



## Postgraduate Position in the Area of Enabling/Polymer Chemistry Centre for Research in Medical Devices (CÚRAM)

The Centre for Research in Medical Devices (CÚRAM) is a national, SFI-funded, €49.6m research centre that brings together researchers from NUI Galway, University College Dublin, Dublin City University, University of Limerick, University College Cork, Trinity College Dublin and Royal College of Surgeons Ireland. The prime objective for CÚRAM is to radically improve health outcomes for patients by developing innovative implantable 'smart' medical devices to treat major unmet medical needs. Primary research themes for the centre include: 1. Design and manufacture of implants to respond to the body's environment and to deliver therapeutic agents, such as drugs, exactly where needed. 2. Development of devices using the very latest research from biomaterials, stem cells and drug delivery. 3. Support of strong clinical collaborations, industry partners and hospital groups to enable rapid translation to the clinic. The centre includes almost 40 industry partners and supports product development and the creation of new spin-out companies.

### Project:

The project will focus on the design, preparation, and controlled polymerisation of novel peptidic monomers for the preparation of novel protein strands that mimic those of the structural proteins, collagen and elastin, which are found in the extracellular matrix. Novel bio-inspired methods and reagents will also be developed for crosslinking these strands into fibres of desired mechanical properties for applications in regenerative medicine. The work will be carried out at the School of Chemistry, NUI Galway, Ireland (<http://www.nuigalway.ie/chemistry/>), in the research group of Dr. Eddie Myers (<http://www.eddiemyerschemistry.com>). The research programme will encourage networking and strong clinical and industry collaborations. The successful candidate will be provided with training and development opportunities designed to support his/her personal career development plans.

### Eligibility of Postgraduate Candidate:

- Applicants should, at the time of recruitment by the host organisation, be in possession of a bachelor's degree or MSc in a discipline of chemistry with significant laboratory experience in the area of synthetic organic chemistry and/or materials chemistry.
- Candidates should have excellent communication and organisational skills, be highly motivated, and have strong written, oral and interpersonal skills.
- Candidates should be able to work independently and as a part of team.
- Candidates should submit an application which includes a CV, a paragraph on their interest in and suitability for the programme and the name and contacts for two referees by email to [eddie.myers@nuigalway.ie](mailto:eddie.myers@nuigalway.ie).
- Start date for the programme is September 2018.

### Gender Balance

The PhD/MSc programme will promote "positive equality" in line with CÚRAM's goal of achieving at least 40% female representation at all levels.

