



Teagasc PhD Walsh Fellowship Opportunity
"Examining the impact of the removal of zinc oxide supplementation on the porcine faecal microbiome and implications for management practices"
Walsh Fellowship Reference: 2018027

Applications are invited for a PhD Walsh Fellowship which will be carried out between the Teagasc Food Safety Department, the Teagasc Pig Development Unit, Moorepark and University College Dublin School of Veterinary Medicine. The project will focus on the impact of the usage of zinc oxide on antimicrobial resistance development and dissemination within pig production. Culture dependent and independent technologies will be utilised to analyse antimicrobial resistance and faecal microbial community structure throughout the production cycle in pigs raised using different management practices to determine the impact of the withdrawal of zinc oxide supplementation.

Teagasc is a development agency of the Irish Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine which supports science-based innovation in the Agri-food sector and the broader bioeconomy. The Teagasc food research programme focuses on research, development and innovation activities supporting meat and dairy processing, cereals and marine food sectors, in addition to food training and technology transfer activities. The programme in food safety aims to provide the science to underpin a total chain risk based approach to manage food safety in the "farm to fork" food chain and in the area of microbiology there is an extensive research programme and expertise on foodborne pathogens and antimicrobial resistance.

The PhD student will be primarily based in Teagasc, Ashtown, but will also spend time at the Teagasc Pig Development Unit in Moorepark and University College Dublin. The PhD will be awarded by University College Dublin. The project will start in October 2018.

Teagasc supervisors: Dr Kaye Burgess, Teagasc, Ashtown, Dublin, Dr Edgar Garcia Manzanilla, Teagasc Moorepark

Academic supervisor: Dr Finola Leonard, University College Dublin

Qualification required:

Good honours degree in microbiology, molecular biology, veterinary science or related discipline is required. The normal academic qualification expected for a PhD studentship is an Upper Second Class (Hons) Degree (2H1 or equivalent). All applications should be accompanied with copies of degree transcripts (translated into English) in order for the Graduate Studies Office to make a decision on academic eligibility.

Award: The PhD Fellowship is a joint research project between Teagasc Food Research Centre at Ashtown, Dublin and University College Dublin. A stipend of €22,000 per annum will be provided and university fees are paid from the stipend (maximum of €6,000 fees per annum for EU citizens) which is tenable for 4 years. *International students are eligible for the funding but will need to find their own support to cover the extra tuition fees chargeable to non EU students.*

Please send applications to

Kaye.burgess@teagasc.ie and nola.leonard@ucd.ie

Closing date for applications is **August 24th 2018**.