MSc Postgraduate Research Opportunity

MSc Project Title: Willingness to Adopt Digital Ledger Technology Solutions across the Irish Dairy Sector

Project Duration: 24 months

Organisation: Atlantic Technological University (ATU)

Location: ATU Galway City, Dublin Road, Galway

Stipend: €15,000 per annum

Responsible to: Project Supervisors: Dr Amaya Vega, Dr Trevor Clohessy, Dr Aurora Dimache

Funding: Atlantic Technological University (ATU) Galway, Project Number P977

Description: This project seeks to understand the context of adoption of blockchain and Digital Ledger Technologies (DLTs) in dairy farming in Ireland, considering aspects of technology adoption previously identified in the literature, and identifying new context-specific factors for DLTs and dairy farming in Ireland, in particular after the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on technology acceleration and user needs.

Once general and context-specific factors of adoption are identified, the project will assess and determine the willingness to adopt DLTs across the Irish dairy sector. DLTs are new disruptive technologies currently not widely adopted in agriculture in Ireland. Understanding farmers’ preferences for different technology features would provide an insight into preferred products and the potential demand for DLT-based solutions for the agri-food supply chain in the future.

Requirements/Qualifications: The successful candidate will hold an Honours Degree (minimum 2.2, but 2.1 or higher is desirable) in the fields of business, economics, engineering or a cognate discipline (with demonstrated data analysis component), at the commencement date of the project. Demonstrated experience in research methods will be an advantage as well as evidence of contributions to academic publications. The candidate will be expected to work on their own initiative, and be willing to acquire the broader skills necessary for the successful completion of a Master project.

Project Duration: 24 months
Conditions:
- €15,000 Stipend per annum
- Postgraduate fees for EU students will be covered by the project* (see below)
- €4,000 budget per annum to cover equipment and travel requirements for this project

Please Note: Candidates from outside the EU are eligible to apply but will be expected to provide evidence of sources of additional funds to cover excesses associated with Non-EU fees.

If either English or Irish is not the applicant’s first language, evidence of English language proficiency is required for registration. Please refer to web link English Language Requirements | ATU - Atlantic Technological University (gmit.ie) to view the minimum English language proficiency standards for entry to ATU.

Project Start Date: September / October 2022
Application Closing Date: 12 noon, Wednesday 1st June 2022

Applicants should submit their:
- Curriculum Vitae (to include 2 referees)
- A copy of transcript of results
- A Personal Statement to: ResearchOffice@gmit.ie

Applications must be submitted to ResearchOffice@gmit.ie e-mail address only. Please ensure all documents are emailed as a single Word or PDF file.

The Personal Statement should not exceed 1 page and include:

- How you meet the requirements of the position
- Why you would like to pursue this MSc research programme

For further information on the project, please contact: Dr Amaya Vega (amaya.vega@gmit.ie), Dr Trevor Clohessy (trevor.clohessy@gmit.ie) or Dr Aurora Dimache (aurora.dimache@gmit.ie)

* In lieu of fees the appointed scholar will undertake two hours of academic development activities per week during the academic year through participation in teaching support, tutorial provision, and/or practical demonstration.

Data Protection Statement
ATU takes very seriously its legal obligations as set out in the General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 (GDPR) and the Irish Data Protection Act 2018 to safeguard and protect your personal information in our possession. The personal information which you disclose to us in this form will only be used to assess your suitability; administer and register you for this scholarship. We will not keep your personal information for any longer than is necessary for those stated purposes. For more details, please refer to ATU’s Student Privacy Statement: http://www.gmit.ie/general/student-privacy-statement