

## Midlands Mental Health and Neuroscience DTP – Call for Projects

Submissions are now open for projects for the 2023 cohort of the Midlands Mental Health and Neuroscience DTP for Healthcare Professionals.

Over the lifespan of the programme, we will recruit 25 healthcare professions to our PhD programme aiming for about half from allied healthcare professional background and half medically qualified. Ten will be registered at the University of Nottingham, and 5 students each to be registered at the Universities of Birmingham, Leicester, and Warwick. Each University has agreed to provide funding for additional clinical and non-clinical PhD studentships, and therefore, over five intakes, we are expecting to train 40 PhD students in Mental Health and Neuroscience.

### 2022 Cohort and Projects

We recruited 5 PhD students for the 2022 cohort that was only open to healthcare professionals, 3 at the University of Birmingham, 1 at the University of Nottingham and 1 at the University of Warwick. The successful candidates' and their projects are:

#### *University of Birmingham*

Verity Jones: Models of co-production in Youth Mental Health service delivery - Sarah-Jane Fenton

Edward Palmer: Inflammation and Psychosis: the cortical and cellular effects of IL6 inhibition - Rachel Upthegrove

Jamie Talbot: Computational approaches to the negative symptoms of psychosis – Matthew Apps

#### *University of Nottingham*

Laurence Astill Wright: Neuromodulation in common mental disorder; digital intervention to promote self-management in bipolar disorder, health anxiety or loss of motivation in depression; safety of co-prescribed medication used in mood disorders and physical disorders – Richard Morriss

#### *University of Warwick*

Naomi Williams: Mental health conditions in children and young people with intellectual disability and autism: Prevalence and service access – Hayley Crawford

### 2023 Recruitment

The 2023 cohort will also be only open for healthcare professionals wishing to be registered at the University of Nottingham (aiming for an intake of N=3), University of Leicester (N=2) and University of Warwick (N=1).

Due to the University of Birmingham recruiting 3 students in the 2022 cycle we will not be accepting project proposals from lead supervisors at Birmingham in the 2023 recruitment cycle. We are however still encouraging Birmingham supervisors to be approached as external supervisors for any projects being led by Leicester, Nottingham, and Warwick.

Projects are grouped under our [five thematic areas](#), and project specific information and your contact details will be featured on our [DTP website](#).

### Supervisor Eligibility

To be compliant with university policy, supervisors must meet the below eligibility criteria to submit a project as lead supervisor. We actively encourage those who do not meet the criteria to be considered for lead supervision, to reach out to discuss secondary supervisor opportunities.

Cross institutional supervisory teams are encouraged, please aim to have at least one supervisor from one of the 3 partner institutions, however, if you are unable to confirm an external supervisor prior to the submission deadline please do not let this deter you from submitting as we will be able to assist in finding a complimentary supervisor.

#### Criteria

- Have acted as supervisor or co-supervisor for a successful student (PhD awarded)
- Have a substantive contract with one of the four universities
- Be able to send details of your last 3 completed PhD students (minimum 1 completed PhD student)
- Did not have a project recruited to in the 2022 round
- Can confirm sufficient supervisory time for the clinical PhD fellows by providing cumulative FTE for postgraduate students (we recognize the very different commitments of academics)

#### Project Submission

The initial shortlisting will be via the Deputy Directors and Assistant Deputy Directors of each University, taking into consideration the number of fellows that each University seeks to appoint (we may cap the number of projects to be advertised at a maximum of 10:1), the spread across the research themes, and appeal to likely candidates from diverse professional backgrounds. Please feel free to contact Deputy and Assistant Deputy Director to discuss project fit.

Once you have developed your project, confirmed your eligibility as lead supervisor via criteria above, please send your project to the Deputy Director and Assistant Deputy Director for consideration (as listed below). If they are supportive of your project, they will direct you to complete the [project submission form](#). The form can be accessed via the link above for you to review the content and work on your project submission offline, please do not submit a form prior to confirming support.

Please note that submission of a project does not guarantee that your project will be successful, as this is dependent on the student applications received. Please expect to be contacted by potential applicants to discuss your project in further detail prior to them submitting their official application with the DTP.

#### Deadline

We appreciate that this is a short submission timeframe, but all project submissions must be received by no later than **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November**. This is as we aim to go live on the website by Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November.

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Dorothee Auer	Director for University of Nottingham* *until Deputy Director role is filled	<a href="mailto:Dorothee.auer@nottingham.ac.uk">Dorothee.auer@nottingham.ac.uk</a>
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Kind Regards

*Dorothee Auer (University of Nottingham), Matthew Broome (University of Birmingham), Noelle Robertson (University of Leicester), Swaran Singh (University of Warwick)*

*On behalf of the wider Midlands MHN DTP Executive Board*