



NIHR ARC East of England

Fellowship Supervisors



Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Dr. Adam Wagner

Health Economist/Statistician (methodologist), University of East Anglia and Theme lead of Measurement of Health and Social Care, ARC East of England

About: I developed into a quantitative researcher, following an interest in pursuing applied work with mathematics and computer science. Following a PhD in medical statistics and working as an applied medical statistician, I did an MSc in Health economics at UEA in 2015. I now seek to combine health economic and statistical skills in economic evaluation and health service research. I have no exclusive clinical focus, but have worked in areas such as learning/intellectual disabilities, mental health, and more recently, cystic fibrosis.

Research interests: Health economics; statistics; methodology.

Get in contact: adam.wagner@uea.ac.uk



Dr. Sarah Robinson

Director of Delivery, Health Innovation East and Implementation Lead, ARC East of England

About: I have completed a clinical doctorate 12 years ago but my passion is about improving clinical practice by embedding new ways of working. I use my background in psychology, programme management and implementation science to inform how i encourage successful impact.

Research interests: Mental health; workforce; children; older adults.

Get in contact: sarah.robinson@healthinnovationeast.co.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Professor Katherine Brown

Professor of Behaviour Change in Health, University of Hertfordshire

About: I have been in academia for more than 23 years, completing my PhD in 2005. However my research has always taken an applied approach and has included working within local authority public health. I have a long track record of collaborating with NHS and local authority colleagues on projects designed to improve health and wellbeing.

Research interests: Public health; behaviour change; intervention development; evaluation; co-production; knowledge mobilisation; health and wellbeing; prevention.

Get in contact: k.brown25@herts.ac.uk



Dr. Katherine Deane

Associate Professor, University of East Anglia

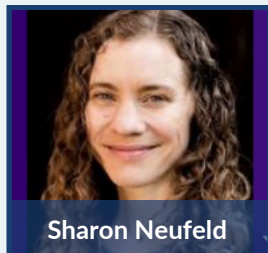
About: I am a biologist by training. Early in my career I developed a neurological condition which drew me away from lab-based research and into healthcare research. I enjoy working with people with long term conditions or disabilities to identify priorities for research, inform study design and outcome choice, and co-create interventions.

Research interests: Management of long term conditions and disabilities; disability access to healthcare; disability advocacy.

Get in contact: k.deane@uea.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Dr. Sharon Neufeld

Senior Research Associate and Wellcome Trust Fellow (Principal Investigator), University of Cambridge

About: I managed research in various clinical settings and populations (e.g. stroke patients in acute care, high-risk prenatal care, primary care focused on LGBTQ+, children with disorders of sex development), with a interest in mental health and development. I then focused on research in developmental psychiatry, analysing longitudinal epidemiological and clinical datasets of young people's mental health, where I obtained my PhD while working as a post doc (and raising 3 young children). I now am a Principal Investigator and Wellcome Trust Fellow leading a team focused on understanding mental health treatment effectiveness in children and young people using "real-world" population-based datasets.

Research interests: Mental health treatment effectiveness in children and young people; population-based datasets; change in mental health over development; transdiagnostic mental health; depression, self-harm, eating disorders; CAMHS-AMHS service transitions.

Get in contact: sasn2@cam.ac.uk



Dr. Danielle Tucker

Reader, University of Essex and Academic Knowledge Mobilisation Lead, ARC East of England

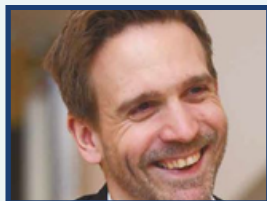
About: I have undertaken a range of academic research projects, contracted evaluations, consultancy and knowledge transfer partnerships, working with local councils, social enterprises, healthcare charities and social care community interest groups across Essex and South Suffolk. I am a British Academy Innovation Fellow, where I have partnered with organisations to transfer knowledge from academic research to practice-based toolkits.

Research interests: Organisational change, policy implementation; human resource management practices; meaning making; collaboration; integrated care; trust; communication; creation of shared meaning.

Get in contact: dtucker@essex.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Michael Hornberger

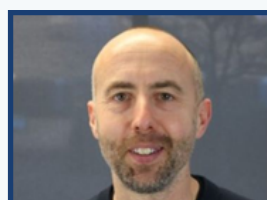
Professor Michael Hornberger

Professor of Applied Dementia Research, University of East Anglia and Deputy Theme Lead of Support for Ageing and Living with Long Term Conditions, ARC East of England

About: I have over 20 years experience in working at the interface between applied and experimental research, which I think is one of the most exciting places to be. My research has a strong focus to make a real-world difference to people with dementia and healthy older people by using cutting-edge technologies and techniques.

Research interests: Spatial disorientation; getting lost; driving in ageing and dementia; assistive technology; dementia diagnosis

Get in contact: m.hornberger@uea.ac.uk



Ben Jackson

Ben Jackson

Senior Advisor, Health Innovation East and Implementation Bridging Role, ARC East of England

About: Specialise in providing effective implementation support, assisting individuals and/or organisations in the process of implementing novel innovations, new pathways or technology. This includes technical expertise, strong communication skills, and a proactive approach to problem-solving. These skills were demonstrated in a recent acceptability and feasibility project, which established a fully remote Atrial Fibrillation detection pathway in secondary care. Over 1,200, at higher risk of AF patients accessed a free opportunity to test their heart rhythm via a smartphone application. Working alongside the Applied Research Collaboration, utilise knowledge to help build the implementation capacity within the research community across the East of England, including facilitating and leading education workshops, identifying opportunities for adoption of promising research and offering 1-2-1 support to research fellows.

Research interests: Health and wellbeing; population health management; physical activity; behaviour change; workforce development.

Get in contact: ben.jackson@healthinnovationeast.co.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



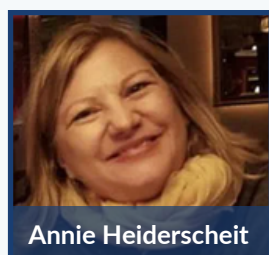
Professor Nicholas Pugh

Professor of Molecular Biology and Director of Research, Anglia Ruskin University

About: I am a researcher and lecturer, specialising in platelet biology. I have followed a traditional academic career path, completing a PhD at Imperial college, followed by Post docs at Cambridge University. I was appointed senior lecturer at ARU in 2013, and have now progressed to Professor. I am research active, having secured grant funding from the British Heart Foundation. I have little clinical experience, but my recent work is looking at autoantibodies in autoimmune disorders such as thrombocytopenia.

Research interests: Thrombosis; haemostasis; platelets; autoimmunity.

Get in contact: np24@aru.ac.uk



Professor Annie Heiderscheit

Professor of Music Therapy and Director of the Cambridge Institute for Music Therapy Research, Anglia Ruskin University

About: I have 33 years of clinical experience as a music therapist working with clients and their families in various medical, mental health, and community based settings. I have been teaching and conducting research for over 20 years.

Research interests: Music therapy; music-based interventions; critical care; mental health; eating disorders; substance use disorders; cancer care.

Get in contact: ah9185@aru.ac.uk

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ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Professor David Pearson

Professor of Cognition and Cognitive Neuroscience, Anglia Ruskin University

About: I completed an MA in Psychology at the University of Edinburgh, followed by a PhD at the University of Aberdeen. I have voluntary sector experience working with neurodivergent adults, and as a nursing assistant in a head injury rehabilitation ward.

Research interests: Memory; mental imagery; hallucinations; environmental effects on mental health.

Get in contact: david.pearson@aru.ac.uk



Professor Lee Smith

Professor of Public Health, Anglia Ruskin University

About: After several years as working as a GP Exercise Referral Specialist, I undertook a BSc in Sport and Exercise Science, then an MSc in Physical Activity and Public Health, and finally a PhD in Epidemiology. I am currently the Professor of Public Health at Anglia Ruskin University. I am mainly interested in supervising the theme "Primary prevention of ill health and prevention of escalation of health needs".

Research interests: Epidemiology; public health; health behaviours; systematic reviews and meta-analyses; evaluation.

Get in contact: If you wish to get in touch with Professor Lee Smith, please contact Academic Career Development Coordinator Alice Wreford (E: a.wreford@uea.ac.uk) who will facilitate an introduction.

Supervisor Contact Directory

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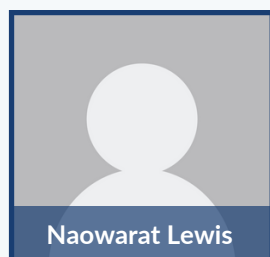
Dr. Shabnam Sadeghi Esfahlani

Associate Professor in Robotics, Anglia Ruskin University

About: My research spans advanced robotics, artificial intelligence (AI), serious games, and sustainable energy solutions. My work addresses critical challenges where robotics and automation offer transformative solutions in healthcare, engineering, and modern agriculture, mainly through innovations in robotics, AI-driven systems, and digital twins, robots to enhance the safety, independence, and well-being of vulnerable populations. In my career, I have bridged academia and industry and direct the MSc Automation and Robotics course at ARU. As a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and a Chartered Engineer (CEng) with the Engineering Council, I have mentored students and early-career researchers. I have authored numerous peer-reviewed interdisciplinary articles and successfully led over £800K in research projects funded by Innovate UK, UKRI, and the European Commission. My research focuses on AI in clinical decision-making, autonomous robot navigation, drone routing and scheduling, and sustainability.

Research interests: Robotics in healthcare; serious games for rehabilitation; autonomus systems.

Get in contact: ss48@aru.ac.uk



Dr. Naowarat Lewis

Associate Professor, Anglia Ruskin University

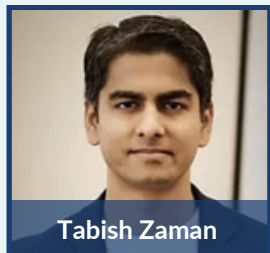
About: With a background in applied statistics, I have developed video-based learning tools to support midwifery students and am interested in exploring quantitative methods for professional healthcare.

Research interests: Educational technology

Get in contact: naowarat.lewis@aru.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Dr. Tabish Zaman

Senior Lecturer, Anglia Ruskin University

About: I began my journey into academia after completing a PhD in healthcare, where I explored the technological impact on healthcare professionals. This experience, combined with my interest in the evolving role of technology in clinical settings, fueled my transition into research and teaching, with a focus on how digital transformation affects professional identity in healthcare.

Research interests: Digital transformation in healthcare; professional identity, technological impact on healthcare professionals; innovation in business and healthcare; organizational change.

Get in contact: tabish.zaman@aru.ac.uk



Dr. Louisa Haine

Senior Lecturer in Vision Science, Anglia Ruskin University

About: I first qualified as an Orthoptist and worked clinically within an NHS trust working in both hospitals and community. I completed a clinical masters while practising as an orthoptist before completing a PhD and moving into a lecturing and research role.

Research interests: Vision; sight; paediatrics; screening.

Get in contact: louisa.haine@aru.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

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Professor Eneida Mioshi

Professor of Dementia Care Research, University of East Anglia and Academic Career Development Lead, ARC East of England

About: I initially trained as an occupational therapist in Brazil (University of Sao Paulo). Following independent clinical work, supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate OTs, and the completion of a research MSc (University of Sao Paulo), I relocated to the UK. My PhD investigated the practical impact of frontotemporal dementia in everyday life, from the person's and their family's perspective (University of Cambridge), which I conducted while working as a research assistant. I then relocated to Sydney, Australia, to take up a postdoctoral research role. I was awarded an NHMRC postdoctoral fellowship, and several research grants. I've been back in the UK since 2013.

Research interests: Motor neuron disease; frontotemporal dementia; clinical assessments; non-pharmacological interventions; behavioural symptoms.

Get in contact: e.mioshi@uea.ac.uk



Dr. Nieky van Veggel

Senior Research Fellow, Anglia Ruskin University

About: I became an academic after a few years in veterinary practice. My area of focus soon shifted to human-animal interactions and evidence-based practice and after completing a social science doctorate, I am now a senior research fellow working on NHS projects and leading human-animal interaction work.

Research interests: Nature-based interventions; animal assisted interventions; assistance dogs; animal therapy; disability; mental health; education.

Get in contact: nieky.van-veggel@aru.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



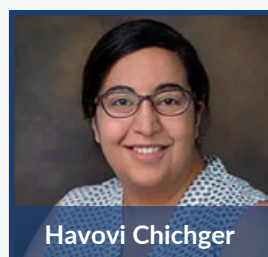
Dr. Lewis Goodings

Senior Lecturer in Psychology, Anglia Ruskin University

About: The first piece of external research I conducted was on the benefits of peer-support in digital support services. I have been working closely with users of different technologies over the years to consider how they are able to find psychological support through technology. I am currently working with people with learning disabilities in terms of digital inclusion.

Research interests: digital; care; support; communication; interaction; community; identity.

Get in contact: lewis.goodings@aru.ac.uk



Professor Havovi Chichger

Professor in Biomedical Science, Anglia Ruskin University

About: In 2011, I earned my doctorate in physiology from University College London, which focused on studying the role of renal and small intestinal glucose transport across the epithelium in metabolic syndrome and diabetes. As a Postdoctoral Fellow at Brown University, my research developed into vascular dysfunction in settings of disease including respiratory disease. During her Post-Doctorate, I was awarded significant funding from the American Heart Association, published several peer-reviewed articles and participated in numerous clinical and basic research conference presentations (including invited and peer-reviewed oral presentations) on renal glucose transport, endocytosis, vascular function and respiratory disease.

Research interests: Cardiovascular disease; metabolic disease; vascular injury; cell signalling mechanisms.

Get in contact: havovi.chichger@aru.ac.uk

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Dr. Sharon Geva

Senior Lecturer in Psychology and Neuroscience, Anglia Ruskin University

About: I have completed an MSc in Neuroscience and PhD in Clinical Neuroscience. Since then, I have been conducting research with various adult and paediatric clinical populations, aiming at improving understanding of brain damage and its consequences to behaviour, as well as developing better diagnostic tools.

Research interests: Stroke; aphasia; cognition; prognosis; diagnosis; neuroscience.

Get in contact: sharon.geva@aru.ac.uk



Dr. Dan Robbins

Senior Lecturer and Lead of the Biomechanics, Optics, Robotics and Imaging Research Group (BORI), Anglia Ruskin University

About: Prior to academia I have worked in a variety of settings, including exercise science (sports, health and clinical), in Clinical Neurophysiology at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital and in the Army Reserves. I hold an honorary contract with Mid and South Essex NHS trust and have ongoing collaborations with clinicians and healthcare scientists. Within academia, I have both collaborated and supervised a wide range of research and service evaluation projects.

Research interests: Research Methods; biomechanics; anatomy; physiology; statistics.

Get in contact: dan.robbins@aru.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Sarah Hanson

Dr. Sarah Hanson

Associate Professor in Community Health, University of East Anglia

About: I have thirty years as a registered nurse. Diploma in Clinical Research before a PhD (public health interventions and inequalities). My primary research focus is preventative health and poverty, working closely with community partners. This includes research and commissioned work such as food and housing insecurity (including hoarding), health literacy (e.g. in cancer prevention) and working with under-researched groups. I am especially interested in taking an Asset Based approach to Community Development and focusing on what makes us well (salutogenesis).

Research interests: Inequalities; under-researched groups; community based.

Get in contact: s.hanson@uea.ac.uk



Sadie Lawes-Wickwar

Dr. Sadie Lawes-Wickwar

Associate Professor in Medical Education, University of East Anglia

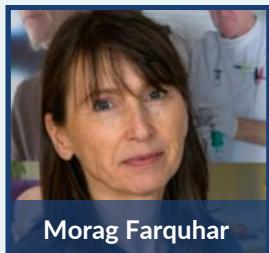
About: Prior to my academic career, I volunteered for third sector sexual assault and substance use charities and worked as a Practitioner at a local authority alcohol support service. These experiences provided the foundation to understanding the daily struggles of local communities and support needed to manage their health and wellbeing. This ignited my passion for health psychology and career as a Health Psychologist in medical education.

Research interests: Person-centred health communication; behaviour change; medical education; workforce training.

Get in contact: s.lawes-wickwar@uea.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Professor Morag Farquhar

Professor of Palliative Care Research, University of East Anglia and Theme Lead of Palliative and End-of-Life Care, ARC East of England

About: As an early nurse graduate, I caught the research bug very early on and practiced clinically for a year before moving into a series of research roles within academia. Nearly 40 years on I remain an active researcher and educator - my teaching includes helping clinical practitioners develop their research skills and skills in how to identify, appraise and use research in their clinical practice.

Research interests: Person-centred care; unpaid/family carers; supportive care; palliative care; intervention development/adaptation/testing.

Get in contact: M.Farquhar@uea.ac.uk



Dr. Peter Hartley

Clinical Academic Physiotherapist, University of Cambridge

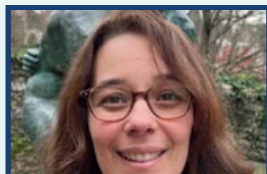
About: My journey into academia began with an NIHR Clinical Research Methodology Master's degree, and later a doctoral fellowship from the Dunhill Medical Trust. I have a clinical academic role as a physiotherapist working in stroke rehabilitation one day a week, and my academic time is funded mainly by a Junior Research Fellowship from The Healthcare Improvement Studies Institute and Homerton College, University of Cambridge.

Research interests: Rehabilitation; exercise; physiotherapy, physical activity; frailty, aging, stroke; multimorbidity; carers.

Get in contact: ph492@cam.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Debora Antoniotti de
Vasconcelos e Sa

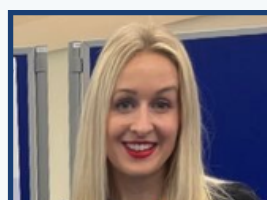
Dr. Debora Antoniotti de Vasconcelos e Sa

Senior Lecturer in Clinical Psychology, Anglia Ruskin University

About: My academic journey began with a PhD in Clinical Health Psychology from the University of Manchester, where I conducted quantitative and qualitative research with individuals experiencing psychosis and their relatives. Following my PhD, I worked as a postdoctoral researcher coordinating a mindfulness intervention for individuals with Parkinson's disease at City, University of London. Soon after, I joined Anglia Ruskin University, where I currently work as a Senior Lecturer and Course Leader for the MSc Foundations in Clinical Psychology course.

Research interests: Carers/relatives psychological wellbeing; clinical interventions (compassion focused therapy, cognitive behavioural therapy, systemic family therapy).

Get in contact: debora.sa@aru.ac.uk



Ellice Parkinson

Ellice Parkinson

Senior Advisor (Real World Evaluations), Health Innovation East

About: I begun working in dementia research in the NHS 10 years ago and have since completed a PhD (viva pending) in dementia care at University of East Anglia. I explored how people living with dementia consume drinks in care homes within 2 studies.

Research interests: Dementia; hydration; older adults; care homes.

Get in contact: ellice.parkinson@healthinnovationeast.co.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Jyothika Kumar

Jyothika Kumar

Senior Advisor, Health Innovation East and Knowledge Mobilisation Bridge Support, ARC East of England

About: I started my career as a mental health researcher. I have a PhD in Psychiatry from the University of Nottingham, and after a few years working as a Research Fellow, I moved out of academia to work in R&D within the NHS. My roles primarily involved management and delivery of research studies, primarily within mental health and community care settings. At Health Innovation East, my role as a Senior Advisor involves working on a wide range of projects, with a focus on implementation of evidence based innovations within health and care systems. I also provide Knowledge Mobilisation support to the East of England ARC. I am very interested in health equity and inclusion in research. I continue to be involved in academic collaborations and I work in a voluntary capacity at Mental Health Research UK.

Research interests: Mental Health; neuroscience; community care; health equity; digital health; inclusive research.

Get in contact: jyothika.kumar@healthinnovationeast.co.uk



Gillian Janes

Professor Gillian Janes

Professor of Nursing and Quality Improvement, Anglia Ruskin University

About: I am a Registered Nurse with many years' experience of clinical, education, research and health policy leadership across statutory, private and voluntary sector healthcare and Local Authority settings. My focus is clinical academic development and system-change, using a multi-stakeholder approach involving collaborative, participatory, action-orientated methods.

Research interests: Patient safety; systems improvement; human factors and ergonomics; staff engagement and wellbeing; marginalised groups; silences research.

Get in contact: gillian.janes@aru.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Claire Hooks

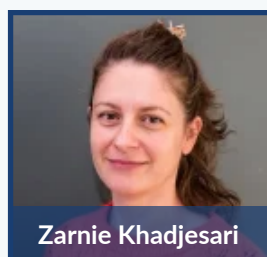
Dr. Claire Hooks

Associate Professor Midwifery and Women's Health, Anglia Ruskin University

About: Before becoming an NHS midwife in 2001, working in a range of midwifery care settings, I completed a biomedical science degree. In 2010, I journeyed into academia, originally alongside clinical practice, where I have had a range of experiences; teaching and supporting students in theory and practice, both UG and PG, completing a professional doctorate, undertaking health related funded research projects and research supervision.

Research interests: Women's health; advanced practice; midwifery; military affiliated women; drug addiction and women's health.

Get in contact: Claire.hooks@aru.ac.uk



Zarnie Khadjesari

Dr. Zarnie Khadjesari

Associate Professor in Health Sciences, University of East Anglia

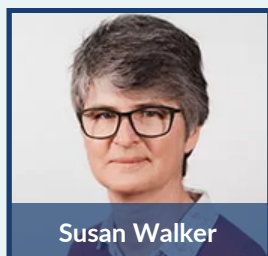
About: BSc and MSc in Health Services research at the University of York and PhD in Primary Care and Population Health at University College London. Awarded fellowships from NIHR, King's College London and Cancer Research UK to fund my programme of research on implementing digital interventions for cancer prevention.

Research interests: Implementation science; digital health; behaviour change; cancer prevention.

Get in contact: z.khadjesari@uea.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



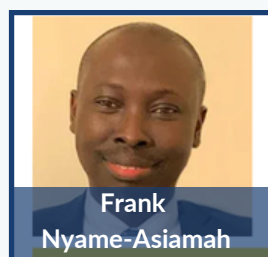
Dr. Susan Walker

Associate Professor, Anglia Ruskin University

About: Qualified in medicine in 1990 (Queen University, Belfast). Worked as a General Practitioner with an interest in women's health until 2008. Member of the Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Health since 1998. I was a recipient of an ESRC PhD studentship and awarded PhD (University of Cambridge) in 2010 with a thesis "The effect of gendered body image on contraceptive outcomes". Employed by Anglia Ruskin University from 2009 to present. Current role involves research and some teaching. I am the Director of the MD(Res) programme for doctors undertaking doctoral study. I have supervised eight doctoral students to completion (7 PhDs, 1 x MD) and currently supervise 3 PhD, and 2 Professional Doctorate students.

Research interests: Contraception; women's health; sexual health; primary care; health inequalities; qualitative methods; survey methods.

Get in contact: susan.walker@aru.ac.uk



Dr. Frank Nyame-Asiamah

Associate Professor in Business and Entrepreneurship & Director of Help to Grow Management Programme, Anglia Ruskin University

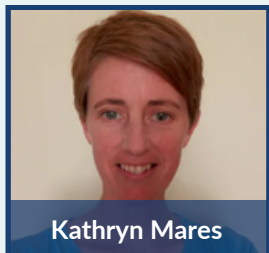
About: I undertook an extensive qualitative PhD project in a teaching hospital while working as Curriculum Manager (Head of Business Department) at Further Education College in London and providing support for my staff and many PGCE students. As part of my PhD, I studied healthcare corporate managers, clinician managers and clinicians, and utilised the knowledge gained to develop an evidence-based model (cohered emergent model) to explain how hospitals can design, implement and evaluate their knowledge base systems effectively to improve quality of care for patients.

Research interests: Organisational learning; knowledge management; complexity-based systems; cohered emergent theory; healthcare learning; health information systems; qualitative research; risk communication; information technology for development, healthcare entrepreneurs.

Get in contact: Frank.nyame-asiamah@aru.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Dr. Kathryn Mares

Associate Professor in Physiotherapy, University of East Anglia

About: I am a specialist neurological physiotherapist by background, I initially started as a lecturer practitioner and then moved into full time academia. I completed my PhD in 2015 and have continued to work closely with clinical colleagues to support the development of clinical academic careers.

Research interests: Rehabilitation; digital technology; implementation research; physiotherapy.

Get in contact: k.mares@uea.ac.uk



Dr. Tamara Backhouse

Research Fellow, University of East Anglia

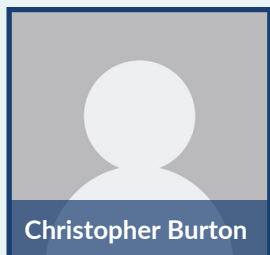
About: I worked for many years as a care home worker (care assistant) before completing degrees in psychology and sociology. My PhD research examined the management of dementia-related behaviours in care homes. Post-PhD my research has focused on family, care home and home care settings, with a particular interest in personal care assistance (help with daily activities such as washing, dressing, and going to the toilet) for people living with dementia.

Research interests: Social care; dementia; care homes; home care; personal care assistance

Get in contact: Tamara.Backhouse@uea.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

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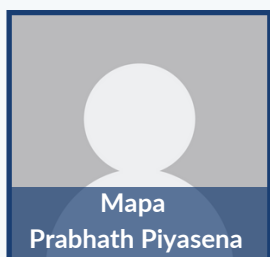
Professor Christopher Burton

Dean of Health Sciences, University of East Anglia

About: I commenced a PhD programme as I moved into a clinical research post three years into my nursing career. Originally focusing on clinical trials in stroke and rehabilitation, much of my work now also focuses on implementation across health and social care.

Research interests: Implementation; rehabilitation; realist inquiry; pragmatic trials; nursing..

Get in contact: chris.burton@uea.ac.uk



Dr. Mapa Prabhath Piyasena

Deputy Director VERI, Anglia Ruskin University

About: I have worked as a clinical ophthalmologist and developed a strong interest on prevention of major avoidable blinding eye diseases, after seeing many people presented at late stages of eye diseases. I have nearly 20 years of experience in Clinical Ophthalmology, Public Health Ophthalmology, Health Sector Policy Review and Evidence Synthesis.

Research interests: Diabetic Retinopathy; glaucoma; cataract; refractive errors; prevention of eye diseases; policy review; systematic review.

Get in contact: Mapa.Piyasena@aru.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Sophie Knight

Head of Consulting, Health Innovation East

About: I support knowledge mobilisation and implementation of ARC research as part of my role at Health Innovation East. I draw on tools and methodologies from implementation science as well as robust project and programme management practices.

Research interests: Implementation.

Get in contact: sophie.knight@healthinnovationeast.co.uk



Dr. Naim Abdulmohdi

Director of Quality Improvement Research and Senior Lecturer in Critical Care, Anglia Ruskin University

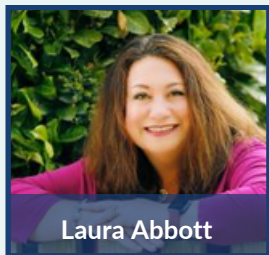
About: I am an experienced academic with more than 25 years of clinical, teaching, and research experience in critical care nursing. I am a university-based researcher with an honorary contract to conduct clinical research, focusing on patient safety, quality of care and workforce issues. I have extensive experience supervising research staff and students at various stages of their research and serving on multiple funding committees. I am dedicated to supporting colleagues in developing successful academic careers alongside their professional practice. As a mixed-methods researcher, I have strengths in quantitative analysis and data integration. I will be interested to support fellow on the following areas: Support for treating people away from acute care and Support for the health and care workforce.

Research interests: Patient safety; quality of care; staff wellbeing and resilience; clinical decision making.

Get in contact: naim.abdulgohdi@aru.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Dr. Laura Abbott

Associate Professor, University of Hertfordshire

About: I began my career as a nurse and midwife before transitioning into academia, where I pursued a doctorate in health research focused on pregnancy in prisons. Over the years, I have become an expert in perinatal care in prisons, leading the Lost Mothers project, and have progressed from senior lecturer to associate professor, teaching across midwifery, criminology, and sociology, while supervising PhD and Master's students.

Research interests: Prison; midwifery; qualitative research; sociology; maternal health.

Get in contact: l.abbott@herts.ac.uk



Dr. Pamela Knight-Davidson

Senior Research Fellow, Anglia Ruskin University

About: As well as an academic qualitative researcher in health, I am a practicing critical care nurse. I trained as a linguistic discourse analyst, investigating asymmetry in doctor patient interactions. I have relevant experience in health related research in clinical settings having worked as a research nurse on NIHR portfolio studies for the CLRN. In my current role I mentor postgraduate students and I have supervisory responsibilities for doctoral students.

Research interests: Qualitative research intercultural communication, cultural competence; narrative analysis; discourse analysis; health and wellbeing; NHS workforce.

Get in contact: pamela.knight-davidson@aru.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Anne-Marie Burn

Dr. Anne-Marie Burn

Senior research associate, University of Cambridge

About: I have a psychology background and I've worked in the areas of disability, dementia and now children's mental health. I work on mixed methods studies but have expertise in coproduction and qualitative methods.

Research interests: Mental health services improvement; qualitative research; intervention development/evaluation; self-harm, homelessness.

Get in contact: amb278@cam.ac.uk



Cara Booker

Dr. Cara Booker

Senior Research Fellow, University of Essex

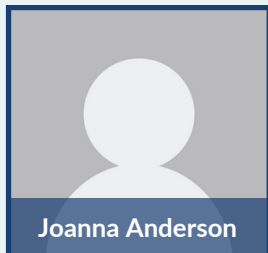
About: I am a social epidemiologist who has been in academia for the past 17 years. I came to the UK straight after finishing my PhD and have always been in academia.

Research interests: Adolescence; mental health; social determinants of health; young people; underserved populations; familial relationships; digital technology; longitudinal analyses.

Get in contact: cbooker@essex.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Dr. Joanna Anderson

Senior Research Associate, University of Cambridge

About: I am a Chartered Psychologist with a background in clinical neuropsychology and clinical psychology. After completing my PhD in 2004, I have balanced my time between academic research and clinical practice working with children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

Research interests: School mental health; the early identification of mental health difficulties; the development and evaluation of programmes supporting young people's mental health and wellbeing; the use of new technologies to deliver personalised; adaptive interventions that aim to improve mental health and facilitate access to care.

Get in contact: jpa44@cam.ac.uk



Dr. Krystal Warmoth

Senior research fellow, University of Hertfordshire

About: I am a Senior Research Fellow working with the NIHR Applied Research Collaboration (ARC) East of England at the University of Hertfordshire. I contribute to projects that focus on Ageing and Multi-Morbidity. Since completing my PhD in 2015, I have worked in both the United States of America and the United Kingdom. I have contributed to several different projects involving care homes, psychosocial interventions, implementation, rehabilitation, behaviour change, palliative care, and public health.

Research interests: Older people with complex health needs; care homes; frailty; multimorbidity; medicines optimisation.

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Supervisor Contact Directory

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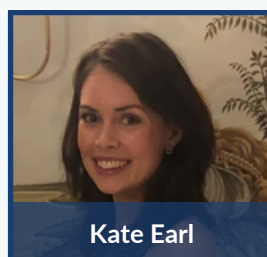
Dr. Angus Holford

Senior Research Fellow, ISER, University of Essex

About: Economics undergraduate (Lancaster), masters and PhD (both Essex), with brief secondment at the Cabinet Office. Research agenda/expertise on impacts of school food policies on children's health and educational attainment.

Research interests: Children; schools; nutrition; behaviours; prevention, impacts.

Get in contact: ajholf@essex.ac.uk



Dr. Kate Earl

Senior Lecturer in Nutrition and Programme Director Professional Doctorate in General Internal Medicine, University of Hertfordshire

About: I completed my PhD in musculoskeletal biology at the University of Liverpool in 2016 before moving to London and working on biomedical focussed social survey before moving to Hertfordshire to lecture in nutrition and supervise student research projects.

Research interests: Nutrition; diet; health; disease; preventative.

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Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Dr. Melanie Handley

Associate Professor, University of Hertfordshire

About: After completing my Psychology BSc, I worked as a research assistant on care home and community health care service projects that focused on the experience of those using and working in services. This led me to pursue a career in research, undertaking my masters and then PhD. I am now a health and care service researcher who uses mixed methods approaches to understand how services work and could be improved for people living with dementia and their supporters.

Research interests: Dementia; family carers; mental health; realist methodology; qualitative research; co-production; systems approaches

Get in contact: m.j.handley@herts.ac.uk



Dr. Rory Cameron

Lecturer in Health Economics, University of East Anglia

About: This is my second term in academic research - the first was as a biochemist, where I held a number of post-doc positions. From there I transitioned into consulting in business intelligence & market access in the pharmaceutical industry. That developed into an interest in drug pricing, health economics and equity issues and spurred the move to my current work as an academic health economist.

Research interests: Economic evaluation; patient preference; quality of life; outcomes research.

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Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Dr. Juliet Usher-Smith

Associate Professor of General Practice, University of Cambridge

About: I completed a PhD in physiology as part of my medical degree and then moved into applied health research in 2009. Since then, I have held a number of academic posts within the Primary Care Unit at the University of Cambridge alongside working as a GP. My research focuses on optimising the implementation of risk stratified medicine to promote prevention of disease.

Research interests: Risk stratification; cancer; screening; prevention; NHS Health Checks; risk communication; implementation.

Get in contact: jau20@cam.ac.uk



Professor Carl Philpott

Professor of Rhinology & Olfactology, University of East Anglia

About: Completed an MD in olfactory threshold testing during surgical training in otorhinolaryngology before taking up a post as senior lecturer in 2010. Established the Rhinology & Olfactology Research Group and am Chief Investigator of the MACRO trial, the largest ENT trial in the UK to date.

Research interests: Rhinological disorders; Smell & Taste disorders.

Get in contact: C.Philpott@uea.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



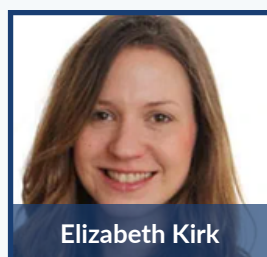
Professor Gabrielle Thorpe

Professor of Professional Development in Health Sciences

About: My clinical background is in colorectal and stoma care nursing, having worked as a clinical nurse specialist in this area from 1997 to 2020, latterly on an honorary contract while working academically at UEA, where I completed a PhD 2006-2011. I have worked as an academic since 2009, as research lead for the pre-registration nursing programmes from 2013-2020 and as Head of Department for Post-Qualifying Programmes since 2021. My research practice and supervision experience is largely focussed on qualitative and mixed methods research and I teach evidence-based practice, research synthesis, quality improvement and qualitative research.

Research interests: Surgical and gastrointestinal care; qualitative research; evidence synthesis; professional development (particularly in relation to the research pillar of practice).

Get in contact: gabrielle.thorpe@uea.ac.uk



Dr. Elizabeth Kirk

Senior Lecturer in Psychology, Deputy Head of School Psychology, Sport and Sensory Sciences, Anglia Ruskin University

About: I completed a PhD in developmental Psychology and have held lectureships in developmental psychology at the Universities of Hertfordshire, York and now Anglia Ruskin.

Research interests: Perinatal mental health; parent-infant interaction; attachment; infant communication; body image in pregnancy and postpartum.

Get in contact: elizabeth.kirk@aru.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



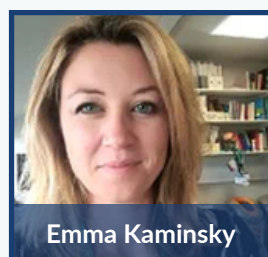
Professor Hilary Bungay

Professor of Arts Health and Wellbeing

About: I started my working life as a diagnostic radiographer and worked in clinical practice for about 10 years before undertaking an MA in Health Services Research. This led to an interest in research and I successfully applied for an NHS research fellowship to undertake a PhD. After completing my PhD I continued to work in research and have combined this with teaching health care students at undergraduate and post graduate levels, and supervising doctoral students.

Research interests: Arts for health and wellbeing; older people; nature, children and young people; qualitative and mixed methods research.

Get in contact: hilary.bungay@aru.ac.uk



Dr. Emma Kaminskiy

Associate Professor of Psychology, Anglia Ruskin University

About: Before returning to postgraduate study and academia, I worked for 10 years in various roles in the private sector, including HR and research consultancy. I returned to study a MSc in Organisational Psychology before completing my PhD that examined shared decision making for psychiatric medication management. I have worked as an academic for over 10 years and have been involved in applied health services research in different NHS settings.

Research interests: Mental health services; qualitative methodology; participatory approaches; service evaluation and design.

Get in contact: emma.kaminskiy@aru.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Dr. Siân Shaw

Associate Professor Digital Innovation in Nursing, Anglia Ruskin University

About: My clinical background is in transplant and intensive care nursing. I have been in academia for over 20 years. I am interested in digital innovation in healthcare to improve patient care or support workforce challenges. I am currently researching the use of wearable devices for monitoring vital signs for in-hospital patients.

Research interests: Digital innovation in healthcare, particularly in nursing.

Get in contact: sian.shaw@aru.ac.uk



Professor Kristy Sanderson

NIHR ARC East of England Mental Health over the Life Course Theme Lead

About: Began career as a registered psychologist working in a clinical research unit for anxiety disorders, and worked on a range of research studies in mental health while doing my PhD. Then moved through a series of research fellowships in public mental health and epidemiology.

Research interests: Public mental health; workforce health and wellbeing; mindfulness; sleep and fatigue.

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Supervisor Contact Directory

ARC East of England Research and Impact Fellowship Supervisors



Dr Leica S Claydon-Mueller

Associate Professor of Health Services Research, Anglia Ruskin University

About: I am a physiotherapist and my research focuses on pain in various health conditions using evidence synthesis, service evaluation, qualitative and effectiveness studies. Improving disability, participation, and knowledge translation are central to my research as is the supervision of research students. I have supervised 16 PhD / DProf / MD students to completion.

Research interests: Pain; prehabilitation; rehabilitation; systematic review with meta-analysis; service evaluation; qualitative; randomised controlled trial.

Get in contact: leica.claydon@aru.ac.uk

Supervisor Contact Directory

Other NIHR ARC EoE researchers are available to supervise. You can explore our other researchers and their interests via the researchers page [[link here](#)] and the Theme Leads and Deputies page [[link here](#)].

This document will be periodically updated.

For any other queries, please contact Alice Wreford [a.wreford@uea.ac.uk].