PhD position at NUI Galway

Applications are invited for a PhD position as part of the ENERGE project with the Whitaker Institute and the College of Engineering and Informatics (Civil Engineering), National University of Ireland, Galway (NUI Galway). This position is funded by the European Regional Development Fund (under the North-West Europe InterReg programme) and is available on a full-time basis from September 2019.

Applicants should hold at least a second class honours degree (Grade 1) in various disciplines including business, social science, marketing and also engineering disciplines (civil, environmental or industrial). Candidates with equivalent degrees in related areas may apply.

Informal inquiries can be sent to eoghan.clifford@nuigalway.ie. Applicants will be required to send a cover letter and CV to eoghan.clifford@nuigalway.ie by June 7th 2019 and subsequent to review the successful candidate will be invited to apply for a NUI Galway PhD scholarship at this link:

http://www.nuigalway.ie/engineering-informatics/postgraduatestudents/collegepostgraduatescholarshipscheme/.

Research topic:

The researcher will implement and analyse the effect of low-cost interventions in demonstration schools that are designed to reduce energy consumption and decrease carbon emissions from schools. The researcher will analyse both qualitative and quantitative data including data from systems that consume energy and also data from the users and stakeholders that influence energy consumption in schools.

Key areas of investigation will include: System dynamics, causal loop analysis, group model building methodologies, interpretative structural modelling and stakeholder engagement.

About the post:

The researcher will join the ENERGE team within a highly dynamic, international research team combining research and knowledge from business, marketing, public policy and the social sciences and engineering and data analytics. In particular, the Applied Systems Thinking Unit investigates pressing societal problems such as public transport, blue and green spaces and sustainable marine resources. The group looks for community and collective initiatives that bring about positive systemic change. It combines policy insight, stakeholder engagement and systems expertise to develop innovative policy solutions, improved governance systems, and the capacity of the public to influence those who make decisions affecting their lives and well-being. The Civil Engineering research team, affiliated with IRUSE, the Ryan Institute of Environment, Marine and Energy, is active in improving the sustainability of the built environment and large infrastructure. The group includes specialists in engineering, modelling, data analytics and large scale demonstration site development. The successful candidate will be based within the Whitaker Institute and will be affiliated with the School of Engineering.