



## 1 Advertisement

**Post Title:** Senior Research Fellow

**School/department:** Brighton and Sussex Medical School, SHORE-C

**Hours:** Full Time hours considered up to 1FTE. Requests for flexible working options will be considered (subject to business need).

**Contract:** Permanent

**Reference:** 9904

**Salary:** starting at £53,353 to £61,823 per annum, pro rata

**Placed on:** 07 November 2022

**Closing date:** 06 December 2022. Applications must be received by midnight of the closing date.

**Expected Interview date:** TBC

**Expected start date:** As soon as possible

Applications are invited for an experienced Research Fellow to join the Sussex Health Outcomes Research and Education in Cancer (SHORE-C) unit within BSMS, based at the University of Sussex. Applicants must have a PhD in Health Psychology or related discipline and post-doctoral experience in areas such as the design and/or interpretation of patient reported outcome measures, clinical or intervention trials, interviewing skills and/or teaching communication.

The SHORE-C group conducts a variety of projects including:- the measurement of quality of life in cancer treatment trials, studies examining patient preferences for different treatments, communication and other interventional studies. It is expected that the person appointed will be keen to take on a leadership role for the development of new studies, and have already demonstrated ability at attracting research funding.

The successful candidate will initially work collaboratively with other members of the team on a variety of on-going projects but be expected to ultimately lead and develop others.

Please contact [adminshore-c@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:adminshore-c@sussex.ac.uk) for informal enquiries.

The University is committed to equality and valuing diversity, and applications are particularly welcomed from women and black and minority ethnic candidates, who are under-represented in academic posts in Science, Technology, Engineering, Medicine and Mathematics (STEMM) at Sussex.

*Please note that this position may be subject to [ATAS clearance](#) if you require visa sponsorship.*

For full details and how to apply see our [vacancies page](#)

[www.brighton.ac.uk/jobs](http://www.brighton.ac.uk/jobs)

[www.bsms.ac.uk](http://www.bsms.ac.uk)

*The University of Sussex values the diversity of its staff and students and we welcome applicants from all backgrounds.*

## 2. The School / Division

Please find further information regarding the school/division at:

SHORE-C: <https://shore-c.sussex.ac.uk/>

BSMS: <https://www.bsms.ac.uk/research/clinical-and-experimental-medicine/oncology/index.aspx>

## 3. Job Description

**Job Description for the post of:** Senior Research Fellow in Psycho-oncology

**Department:** Sussex Health Outcomes Research and Education in Cancer (SHORE-C)

**Section/Unit/School:** Brighton and Sussex Medical School

**Location:** Falmer Campus, University of Sussex

**Grade:** 9

**Responsible to:** Professor Dame Lesley Fallowfield

**Responsible for:** N/A

**Key contacts:** Members of research group, members of faculty within the School and University, academics in the field in other institutions.

**Role Description:** This is a career-grade research position. Post-holders will be expected to take a senior role within a research team, be able to demonstrate an established research portfolio, and a growing reputation in their field of study. They will also be expected to provide support and guidance to less experienced members of staff.

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## PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. To engage in high-quality research activity resulting in high quality publications; to be submitted to the REF at acceptable levels of volume and academic excellence (for Principal Investigators); to lead research projects or research initiatives within the School where appropriate; to secure research funding and third-stream income; and to contribute to the School's research strategy.
2. To contribute to School activities.

## **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **1. Research, Scholarship & Enterprise**

- 1.1 Contribute to the development of School research strategies and themes.
- 1.2 Identify and develop research objectives and proposals for own and joint research.
- 1.3 Carry out independent research and act as a Principal Investigator or project leader on major research projects. This may involve leading and line-managing the staff including their recruitment, probation, mentoring, performance review and staff development; managing the budget, and taking responsibility for the delivery of the programme.
- 1.4 Define research objectives and questions, review and synthesise the outcomes of research studies, and develop ideas for application of research outcomes.
- 1.5 Develop proposals for major research projects which will make a significant impact, and lead to an increase in knowledge or understanding, or the development of new explanations, insights, concepts or processes.
- 1.6 Produce high-quality research outputs that have significant impact in the field, for publication in monographs or recognised high-quality journals, or performance/exhibition, as appropriate, and make a significant contribution to the School's REF submission at acceptable levels of volume and academic excellence.
- 1.7 Make presentations at national or international conferences or exhibit work in other appropriate events of a similar standing and identify ways to disseminate research outputs informally via the internet, the media and other forms of public engagement.
- 1.8 Develop and maintain an independent research reputation by, for example, serving on peer review committees, acting as a referee for journal articles and research grant applications.
- 1.9 Contribute to the internal co-ordination of the REF assessment exercise where appropriate.
- 1.10 Provide academic leadership to those working within relevant research areas.
- 1.11 Play a leading role in identifying sources of funding and secure and/or contribute to the process of securing bids.
- 1.12 Play a lead role in identifying and securing opportunities for enterprise activity, knowledge exchange income and/or consultancy.
- 1.13 Actively build internal and external contacts and play a key role in internal networks and relevant external networks in order to, for example, identify sources of funding, secure student placements, and build relationships for future activities.
- 1.14 Develop successful links with external contacts such as other educational and research bodies, businesses, the public sector, professional bodies and other

providers of funding and research initiatives to foster collaboration and generate income.

- 1.15 Play a role in a relevant national professional body or recognised events.
- 1.16 Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism and engage in continuous professional development.
- 1.17 Conduct risk assessments and take responsibility for the health and safety of others, if required.

## **2. Contribution to School & University**

- 2.1 Attend and contribute to relevant School and project meetings.
- 2.2 Contribute to the overall management of the School in areas such as budget management and business planning, if required.
- 2.3 Play a key role in School or University working groups or committees, as required.
- 2.4 Be involved in departmental level strategic planning and contribute to University strategic planning processes if required.
- 2.5 Advise and provide support to less experienced colleagues, and conduct Performance and Development Reviews, as required.
- 2.6 Undertake additional duties, as required by the Head of School.

## **3. Role-specific duties**

- 3.1 Deal with research/project communications using a range of media to disseminate complex specialist information orally, in writing and electronically to collaborators in a wide range of organisations e.g. consultant oncologists, statisticians, interviewers, research nurses, administrators.
- 3.2 Review current literature on Quality of Life, communication, palliative care and prevention, understand and continually update knowledge in this specialist field. Translate this knowledge into research objectives and activities, review grant applications.
- 3.3 Manage activities within existing projects and milestones.
- 3.4 Conduct focus groups and interviews with patients, carers and healthcare professionals.

3.5 Capture patient interview data in line with Data Management standards.

3.6 Ensure Data Management standards are applied and Quality Control data.

3.7 Conduct statistical analysis.

3.8 Liaise closely with Professor Dame Lesley Fallowfield and Professor Val Jenkins to agree research objectives and plans, gather input and advice, provide regular updates to ensure goals are met.

3.9 Identify research proposals in line with unit strategy in clinical trials, prevention, communication, supportive/palliative care interventions and education.

4 Identify potential sources of funding and prepare funding proposals and applications to external bodies to secure research funding e.g. applications for multiple years funding in excess of £100k.

5 Actively engage with clinicians on a local, national and international basis to identify novel research areas and collaborative links.

This Job Description sets out current duties of the post that may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the post or level of responsibility entailed.

#### **INDICATIVE PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

- Regular published output of original research, with a significant proportion at international level (refereed journal papers, monographs, book chapters, text books).
- Responsible for leading and managing a major research group.
- Sustained success in obtaining competitively awarded research and knowledge exchange grants and contracts, with evidence of leadership in securing such awards as Principal Investigator.
- A successful track record of completed postgraduate research supervision.
- Significant involvement in knowledge creation and transfer in conjunction with partner organisations in industry, commerce, government or NGOs. This could be in the form of externally funded research, knowledge exchange and/or consultancy.
- Evidence of external profile, such as membership of professional body, editorial board or similar.
- Evidence of contribution to School policy formation and/or successful engagement in teaching or supervision.

#### **4. Person Specification**

## **ESSENTIAL CRITERIA**

1. Normally educated to doctoral level, or other equivalent qualification, or appropriate level of experience, as appropriate to the discipline (see role-specific criteria below).
2. Ability to lead and manage a major research programme.
3. Track record of significant and high-quality publications in reputable journals and other appropriate media of similar standing.
4. Successful track record of generating research and knowledge exchange income, and the translation of research results into practice.
5. Significant experience of supervising postgraduate students.
6. An emerging international reputation in the field of study.
7. Excellent presentation skills, with the proven ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with students, colleagues and external audiences.
8. Leadership and people management skills.
9. Ability to exercise a high degree of innovation and creative problem-solving.
10. Excellent organisational and administrative skills.
11. Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.
12. A willingness to participate in support activities beyond normal teaching duties.
13. Excellent IT skills.

## **ESSENTIAL ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA**

1. Proven knowledge of psychosocial oncology and/or health psychology.
2. Proven track record of conducting focus groups with patients, carers and/or healthcare professionals.
3. Proven track record of interviewing patients, carers and/or healthcare professionals.
4. Experience in the design and/or interpretation of patient reported outcome measures.

## **DESIRABLE CRITERIA**

1. Experience of generating research or knowledge exchange income.