



Maynooth University Distinguished International Collaborator Programme

Join Maynooth's global research community

Collaborate, inspire and make a global impact
with Maynooth University.



Distinguished International Collaborator Programme

Maynooth University invites outstanding international scholars, researchers and creative and entrepreneurial leaders to join **Maynooth's global research community as Distinguished Professors.**

Recognised as one of Ireland's fastest-growing universities, Maynooth has built a reputation for research excellence, interdisciplinary strength and an exceptional student experience. With more than 15,000 students and a thriving community of international scholars, the University continues to expand its global partnerships and research ambitions.

Through the **Distinguished International Collaborator Programme**, we offer flexible, fractional appointments (5–20% FTE) that foster deep, sustained collaboration – connecting exceptional individuals with our research centres, students and global networks.

These appointments recognise distinction, support innovation and build long-term international partnerships that enrich Maynooth's intellectual and cultural life.

“The Distinguished Professor Programme is our way of recognising world-class scholarship and building meaningful global partnerships.

These appointments enable leading thinkers to engage with **Maynooth's global research community** – mentoring staff and students, advancing research and shaping ideas that matter.”

Professor Rachel Msetfi

Vice-President for Research & Innovation



Maynooth University Research Beacons

Maynooth University's Research Beacons represent areas of strategic strength and investment.

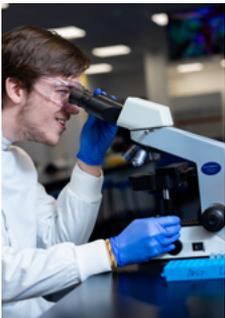


Data Science & Digital Transformation

Research Centres and Institutes Hamilton Institute, Innovation Value Institute

Leaders Professor David Malone, Professor Markus Helfert

Maynooth University leads in advanced data analytics, AI, machine learning and the enabling digital infrastructures that support societal and organisational transformation. Key areas include cutting-edge algorithm development, quantum-ready computation, digital twins, IoT, cloud systems and secure communications. The Beacon also drives best practice in data governance, ethics and organisational readiness for digital change. A major theme is the convergence of data science with digital transformation, ensuring technologies are deployed through human-centred, fair and accountable frameworks.



Health & Wellbeing

Research Centres and Institutes Lonsdale Human Health Institute, ALL Assisting Living and Learning Institute

Leaders Professor Paul Moynagh, Professor Mac Maclachlan, Professor Deirdre Desmond, Professor Delia Ferri

This Beacon advances understanding of human health across molecular, psychological, societal and environmental dimensions. Strategic strengths include advanced therapeutics, antimicrobial resistance, mental health, community wellbeing and healthcare innovation (telemedicine, wearables and health informatics). Researchers explore the interplay of lifestyle, ageing and technology, developing interventions that improve prevention, diagnosis, treatment and long-term wellbeing. There is also strong focus on equitable healthcare access and policies that enable healthy ageing and independent living.



Heritage, Culture & Languages

Research Centres and Institutes

Maynooth University Arts and Humanities Institute

Leader Professor Anna Hickey Moody

This Beacon unites humanities scholarship across history, literature, languages, creative practice, digital humanities, music, media and cultural studies. Researchers investigate identity, intersectionality, social change, cultural memory and artistic expression. Strategic areas include Irish and Celtic studies, applied linguistics, intercultural analysis, creative industries, feminist media studies and the preservation and interpretation of cultural heritage. The work supports cultural resilience, critical engagement and the sharing of new cultural resources with wider society.



Society & Public Policy

Research Centres and Institutes Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute, National Centre for Geocomputation

Leaders Professor Linda Connolly, Professor Chris Brunsdon

The Beacon addresses major societal challenges through multidisciplinary research in social policy, public policy, governance, education, sociology, geography and law. Key themes include social justice, inclusion, social and economic transformations, public service delivery and the impacts of technological and demographic change. Spatial analysis and geotechnologies underpin research on people, place and environment. The Beacon supports evidence-based policy development across government, NGOs and international organisations.



Sustainability & Climate Change

Research Centres and Institutes ICARUS Irish Climate Analysis and Research Units, Centre for Ocean Energy Research

Leaders Professor Peter Thorne, Professor John Ringwood

This Beacon focuses on understanding and responding to global environmental challenges. Key strengths include climate modelling, renewable energy systems, biodiversity, environmental conservation, climate governance and resilience strategies. Researchers collaborate across disciplines to advance green technologies, sustainable business practices, energy systems integration and environmental justice. The work aligns with the UN Sustainable Development Goals and supports national and international responses to climate change.

The Distinguished International Collaborator Appointment

Fractional appointment	5–20% FTE, typically one to three years.
Title conferred	<i>Distinguished Professor, Maynooth University.</i>
Purpose	To strengthen international collaboration and deliver tangible academic and societal impact.
Focus	Joint research, postgraduate mentoring, knowledge exchange and public engagement within Maynooth's global research community .

Two Flexible Models

	Model 1 Remunerated Appointment	Model 2 Expenses-Only Appointment
Purpose	Enable sustained, regular collaboration with remuneration and research support.	Formalise collaboration through an honorary role supported by travel and research expenses.
Duration	1–3 years	1–3 years
Commitment	5–20% FTE (flexible)	5–20% FTE
Support	Fractional salary + seed funding	Travel, accommodation + seed funding
Activities	Joint publications, grant development, mentoring, lectures and seminars.	Collaborative research, visiting lectures, mentorship and postgraduate engagement.
Outputs	Research outputs, new funding proposals, student development, international visibility.	Collaborative outputs, engagement, strengthened networks and capacity building.

Benefits of Joining Maynooth's Global Research Community



Formal academic affiliation with Maynooth University.



Access to research facilities, networks and interdisciplinary communities.



Opportunity to co-supervise postgraduate students and mentor emerging scholars.



Platform for global engagement through seminars, lectures and joint projects.

Becoming a Distinguished International Collaborator Professor

Appointments are proposed by a Maynooth University academic sponsor and reviewed by the **Distinguished International Collaborator Board**.

Successful nominees are approved by the **University President** and conferred the honorary title *Distinguished Professor, Maynooth University*.

Each appointment represents an invitation to contribute to and benefit from **Maynooth's global research community** – a network of scholars committed to collaboration, mentorship and international impact.

Interested in joining us?

We welcome expressions of interest from internationally recognised scholars, artists and researchers who share Maynooth's vision of impactful, inclusive and collaborative scholarship.

Office of the Vice-President for Research & Innovation

✉ vicepresident.research@mu.ie

www.maynoothuniversity.ie/research