular transferable pan-European ICT framework for ALS that can be easily adapted to other diseases that face similar precision medicine-related challenges.

The Executive Manager will drive the strategic planning and oversee the implementation of this newly established multi-million Euro research programme Precision ALS and will have the responsibility for achieving the research programme targets.

The project goal is to enable a data-driven and a precision medicine approach towards new drug development for neurodegenerative disease by combining applied clinical research with cutting edge data science.

The Programme is coordinated by Prof Orla Hardman and Prof Vincent Wade and involves researchers from two SFI Research Centres: ADAPT, (the programme lead), and FutureNeuro.

Main Responsibilities

The Executive Manager will be responsible for achieving the spokes targets and will support the Spokes Leadership Team and Spokes Directors in strategic planning. The role holder will be responsible for the representation of the PrecisionALS Research programme, realising opportunities and growth of the programme and responsible to ensure key objectives of the Spoke are met. The key responsibilities of the role include:

Strategic Operational Leadership

- Implementing the Precision ALS research strategy and ensuring that the research programme and operational functions are aligned with the Spoke's strategic objectives and meet the needs of key stakeholders.
- Overseeing the integration and performance of the Precision ALS research programme and managing the operational support teams so as to ensure performance, integration and international impact.
- Provide leadership and expertise, ensuring that resources, procedures and systems are robust and appropriate to meet the Spoke's objectives and ambition.
- Achieving the Spokes target and ensuring that opportunities and growth of the programme are realised.
- Identifying, developing new opportunities and driving strategic initiatives that enable the research programme to meet its overall cost share objectives and achieve the programme targets.
- Coordinating with the Spoke Leadership Team, the Programme Manager and Precision ALS Directors in the planning and execution of the PrecisionALS Research programme ensuring key objectives and vision of the Spoke are met.
- Liaising with the Centers Education and Public Engagement team to ensure strategic outreach activities and initiatives are fostered to promote the research outputs from the Spoke and encourage stakeholder engagement.

Research Programme Management

- Driving cross-institute, cross-discipline and cross-centre collaboration as required by the Research Programme
 - Develop formalised research plans to include; delivery timelines, budgetary/resource management and research integration approach
 - Manage a team including a dedicated Research Project Manager and shared operational support (Legal, Financial, HR)
 - Establishing and overseeing the management of a team of researchers across a multitude of research
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domains in Computer Science, Healthcare Informatics and Precision Medicine

- Facilitating the integration of clinical and data science strands of Precision ALS
- Managing and supporting the establishment of data flows and integration from international sites
- Facilitating the effective execution and delivery of project goals ensuring the effective operation of all work packages and targeted Projects by disassembling internal barriers and solving integration issues

Stakeholder Management

- Managing interfaces to all key stakeholders including facilitating cross-communication across a portfolio of targeted projects and work packages
- In conjunction with the Spoke Directors continue to build relationships and communicate the vision for Precision medicine for rare diseases, in particular ALS, on a national and international level, both within and outside the industry, liaising with industrial partners, funding agencies, policy makers to inform strategic direction of PrecisionALS.

Financial Oversight

- Oversee and manage the budget of €10 million, devising financial management strategies, communicating complex information clearly, concisely to the PIs and Directors
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Person Requirements

The role-holder will require the following knowledge, skills and attributes for successful performance in the role.

Qualifications

- Minimum of a third level degree (Level 8 NFQ or higher) ideally related to Healthcare, and with an established expertise in health informatics or in a STEM discipline
- Research experience through a postgraduate research degree or research activity in a different context would be a distinct advantage

Knowledge

Essential

- Proven track record of successful strategic problem solving and strategy development of research activity and research management
- Understanding of data driven healthcare, Data Management and AI challenges and the key initiatives and stakeholders
- Understanding of clinical domains relating to healthcare
- Understanding of IP related issues, and ability to relate successfully, and work collaboratively with, both academic community and industry
- Able to demonstrate an understanding of precision medicine (highly desirable)

Experience

Essential

- Significant experience in the leadership of research management with particular emphasis on strategic management and performance management in technology and/or health related areas.
- Experience managing and coordinating multiple academic or research stakeholders and a proven track record of success in achieving results in an research environment
- Experience in managing strategic communications and the motivation of teams to harness talent across the organisation and to achieve the Spoke's ambitious goals.
- Significant management experience coupled with strong strategic management experience gained in successfully managing complex projects
- Demonstrate experience of successfully working within a research community or research setting and dealing with Board members in a range of organisations
- Deep experience in health related projects

Desirable

- Demonstrate experience in leading Health informatics or Digital Transformation Projects
- Proven ability to articulate a research vision (such as Precision ALS's), and the ability to align strategy and operations to that vision in support an overall strategy
- Demonstrate experience of dealing with Healthcare research stakeholders, Funding Agencies and working in an Academic-Industrial Research Environment

Skills

Essential

- Strategic thinking and being able to successfully translate strategy to effective operational outcomes
- Exceptional organisational skills, the ability to handle and prioritise and process a heavy workload in a complex environment.
- Proven negotiation and collaboration skills in devising, designing and implementing cross-discipline and institutional collaboration
- Excellent interpersonal skills including communications, listening and negotiation skills and the ability to understand the needs of multiple stakeholders and build support for change.
- Excellent interpersonal skills with the ability to network, build relationships and engage effectively with, and influence, stakeholders at all levels of seniority.
- Strong research management skills with a track record of delivering success in multi disciplinary areas related to AI and data driven solutions
- Strong written and verbal communication skills, including presentation skills
- Strong client relationship skills and ability to act an ambassador for the PrecisionALS Programme and Precision Medicine Research
- Ability to flourish in an environment where there is a high level of autonomy and personal accountability
- Adaptable and flexible in approach and able to work under pressure

Personal attributes

- A high level of personal and professional integrity and able to gain trust of all participating companies and academics
- Confident working with internal and external stakeholders at all levels and willingness and flexibility to travel between research sites and internationally
- Self-directed and resilient, taking personal responsibility for the delivery of objectives and overcoming challenges.

Trinity Competencies

In Trinity there are 6 Core Competencies that are applicable to all roles across a range of professional, administrative and support jobs, unlike specialist or technical skills which may be job specific. They provide a common language for describing performance and the abilities/attributes displayed by individuals. They focus on 'how' tasks are achieved, not 'what' is achieved.

Below is a summary definition of the 6 Core Competencies.

	Competency	Summary Definition
1	Agile Leader	Sees the big picture and harnesses opportunities to achieve the University's goals. Creates clear direction for the future and how to get there.
2	Unlocks Potential	Energised, capable and confident to take ownership and responsibility for their development and goals. Motivates, supports and develops people to perform to the best of their ability.
3	Service Ethos	Finds ways to increase stakeholder and customer satisfaction. Builds relationships, is proactive and delivery focused in order to anticipate, meet & exceed expectations.
4	Builds Trusted Relationships	Communicates in a clear and respectful manner building trust and commitment for mutually beneficial outcomes.
5	Decision-making	Confidently makes timely decisions based on knowledge, evidence and sound judgement.
6	Achieves Results	Delivers results by setting direction, planning, executing and evaluating impact.

Application Information

In order to assist the selection process, applicants should submit a Curriculum Vitae and a Cover Letter (1x A4 page) that specifically addresses the following points in their application.

- Candidates must have significant experience in the leadership of research management with particular emphasis on strategic management and performance management in technology and/or health related areas. Applicants should clearly address this experience and how they obtained their knowledge in their application.
- Proven experience in managing and coordinating multiple academic or research stakeholders and a proven track record of success in achieving results in an research environment
- Candidates must demonstrate their capacity for strategic thinking and being able to successfully translate strategy to effective operational outcomes

Further Information

Informal enquiries about this post should be made to Mr Declan McKibben, Executive Director
(declan.mckibben@adaptcentre.ie)