

Mountbellew Agricultural College

VACANCY

Research & Development Manager

The Organisation:

Mountbellew Agricultural College provides a comprehensive range of training programmes for those engaged in the agricultural and food-related sectors.

The College currently has over 900 students enrolled in its programmes and employs 35 full-time staff.

The College offers a range of courses including Bachelor of Science in Agriculture and Environmental Management, Bachelor of Business in Rural Enterprise and Agribusiness, Bachelor of Engineering in Agricultural Engineering, Adult Certificate in Agriculture Level 5 / Level 6 and a range of Teagasc Agricultural courses.

The College also offers students practical experience on the working farm which comprises a dairy herd, suckler herd, calf to beef enterprise, sheep flock, tillage and forestry.

The Role:

Mountbellew Agricultural College is seeking a **Research & Development Manager** to fill a new leadership role in the organisation. The Research & Development Manager will report directly to the College Principal and will have overall responsibility for all aspects of Mountbellew Agricultural College's research and development programme including developing and implementing research and development projects aligned with the College's strategic plan.

The successful candidate will actively participate as a member of the Senior Management Team and contribute to the development and implementation of plans and decisions by the College Principal, Director of Operations and Board with particular focus on the College's Research and Development priorities.

Key Responsibilities:

- Overseeing all aspects of Mountbellew Agricultural College's research and development management
- Developing and implementing research and development projects
- Growing the College's research portfolio and research platform
- Co-ordinating the College's current research projects
- Preparing and writing applications to secure externally funded research grants
- Developing and providing research development resources and workshops
- Actively engaging academic staff to identify research funding opportunities
- Working closely with the College Principal on large strategic submissions and proposals to external funders / stakeholders
- Developing and maintaining strong relationships with external partners / funders e.g. ATU and Teagasc

- Co-ordinate/represent the Mountbellew Agricultural College on ATU and Teagasc sustainability initiatives e.g. Green Campus and Teagasc Signpost Programme
- Engaging with external stakeholders including reporting on project progress and planning further projects
- Leading out on farm enterprise initiatives to support research activities i.e. farm infrastructure upgrades
- Evaluating the effectiveness of the College's Research and Development plan, identifying areas of concern to the College Principal
- Developing, and ensuring compliance with, the College's policies and controls as they relate to research, e.g. governance, data management, ethics and intellectual property, and ensuring these policies are taken into account during the process of proposal development
- Cooperating with the College Principal and Financial Controller on the development and management of the annual Research and Development budget

Key Requirements:

- Level 8 Degree in Agricultural Science or related discipline, Masters / PHD preferred
- A minimum of five years' relevant work experience
- Excellent social, oral and written communication skills
- Knowledge and understanding of the higher education sector and research funding environment
- Proven track record in research, proposal development, and grant writing
- Experience in deploying a critical and analytical approach to reviewing documents and proposal
- Proven ability to manage multiple proposals
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills to effectively engage with internal stakeholders and academic teams as well as external bodies

Contract Duration - This is a permanent role.

Salary & Benefits - Mountbellew Agricultural College will offer salary and benefits commensurate with its pay scale and experience.

Working Hours - The role is Monday to Friday, 8:45 am to 5:00 pm

The role holder is required to have a degree of flexibility with regard to working hours with the expectation of some evening and weekend work

Your next step.....Interested applicants should submit a CV and cover letter to Jacqui O'Grady, HR Consultant, at hr@mountbellewac.ie.

Closing Date - The closing date for receipt of applications is **Friday 30 August 2024**.

Note: All candidates must be willing to undergo Garda Vetting should they be successful.

Mountbellew Agricultural College actively supports inclusion in the workplace and will endeavour to provide reasonable accommodations as requested by candidates throughout the interview process for this position

Mountbellew Agricultural College is an equal opportunities employer