Senior Research Fellow

Health Sciences

Closing date: 9 June 2019

Interview date: To be confirmed

Vacancy reference: 7606
INTRODUCTION

The York Trials Unit (YTU) is one of the UK’s leading centres for the design and analysis of randomised controlled trials. YTU are also one of only seven Royal College of Surgeons registered trials unit and consequently one of our programmes of work is around surgical trials. The Unit’s multidisciplinary team works in partnership with colleagues to undertake national and international, scientifically rigorous, randomised trials of the effectiveness and efficiency of existing or potential health care interventions. Our portfolio of trials include those in surgery, mental health, addictions, musculoskeletal disorders, education and public health.

Due to the continued success of the Unit we are seeking to appoint a highly motivated Senior Research Fellow to join our multidisciplinary team and be an active member of the Unit’s Senior Management Team. Applications are welcomed from candidates with a background in any aspect of trials (e.g. trial management, statistics, economics, qualitative research) but you must have a well-established national and international reputation in clinical trials. With a vision and drive to contribute to a World-Leading research portfolio you will make a significant impact on the performance, stature and profile of research at The University of York.
Main purpose of the role

- To devise, direct and develop research projects and to generate significant external research funding
- Pursuing a programme of individual and collaborative research, resulting in high quality publications and a national and international profile to attract and coordinate major initiatives;
- To lead research projects and teams which may be drawn from several disciplines and located in several geographic regions or countries.

Key responsibilities

(Role holders will be required to undertake some or all of the duties below)

- To contribute to the development of the research of the University by managing significant areas of research activity within clinical trials, resolving problems affecting the delivery of research projects within own area and in accordance with regulations
- To contribute actively to knowledge creation and dissemination that fits with the overall Department and University strategy, to include developing research proposals independently or in collaboration and writing publications worthy of REF inclusion
- To present at specialist national and international conferences and public engagement events
- To actively seek and attract funding for research and to hold grants, acting as principal investigator on research projects where appropriate
- To provide evidence of research impact as defined by the relevant research council delivery plans and to develop a strategy to ensure that your research has the potential for impact beyond academia
- Contributing to the management of the Trials Unit, Department or cross University interdisciplinary initiatives by taking on appropriate leadership, management and administrative responsibility
- To contribute to national or international bodies and disseminate knowledge through national and international networks and organisations
- Promoting the integration of your own research area with other research interests, in the Department and University
- Undertaking, as required, research-led teaching at different levels, with engagement in continual improvement in response to student and other feedback, and contribute to administrative activities of the Department including the supervision of research students
- Participating in the recruitment, management and development of staff as well as acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues
- To line manage staff as required including managing and developing performance and review the personal and professional development plans of each.

These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.
## PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td>PhD in a relevant field, for example clinical trials, health services research or medical statistics, or equivalent experience</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Well-established national and international reputation in clinical trials research</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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### Knowledge

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<th>Knowledge</th>
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<tr>
<td>Expert knowledge in clinical trials to engage in publicly evidenced high quality research</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Awareness of the UK funding streams available and the current agenda around research funding</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Has research expertise in an area that will complement and enhance the department’s research strategy and goals</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>A clear strategy to connect across the different research groups within the University</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Significant expertise in surgical trials and/or process evaluations</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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### Skills, abilities and competencies

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<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td>A high level of interpersonal and communication skills with the ability to communicate new and complex information effectively, both verbally and in writing, engaging the interest and enthusiasm of the target audience</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to lead research projects and teams which may be drawn from several disciplines and located in several geographic regions or countries</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrable public profile in own area of research with a national or international recognition of expertise, publishing regularly in recognised high quality journals and attracting funding within department’s academic and research plan</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>A clear and compelling academic plan that will deliver academic and more general impact at an international level</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>The potential and commitment to undertake high quality and innovative teaching and gain a higher education teaching qualification or award</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>The ability to lead projects and organise, balance and prioritise work commitments.</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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## PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<th>Experience</th>
<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td>Experience of delivering sustained and consistent, publicly-verifiable, research output of high quality with evidence of impact and esteem within clinical trials</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Experience of presenting at national and international conferences and/or symposia</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Evidence of influencing policy and/or contribution to national or international bodies</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Evidence of active participation in the planning and advancement of research projects</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Proven experience of attracting and obtaining significant external research funding to support your research activity</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Experience of building and leading successful research teams</td>
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<td>Successful management of research projects including managing the work of a research team and providing them with expert advice and guidance</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Evidence of building strong working relationships within and, as appropriate, beyond your own discipline and to contribute to successful projects and collaborations</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Experience of delivering and engaging with student education where opportunities have existed</td>
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<td>Experience of successful cross-disciplinary and collaborative working</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<td>Experience of involvement in postgraduate research supervision</td>
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### Personal attributes

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<th>Leadership qualities</th>
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<tr>
<td>Attention to detail and commitment to high quality</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Collaborative ethos</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Commitment to promoting the public understanding of research and scholarship</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Positive attitude to colleagues and students and their professional development</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Willingness to work proactively with colleagues in other work areas/institutions</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to plan and prioritise own work in order to meet deadlines</td>
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<td>Commitment to personal development and updating of knowledge and skills and that of the team where appropriate</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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THE DEPARTMENT

The Department has a strong culture of delivering research impact and in doing research that makes a difference. A key object of our research is to ensure our work has high visibility and impact with national and international audiences. This includes producing evidence which enables practitioners and policy makers to develop more effective interventions and gain insight into how social and economic context mediates the experience of health and the provision of health care.

We are also concerned to develop more speculative and theoretically-informed work critically evaluating the underlying assumptions of policy and practice. To achieve these impacts, we work closely with practitioners, policy makers and other researchers to share knowledge and disseminate our findings. We are equally committed to public and civil engagement and in sustaining our partnerships with third sector organisations and non-Government organisations.

In 2015/2016 the Department’s research related income was over £6.8 million, with over 120 staff actively involved in research. Funding comes from a number of sources including the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), the Department of Health, the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), Medical Research Council (MRC), the British Heart Foundation (BHF), Cancer Research UK, Wellcome and Bloodwise.

In the most recent assessment of research quality in the UK (the 2014 Research Excellence Framework), the Department, along with its partners, the Centre for Health Economics, the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination and the Hull York Medical School, was ranked 7th nationally in the subject area of public health, health services and primary care. Members of the Department also contributed to returns in Sociology (ranked first) and Social Policy (ranked third).

Eighty three per cent of outputs submitted by our academic staff members have been judged as world leading or internationally excellent in terms of originality, significance and rigour. Our impacts were also judged to be outstanding or very considerable in terms of reach and significance. The department was ranked equal first nationally for its research environment and all aspects of our research environment was judged to producing research of world-leading quality in terms of vitality and sustainability.

Integral to our mission is career support, including doctoral studentships and fellowships, as well as the supportive management of those reaching the end of their research contracts.

The Department is located in modern, purpose-built accommodation on the University’s Heslington West Campus and includes 280 academics, teachers, researchers and
support staff engaged in delivering research, professional development, education and training. Teaching and research programmes are underpinned by excellent administrative support systems for staff.

Our core aim is excellence in teaching and research, while contributing to improving health and healthcare through the application of our research to policy and practice. We are committed to having our teaching underpinned by our internationally renowned research. The University has an institutional research strategy www.york.ac.uk/research/ to which the Department contributes by developing strong and well-resourced research groups.

Our research is characterised by: interdisciplinary and international collaboration; a robust scientific foundation; and relevance for policy and practice. The Department organises its research activities around six core themes: mental health and addiction (Professor Simon Gilbody); trials and statistics (Professor David Torgerson); public health and society (Professor Kate Pickett); cancer epidemiology (Professor Eve Roman); cardiovascular health (Professor Patrick Doherty); and health services and policy (Professor Karen Bloor).

We have strong research and teaching links with the Hull York Medical School (HYMS), supported through a number of HYMS posts embedded our Department. We also have strong links with other centres and departments at York, including the Centre for Health Economics (CHE) and the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD), as well as other leading UK and international centres of applied health research.

Our research focus is supported by access to and innovative use of population data (including Department-led patient-based data systems), in addition to intervention studies conducted by the Department’s trials unit (York Trials Unit) and expertise in secondary data analysis, systematic reviewing and qualitative research. Academic disciplines represented in the Department include epidemiology, biostatistics, health economics, social policy, sociology and applied psychology. Our multi-disciplinary staff group also includes clinical academics involved in public health, primary care and mental health.

Our research rests on close partnerships with health and social care agencies and local and national government, in addition to various third sector organisations and international agencies, such as the World Health Organisation (WHO).

We currently have over 1000 enrolled students on our suite of health professional education programmes enjoying the highest standards of professional and academic training in a lively and stimulating environment.
THE DEPARTMENT

At pre-registration level we offer a range of different approaches to studying nursing. Our three year BSc nursing programme spans all four fields of practice (Adult, Child, Learning Disability and Mental Health). We also offer a fast track route to registration for graduates wishing to undertake nursing as a second degree. The Post Graduate Diploma programme is a two year shortened programme for existing graduates wishing to undertake a pre-registration nursing programme in either Adult or Mental Health. We have also developed a 4 year Integrated Masters option for candidates wishing to register as either Adult or Mental Health nurses with a special interest in community and primary care.

We are a highly regarded provider of nurse education achieving status as number one in England for Nursing (2014) by The Guardian League Table. A number of our nursing students have been nominated for and won prestigious Student Nursing Times awards during their pre-registration studies with us. Department of Health Sciences has an international reputation in the area of evidence based practice and teaching across our professional programmes is specifically designed to allow candidates to apply this knowledge to clinical practice.

In terms of Midwifery we also offer a small BA (Midwifery) programme which is one of the most oversubscribed and popular programmes of its kind in the UK. This programme has a strong interpersonal caring focus and has achieved prestigious accreditation with UNICEF for being 'Baby Friendly'.

Our Continuing Professional Development (CPD) / Specialist Skills Post Registration Development (SSPRD) programmes are designed to allow existing registrants to top up their clinical nursing skills in line with local and national health priorities such as long term conditions management, advanced nursing practice and primary care. On these programmes students balance part time study with work applying new knowledge to practice with the aim of enhancing patient care.

The content and delivery of our programmes is developed in partnership with local employers and is specifically designed to meet strategic workforce need locally and nationally. We have excellent relationships with our partner organisations across North Yorkshire in the NHS, not for profit and private healthcare sectors. Our graduates seeking work at the end of the programme achieve close to 100% employment within six months of qualifying and are held in high regard by employers locally and nationally. Each year a number of our graduates choose to take up employment in prestigious national teaching hospitals such as Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge, The Christie Hospital in Manchester, Great Ormond Street Hospital in London and The Maudsley Hospital.

We currently have over 200 postgraduate students in our Graduate School which provides a vibrant, multidisciplinary learning environment. We offer a diverse range of full- and parttime taught and research-based postgraduate degrees designed for those wishing to develop and follow a career in public health, health services research and other health-related areas.

With respect to the taught programmes available, we have a Master in Public Health which runs in association with the Hull York Medical School, is suitable for students from a wide variety of disciplines who wish to pursue careers as public health practitioners or work in governmental or nongovernmental organisations, both in the UK and overseas. The Department also offers an MSc in Applied Health Research which is particularly relevant for science and social science graduates interested in a career in health services research and health professionals who wish to develop their research skills. Many students from both programmes go on to complete PhD studies. In addition, we run an on-line MSc in International Humanitarian Affairs which allows field practitioners to engage with, and explore the fast-changing, contemporary debates over the theory, policy and practice of humanitarian affairs.

Our PhD students are embedded in one of our research groups and have the flexibility to tailor their studies to pursue their own research interests, and a bespoke training programme is designed in conjunction with the supervisory team to support the development of essential subject-specific and transferable skills for their future careers.

For more details about the Department of Health Sciences and our teaching and research activities please visit our website: http://www.york.ac.uk/healthsciences/
Founded on principles of excellence, equality and opportunity for all, the University of York opened in 1963 with just 230 students. In 2019 it is the home of more than 18,000 students across more than 30 academic departments and research centres. Since opening over fifty years ago, we have become one of the world's leading universities and a member of the prestigious Russell Group.

We are consistently recognised as one of the leading Higher Education Institutes and one of just six post-war universities to have appeared in the world top 100. We were rated 22nd in the 2019 Times & Sunday Times league table. The University of York has won six Times Higher Education (THE) Awards and five Queen's Anniversary Prizes.

The University is proud of its association with Athena SWAN, holding multiple awards in support of gender equality, representation and success for all, with gold awards for Chemistry and Biology and a University-wide bronze award.

Of 154 universities that took part in the Research Excellence Framework (REF) in 2014, The University of York ranked 14th overall and 10th for the impact of our research. The University is consistently in the top ten UK research universities and attracts over £60m a year of funding from research alone.

Our vision is to make the University of York a world leader in the creation of knowledge through fundamental and applied research, the sharing of knowledge by teaching students from varied backgrounds and the application of knowledge for the health, prosperity and well-being of people and society.
The University

Attractive workplace

Centred around the picturesque village of Heslington on the edge of the city of York, our colleges are set in an attractive landscaped campus. York enjoys a safe, friendly atmosphere with facilities including bars, shops, theatres and concert halls all within easy walking distance.

The University has undergone an unprecedented period of expansion and renewal since 2000. We have invested in twenty new buildings on the original campus and have completed the first and second phases of a £750m campus expansion. Our investment in new colleges, teaching and learning spaces, laboratories, research facilities and a new sports village mean there has never been a better time to join us.

During this period of change we’ve worked hard to retain our friendly, informal and collegiate atmosphere, which is important to our core values of inclusivity and interdisciplinarity.

We have a thriving international community and are committed to providing staff moving to York with as much support as possible through our Relocation Package and Welcome Officers.

The University is committed to promoting a diverse and inclusive community - a place where we can all be ourselves and succeed on merit. We offer a range of family friendly, inclusive employment policies, flexible working arrangements, staff engagement forums, campus facilities and services to support staff from different backgrounds.

For further information please visit our employee benefit pages.
The City of York

Internationally acclaimed for its rich heritage and historic architecture, York's bustling streets are filled with visitors from all over the world. Within its medieval walls you will find the iconic gothic Minster, Clifford's Tower and the Shambles - just a few of the many attractions.

But York isn’t just a great place to visit - it’s also a great place to live and work. While nourishing a vibrant cosmopolitan atmosphere, York still maintains the friendly sense of community unique to a small city.

Visit www.visityork.org for more information on the city of York.

Shopping, culture and entertainment

York boasts specialist and unique boutiques but also all the high street stores on its busy shopping streets. Alongside them you will find cinemas, theatres, an opera house, art galleries, a vast range of restaurants, live music venues and clubs. York is particularly renowned for its multitude of pubs and bars, from the modern to the medieval.

Housing and schools

Whether you choose to live close to the city, in one of the surrounding villages or further afield, you will find a wide range of housing within comfortable distance of York and the University. For families, the area has a range of excellent schools both in the state and independent sector.

Great location

York is one of Britain’s best-connected cities. Halfway between London and Edinburgh on the East Coast mainline, on intercity trains you can reach London King’s Cross in less than two hours and Edinburgh in two and a half hours. York is also well served by road links, and it is easily accessible from the A1, M1 and the M62.

For those travelling from overseas, Manchester Airport is two hours away and Heathrow Airport just three and a half. Flights from nearby Leeds Bradford Airport provide easy access to mainland Europe. By Eurostar from London St Pancras, Paris is just over six hours away.

Yorkshire

The Lonely Planet guide recently declared Yorkshire the third best region in the world to visit. There is something to cater to every taste, whether it be the rugged landscapes of the Moors or the Dales, the picturesque seaside towns of Scarborough and Robin Hoods Bay, the gothic architecture of Whitby or the vibrancy of cosmopolitan Leeds.
Apply online

- Go to https://jobs.york.ac.uk
- Find this job using reference 7606
- Complete the online application form

You will need to submit your completed application by midnight (local UK time) on 9 June 2019

What will I need?

You will need to upload:

- your CV
- a letter describing how you meet the requirements of the job

You will also need details of 3 referees.

Help and assistance

Direct any informal queries to Professor David Torgerson (Director, York Trials Unit), david.torgerson@york.ac.uk or Professor Catherine Hewitt (Deputy Director, York Trials Unit), catherine.hewitt@york.ac.uk

If you have any questions about your application, contact the HR Services team:

recruitment@york.ac.uk
+44 (0)1904 324835