



Position Title	PhD Studentship - Targeted Nanotherapy for Pancreatic Cancer Treatment
Project Abstract	<p>Pancreatic cancer (PanCa) is a devastating disease with almost the same number of diagnoses as deaths, reflecting an urgent need for the development of novel and effective treatment modalities. The delay of clinical manifestation and lack of criteria to identify susceptible individuals results in extensive metastasis by the time of diagnosis and typically tumours are both radio- and chemo- resistant. Consequently, this PhD proposal aims to develop a dual-functional NP (nanoparticle) system composed of chemotherapy (GTP) and gene-therapy (miR-143), to perform a sustained synergistic therapeutic effect for PanCa treatment, which will be delivered in a controlled and sustained manner using a thermo-responsive hydrogel system.</p> <p>An interdisciplinary team based approach is essential to the successful delivery of this project. Prof Dunne (TCD/DCU) will provide expertise on fabrication and characterisation of the NP systems and thermo-responsive hydrogel, and Dr Levingstone (DCU) & Prof McCarthy (QUB) will provide expertise on <i>in vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> assessment. A number of strategic industrial and academic stakeholders have expressed unreserved support for the PhD proposal in terms of technical advice and clinical support.</p>
Experience	The PhD position is funded for 4 years, including a monthly stipend and materials and travel budget. Applicants should hold a minimum of an honours bachelor's degree at 2:1 level or equivalent in a relevant subject such as Bioengineering/Biomaterials/Nanotechnology/Medicine. Candidates should also have a strong interest in Drug Delivery/Oncology.
Funding	The studentship will cover fees up to €5,500 pa and a stipend of €18,500 pa
Location	DCU/TCD
Closing Date	Friday 29 th June 2018
For more information contact	Prof. Nicholas Dunne, nicholas.dunne@dcu.ie

AMBER,
CRANN Institute,
Trinity College Dublin,
Dublin 2, Ireland

T + 353 (0) 1 8963030
W ambercentre.ie
twitter @ambercentre

