

Job Description

Job title	Research Associate- EMPOWER Dementia Network
School / department	The Geller Institute of Ageing and Memory
Grade	Up to Grade B, P32
Line manager	Professor of Ageing and Dementia
Responsible for (direct reports)	N/A
Date of creation or review	03/09/2024

Main purpose of the job

We are seeking an innovative talented individual to join us as a Research Assistant for the national Dementia Network EMPOWER- Empowering a Meaningful Life for All. The Network brings together researchers in dementia care, social care, primary care and palliative care, with lived experts and communities to realize sustained change to support and empower equalities in care for people living and dying with dementia, and their families. The Network is funded the UKRI Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).

This is opportunity to join a multidisciplinary network across health and social care with university and community partners and lived experts by experience. The Network is co-led by Professor Emma Wolverson at the Geller Institute of Ageing and Memory, University of West London and Catherine Evans, King's College London.

The Network aims to identify, promote and sustain high-quality care for people with dementia and complex needs, and their families, for them to live as well as possible throughout the disease trajectory, including into end of life and bereavement.

You will support the networks patient and public involvement (PPI) panel and help to increase and diversify membership to this group. You will support the networks co-production panel in developing and harnessing creative and inclusive approaches for meaningful engagement and collaboration. You will support community partners in joining the network and through creating opportunities for networking and knowledge exchange.

In addition, the post holder will have career development opportunities, including contributing to the writing and development of study outputs, research funding applications and the delivery of postgraduate education programmes within GIAM.

This is a part-time role (80%) on a fixed term contract until 31st March 2028. The role will involve some UK travel which will be reimbursed.

Key areas of responsibility

1. Support the day-to-day organisation and delivery of the network.
2. Work with the network PI's (Professor Wolverson and Professor Evans) and the network led to ensure that the network is fulfilling its objectives, meeting its targets, and producing meaningful outputs.
3. Support the delivery of literature reviews to support network activities.
4. Coordinate outreach and recruitment to the network liaising with community organisations and experts by experience.
5. Support the networks patient and public engagement panel.
6. Support the co-production programme and the design and delivery of outputs, dissemination, and impact.
7. Contribute to writing of publications, reports, and outputs. Lead maintenance of a study reference database.
8. Provide support in network administration including organising meetings and making action notes.

In addition to the above areas of responsibility the post-holder maybe required to undertake any other reasonable duties relating to the broad scope of the position, commensurate with the post, and in support of the University.

Dimensions / background information

The Geller Institute of Ageing and Memory

We are a flagship Institute at the University of West London (UWL), delivering interdisciplinary applied research and education. Our focus is on delivering the evidence to inform high quality, cutting edge, health and social care to benefit people living with dementia, older people, and their care partners and families.

At the heart of our mission is to ensure the most vulnerable populations of people living with dementia and older people have better experiences of health and social care and are supported in living well and living at home for longer. All our research and education programmes are guided by an inclusive approach.

We are an interdisciplinary team, with expertise in sociology, psychology, social policy, epidemiology, nursing, and philosophy, with our research drawing upon a wide range of methodologies.

Our research funding incorporates Department of Health and Social Care contracts (via NIHR), funding from national and international charities, and philanthropic support. We have established a reputation for the rapid translation of our research into impact, which is informing public discourse, shaping the policy agenda, and translated into practice improvements.

Our postgraduate education programmes offer interdisciplinary, research focused, evidence-based teaching and supervision. Our postgraduate courses are designed to cultivate leaders in ageing and dementia care, and improve practice across health and social care settings.

The Institute is based within The School of Medicine and Biosciences. For further details and to see our team, please visit: <https://www.uwl.ac.uk/research/research-centres-and-groups/geller-institute-ageing-and-memory>

The School of Medicine and Biosciences

The School of Medicine and Biosciences at UWL, is an interdisciplinary research-driven School, embedded within an area of West London with diverse populations and significant pockets of both deprivation and affluence. We work in partnership with policy makers and practitioners to improve the health of our communities and reduce inequalities, developing and delivering hyperlocal health and social care initiatives, which have the potential to scale up locally and nationally. We deliver research-led undergraduate and postgraduate taught courses in Biosciences and Dementia Care. Our research themes: Ageing and dementia; Healthcare inequalities; Public Health; Gene-targeted cancer therapy; and Translational Medicine.

This post is based in Ealing, West London. The applicant will be required to travel for some meetings and events, expenses will be paid.

Person Specification

Criteria		Demonstrated ²
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		Essential or Desirable¹	Applic ation	Intervi ew	Test / Exercis e
Qualifications and/or membership of prof. bodies	PhD or working towards a PhD in health or social sciences or similar	Essential	X	X	
Specific skills to the job	Experience of conducting research with people with dementia and/or their family carers	Essential	x	x	
	Experience of involvement of lived experts by experience in research and/or community partners	Essential	x	x	
	Experience of collaboration with community / charitable organisations	Essential	x	x	
	Excellent written and oral communication skills. Able to produce high quality reports and papers.	Essential	x	x	
	Understanding and experience of co-production methodologies	Desirable	x	x	
	Experience of conducting literature reviews	Desirable	x	x	
General skills	Excellent organisational and time and project management skills, ability to work to deadlines and prioritise competing workloads	Essential	x	x	
	Ability to work independently as well as part of a team	Essential	x	x	

<p>Disclosure and Barring Scheme Is a DBS Check required: DBS (This post requires an enhanced DBS check - with Adult Barred Check <input type="checkbox"/>)</p> <p>Before making a selection, please refer to the University's Disclosure and Barring Checks Guidance for Staff and Criminal Convictions, Disclosures and Barring Staff Policy and Procedure. If a DBS check is required for the role, a Check Approval Form will need to be completed.</p>					
<p>¹Essential Criteria are those, without which, a candidate would not be able to do the job. Applicants who have not clearly demonstrated in their application that they possess the essential requirements will normally be rejected at the shortlisting stage.</p> <p>Desirable Criteria are those that would be useful for the post holder to possess and will be considered when more than one applicant meets the essential requirements, to determine which applicants to shortlist.</p> <p>² Demonstration: Select the Recruitment Process stage at which the candidates will have to demonstrate that they meet the criteria. Criteria which have to be demonstrated at application stage should be mentioned in the Recruitment Information Pack as Pre-Selection/Killer Questions, Shortlisting Questions or Shortlisting Criteria. Other criteria should be evaluated and tested at interview stage (e.g. through interview questions) or through additional tests, exercises or presentations. Criteria can (and should) be demonstrated at multiple stages.</p>					