College/Management Unit	UCD College of Science
School/Unit	UCD School of Earth Sciences
Post Title & Subject Area (if relevant)	iCRAG Engagement and Education Officer
Project	iCRAG – Irish Centre for Research in Applied Geosciences
Post Duration	Fixed term post ending 31 December 2020
Reports to	iCRAG Manager, Communications and Engagement
HR Reference No.	011092
HR Administrator	Gary Greenan

Position Summary

The iCRAG Engagement and Education Officer is a key member of the Operations team who will design, implement and evaluate the Centre's education programme and contribute to the Centre's public engagement programme. Reporting to the iCRAG Manager, Communications and Engagement, the Engagement and Education Officer will work to promote awareness of iCRAG's research and the importance of the geosciences to Ireland within all sectors of the education system, including primary, secondary, third and fourth levels, parents of school-going children and teachers, through both formal and informal education activities. The Engagement and Education Officer will develop and deliver public engagement activities through iCRAG's diverse portfolio of public engagement activities. This position will be a key role in ensuring that iCRAG's research informs public knowledge, debate and decision-making on geoscience-related issues.

The appointee will work closely with the members of iCRAG's Public Perception and Understanding research cluster to ensure that iCRAG engages most effectively with all levels of the education system and the various publics.

Salary Range: €40,000 - €52,000

Appointment on the above range will be dependent upon qualifications and experience.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities

- Design, deliver and evaluate an ambitious, innovative, diverse and impactful programme of formal and informal education activities to advance the goals and vision of the Centre;

- Support iCRAG researchers in developing and delivering engaging, curriculum-facing educational content and public engagement activities;

- Coordinate the education activities of iCRAG across all partner institutions and across all aspects of the research programme. This includes responsibility for the measurement, evaluation and reporting of all iCRAG education activities;

- Work closely with the 'Public Perception and Understanding' research cluster to ensure that the Centre's educational material and activities are informed by the latest research developments;

- Build relationships with members of the iCRAG research team, research partner organisations, education and geoscience-related state bodies, and other relevant entities that play a role in the areas of engagement and education;

- Stay abreast of educational and engagement developments in geosciences at a national and international level to identify emerging trends;

- Closely liaise with Science Foundation Ireland education and public engagement staff, and other SFI

Research Centres, regarding the development and coordination of education and public engagement activities and events;

- Engage in necessary travel to execute and communicate the Centre's public engagement and education goals and objectives, including international travel where necessary.
- Undertake any other duties as assigned by the iCRAG Manager, Communications and Engagement, or nominee.

Selection Criteria

Selection criteria outline the qualifications, skills, knowledge and/or experience that the successful candidate would need to demonstrate for successful discharge of the responsibilities of the post. Applications will be assessed on the basis of how well candidates satisfy these criteria.

Mandatory

- Third-level qualification in the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics or education;
- Strong interest in geosciences and passion for promoting awareness of geoscience in the education sector in Ireland;
- Excellent communications skills both written and verbal and a proven ability to communicate with diverse audiences at an individual and group level;
- Strong people management and interpersonal skills, coupled with an ability to work effectively with staff and management across all levels both internally and externally;
- Experience in engaging with a variety of stakeholders, including industry, university and government departments and agencies;
- Excellent IT skills across a wide range of technologies and services (MS Office, Blog, Social Media etc);
- Excellent organisational and project management skills with proven ability to work autonomously, set goals and meet challenging targets and deadlines in a diverse environment;
- Ability to develop, implement and evaluate a diverse programme of work.

Desirable

- Where a Science degree is held, a 3rd level qualification in a geoscience-related discipline would be preferable;
- Postgraduate qualification in a science or engineering related discipline, science communication or education;
- Experience in working with young people;
- Experience of education, public engagement and /or research communication
- Experience of project management within an academic environment;
- Familiarity with the research funding environment at national and EU level;
- Experience in event management and managing external suppliers.

Further Information for Candidates

- Some travel will be required to execute the Centre's goals and objectives with regard to industry partnerships.

Supplementary information

The University:	http://www.ucd.ie/aboutucd.htm
The College of Science:	http://www.ucd.ie/collegesandschools/science/
The School of Earth Sciences:	http://www.ucd.ie/collegesandschools/science/earthsciences/
iCRAG: Irish Centre for Research in Applied Geosciences:	http://www.iCRAG-centre.org

Relocation Expenses

- Will not apply

Garda Vetting Required

- No

Informal Enquiries ONLY to:

Name:	Dr. Fergus McAuliffe
Title:	iCRAG Manager, Communications and Engagement
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Telephone:	01-7162941

Eligibility to compete and certain restrictions on eligibility	
Incentivised Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER):	It is a condition of the Incentivised Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER) as set out in Department of Finance Circular 12/09 that retirees, under that Scheme, are debarred from applying for another position in the same employment or the same sector. Therefore, such retirees may not apply for this position
Department of Health and Children Circular (7/2010):	The Department of Health Circular 7/2010 dated 1 November 2010 introduced a Targeted Voluntary Early Retirement (VER) Scheme and Voluntary Redundancy Schemes (VRS). It is a condition of the VER scheme that persons availing of the scheme will not be eligible for re-employment in the public health sector or in the wider public service or in a body wholly or mainly funded from public moneys. The same prohibition on re-employment applies under the VRS, except that the prohibition is for a period of 7 years, after which time any re-employment will require the approval of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform. People who availed of either of these schemes are not eligible to complete in this competition.
Collective Agreement - Redundancy Payments to Public Servants:	The Department of Public Expenditure and Reform letter dated 28th June 2012 to Personnel Officers introduced, with effect from 1st June 2012, a Collective Agreement which had been reached between the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform and the Public Services Committee of the ICTU in relation to ex-gratia Redundancy Payments to Public Servants. It is a condition of the Collective Agreement that persons availing of the agreement will not be eligible for re-employment in the public service by any public service body (as defined by the Financial Emergency Measures

	in the Public Interest Acts 2009 – 2011) for a period of 2 years from termination of the employment. Thereafter the consent of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform will be required prior to re-employment. People who availed of this scheme and who may be successful in this competition will have to prove their eligibility (expiry of period of non-eligibility) and the Minister's consent will have to be secured prior to employment by any public service body.
Declaration:	Applicants will be required to a Pre-Employment Declaration to confirm whether they have previously availed of a public service scheme of incentivised early retirement and/or the collective agreement outlined above. The above represents the main schemes and agreements restricting a candidate's right to be re-employed in the public service. However it is not intended to be an exhaustive list and candidates should declare details of any other exit mechanism they have availed of which restricts their right to be re-employed in the public service. Applicants will also be required to declare any entitlements to a Public Service pension benefit (in payment or preserved) from any other Public Service employment and/or where they have received a payment-in-lieu in respect of service in any Public Service employment.
Superannuation and Retirement:	The successful candidate will be offered the appropriate superannuation terms and conditions as prevailing in the University, at the time of being offered an appointment. In general, and except for candidates who have worked in a pensionable (non-single scheme terms) public service job in the 26 weeks prior to appointment (see paragraph d below), this means being offered appointment based on membership of the Single Public Service Pension Scheme ("Single Scheme"). Key provisions attaching to membership of the Single Scheme are as follows:

a. Pensionable Age - The minimum age at which pension is payable is 66 (rising to 67 and 68) in line with State Pension age changes.

b. Retirement Age - Scheme members must retire at the age of 70.

c. Pension Abatement:

- If the appointee was previously employed in the Civil Service or in the Public Service please note that the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act 2012 includes a provision which extends abatement of pension for all Civil and Public Servants who are re-employed where a Public Service pension is in payment. This provision to apply abatement across the wider public service came into effect on 1 November 2012. This may have pension implications for any person appointed to this position who is currently in receipt of a Civil or Public Service pension or has a preserved Civil or Public Service pension which will come into payment during his/her employment in this position.

- Department of Education and Skills Early Retirement Scheme for Teachers Circular 102/2007

  The Department of Education and Skills introduced an Early Retirement Scheme for Teachers. It is a condition of the Early Retirement Scheme that with the exception of the situations set out in paragraphs 10.2 and 10.3 of the relevant circular documentation, and with those exceptions only, if a teacher accepts early retirement under Strands 1, 2 or 3 of this scheme and is subsequently employed

in any capacity in any area of the public sector, payment of pension to that person under the scheme will immediately cease. Pension payments will, however, be resumed on the ceasing of such employment or on the person's 60th birthday, whichever is the later, but on resumption, the pension will be based on the person's actual reckonable service as a teacher (i.e. the added years previously granted will not be taken into account in the calculation of the pension payment).

- Ill-Health-Retirement

  Please note that where an individual has retired from a Civil/Public Service body on the grounds of ill-health his/her pension from that employment may be subject to review in accordance with the rules of ill-health retirement within the pension scheme of that employment.

d. Prior Public Servant - While the default pension terms, as set out in the preceding paragraphs, consist of Single Scheme membership, this may not apply to certain appointees. Full details of the conditions governing whether or not a public servant is a Single Scheme member are given in the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and other Provisions) Act 2012. However the key exception case (in the context of this competition and generally) is that a successful candidate who has worked in a pensionable (non-single scheme terms) capacity in the public service within 26 weeks of taking up appointment, would in general not become a member of the Single Scheme. In this case such a candidate would instead be offered membership of the UCD Pension Scheme. This would mean that the abatement provisions at (c) above would apply, and in addition there are implications in respect of pension accrual as outlined below:

e. Pension Accrual - A 40-year limit on total service that can be counted towards pension where a person has been a member of more than one existing public service pension scheme would apply. This 40-year limit, which is provided for in the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and other Provisions) Act 2012 came into effect on 28 July 2012. This may have implications for any appointee who has acquired pension rights in a previous public service employment.

f. Pension-Related Deduction - This appointment is subject to the pension-related deduction in accordance with the Financial Emergency Measure in the Public Interest Act 2009.

For further information in relation to the Single Public Service Pension Scheme for Public Servants please see the following website: http://www.per.gov.ie/pensions.