NIHR-funded ‘Embedded’ project - Optimising the impact of health services research on the organisation and delivery of health services; a study of embedded models of knowledge co-production in the NHS

We are looking to appoint a part-time Research Engagement and Communications Manager to join the ‘Embedded’ team, a National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) funded project exploring how researchers can make a practical contribution to the improvement and redesign of NHS services.

We want to appoint someone with expertise in communication, engagement and influencing who is passionate about increasing the impact of health services research.

You will have a degree, expertise in the fields of communication, engagement and influencing and will have experience of working with health service researchers, with health service clinicians and managers and with patients.

The post-holder will be employed part time (0.5 FTE), until 30th June 2020 in the first instance, within the Research Department of Primary Care and Population Health at the UCL Institute of Epidemiology and Health Care.

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.1 Embedded Project

Managers and clinicians in the NHS are under growing pressure to improve and redesign services in a way that optimises health outcomes and controls costs. There is huge potential for health services research to make a larger contribution to this process but there is a disconnect between the theory and empirical evidence underpinning how best to design and deliver high quality health services, and what actually happens in practice. This is the challenge that Embedded has been designed to address.

Embedded will be delivered through four inter-linked work streams:

- work stream 1 comprises a review of the literature in the fields of co-production and embedded research;
- work stream 2 comprises an environmental scan of examples of embedded researchers co-producing knowledge, and a scoping review of up to 12 NHS embedded research initiatives;
- work stream 3 comprises four in-depth qualitative case studies of NHS embedded researchers and their associated networks, activities and impacts;
- work stream 4 comprises an active engagement and influencing programme to ensure that the study achieves maximum impact in the NHS.

The successful applicant will play a leading role in delivering work stream 4. To achieve this they will work closely with colleagues working on the other work streams and in doing so they will gain a deep understanding of the work of embedded researchers, the nature of the co-production process and the most effective methods and tools to encourage both.
1.2 Research Department of Primary Care & Population Health

The Research Department of Primary Care and Population Health is part of the Institute of Epidemiology and Health Care and is headed by Professor Elizabeth Murray. The Department’s strategic aim is to deliver high quality teaching in community-based primary care and public health and to undertake a programme of internationally competitive multi-disciplinary research addressing the management and prevention of disease in individuals and populations in areas which are of priority to the health of the public.

1.3 Institute of Epidemiology and Health Care

The Institute is part of the Faculty of Population Health Sciences. It comprises four Research Departments – each of which is based at one or more sites across the UCL estate - as follows:

- **Applied Health Research**: [http://www.ucl.ac.uk/dahr/](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/dahr/)
- **Epidemiology and Public Health**: [http://www.ucl.ac.uk/epidemiology/](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/epidemiology/)
- **Behavioural Science and Health**: [http://www.ucl.ac.uk/iehc/research/behavioural-science-health](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/iehc/research/behavioural-science-health)
- **Primary Care and Population Health**: [http://www.ucl.ac.uk/pcph/](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/pcph/)

Its skills mix of epidemiological, clinical, statistical and behavioural science provides the scientific basis to underpin an internationally competitive research programme focused on:

- Understanding the determinants of health & disease in populations & in patients in clinical settings;
- Evaluating strategies for the prevention & treatment of physical & mental ill health; and
- Teaching and capacity building in population health.

Our work ranges across the life-course from childhood through to old age. Our chronic disease Epidemiology focuses on the social and biological determinants of health, particularly in cardiovascular disease, and its Public Health implications. We undertake research in Primary Care to improve health outcomes. We have strong research and teaching profile in Information and quality management to support clinical practice. We participate in many national and international interdisciplinary collaborations, and have a large portfolio of research linked to UCL’s Global Health Initiative.

IEHC holds an Athena SWAN Charter Silver Award in recognition of its commitment to advancing women’s careers in science, technology, engineering, maths and medicine (STEMM) employment in academia.

The Institute Director is Professor Andrew Hayward.

Further information on IEHC can be found at: [http://www.ucl.ac.uk/iehc/](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/iehc/)

2. DETAILS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE POST

**Accountable To:** Professor Martin Marshall, Professor of Healthcare Improvement (as Principal Investigator for Embedded)

**Key working relationships:** The successful candidate will work closely with the work stream leads (Dr Vicky Ward from the University of Leeds and Professor Huw Davies from the University of St Andrews for work streams 1 and 2; Professor Justin Waring from the University of Nottingham and Professor Naomi Fulop from UCL for work stream 3; and Professor Martin Marshall, Liz Mear and Breid O’Brien for work stream 4), as well as the Research Associates based in Leeds and Nottingham.

**Based At:** Royal Free Campus (with visits to partner universities and field sites as required)

2.1 Principal objectives, duties and responsibilities

The appointee will be responsible for the following:

- Contributing to the design and development of guidance for NHS organisations who want to use an embedded researcher to help them to improve their services;
- Contributing to the design and development of guidance for researchers who want to pursue a career as an embedded researcher;
- Working with the Patient and Public Involvement group and other members of the Embedded team on the design and development of guidance about how best to involve members of the public in embedded researcher
initiatives;
- Developing a job description for an embedded researcher and a description of the attitudes, skills and knowledge required to be effective;
- Developing a series of case studies and commissioning an animation to explain how the embedded role works in practice;
- Creating and supporting a network of people interested in developing the idea of bringing researchers and practitioners closer together;
- Leading on a social media presence using blogs and tweets to raise the profile and potential of embedded research;
- Support researchers to produce a series of publications in professional and academic journals, and presentations at conferences/seminars in the UK and internationally, to help disseminate the project learning.
- Any other responsibilities identified by Professor Marshall as the project develops, in discussion with the post holder.

3. PERSONAL SPECIFICATION

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<th>Qualifications / Certification</th>
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<tr>
<td>Undergraduate degree in relevant subject or equivalent or having acquired substantial relevant experience</td>
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<td>Masters degree in relevant subject</td>
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<th>Experience / Knowledge</th>
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<td>Experience of working closely with health service researchers and with NHS clinicians and managers</td>
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<td>Experience of managing projects</td>
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<td>Experience of producing high quality written and visual content to share learning and raise the profile of projects</td>
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<td>Experience of handling confidential information in a sensitive manner</td>
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<td>Experience of working on projects which aim to increase the impact of research findings</td>
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<th>Skills</th>
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<td>Proven ability to engage and manage a wide range of stakeholder groups</td>
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<td>Proven project management skills, with a track record of delivering projects on time and within budget and working under pressure</td>
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<td>Excellent interpersonal, oral and written communication skills</td>
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<td>A methodical and accurate approach to work with attention to detail and a willingness to adapt and innovate</td>
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<td>Ability to work both independently and collaboratively</td>
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<td>Excellent IT skills</td>
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<th>Aptitude</th>
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<td>Desire to increase the impact of health services research</td>
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<td>Desire to work as part of a team, developing ideas and methods with peers</td>
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<td>The highest ethical and professional standards in all areas of work</td>
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<td>Highly self-motivated and hard working</td>
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<td>Commitment to continuous professional development</td>
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4. TERMS & CONDITIONS OF APPOINTMENT

Salary
The salary for this post is on Grade 7, £34,635 - £41,864 per annum, inclusive of London Allowance of £3,031 (pro-rata for part time staff). Progression through the salary scale is incremental following satisfactory completion of a probationary period. Cost of living pay awards are negotiated nationally and are normally effective from 1st August each year.

The post is advertised half-time (0.5fte) until 30th June 2020 in the first instance.
Terms and Conditions and Staff Benefits

Please follow the links in the advertisement for information on UCL Terms and Conditions for Research and Support Staff.

Equal Opportunities
UCL’s equal opportunity policy is that in the recruitment, selection, education and assessment of students, and in the recruitment, selection, training, appraisal, development and promotion of staff, the only consideration must be that the individual meets, or is likely to meet the requirements of the post. Please see http://www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/docs/equal_opportunity.php for details

5. APPLICATIONS PROCEDURE

For an informal discussion about the post please contact Professor Martin Marshall: martin.marshall@ucl.ac.uk

Applications should be completed on line http://www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/jobs/, however if you are having difficulty accessing the on-line recruitment system please contact Corinne Ward: c.ward@ucl.ac.uk for advice.

6. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Please use these links to find out more about:

- Employee benefits: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/benefits/employee_benefits.php
- Further information about UCL: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/docs/UCLstandard_information.php
- Further information about the School of Life and Medical Sciences: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/slms/vacancies/supplementary-information
INSTITUTIONAL PROFILES

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON
A full profile can be found at: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/docs/UCLstandard_information.php

SCHOOL OF LIFE AND MEDICAL SCIENCES
A full profile can be found at: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/slms/about-us

It comprises four Faculties:
- Life Sciences http://www.ucl.ac.uk/lifesciences-faculty/
- Brain Sciences http://www.ucl.ac.uk/brain-sciences
- Medical Sciences http://www.ucl.ac.uk/medical-sciences/
- Population Health Sciences http://www.ucl.ac.uk/populationhealth-sciences

UCL MEDICAL SCHOOL
Further information can be found at: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/medicalschool/undergraduate/about-medicalschool

INSTITUTE OF EPIDEMIOLOGY AND HEALTH CARE
Further information can be found at: www.ucl.ac.uk/iehc