

Media Release

15th June 2009

Pharmacy Practice Research Trust forges new academic partnerships

The Pharmacy Practice Research Trust (the Trust) has been successful in forging three new academic partnerships through the Economic and Social Research Council Collaborative (CASE) PhD studentship funding scheme. This in turn is in line with the Trust's objectives of developing research capacity for the pharmacy profession.

Aston University, University of Stirling and University of York are the three partners and they are currently seeking applications for the PhD studentships (1 + 3 years).

The agreed projects of the studentships are:

Community pharmacists and people with dementia: issues and developments

supervised by Professor Alison Bowes, Applied Social Science, University of Stirling.

Personalised medicine and hospital and community based pharmacy:

understanding the needs and role of pharmacists in response to innovation

supervised by Professor Andrew Webster, Department of Sociology, University of York.

A mixed methods study of the implications for pharmacy policy and practice of self-tests for signs of serious illness supervised by Professor John Marriott, School of Pharmacy and Dr Helen Pattison, School of Life and Health Sciences, Aston University.

"We were really pleased that three of our joint applications were successful in what is a

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particularly competitive process” said Sue Ambler, Director of the Trust. “With the pharmacist’s extending clinical role there is an increasing need for pharmacy research to move from a largely science based model to one to incorporates both the wider community healthcare and social science base.”

All studentships will run from October 2009.

Ends.

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Notes for editors:

1. The University of York application process is closed.
2. For further information for the Aston University studentship go to:
<http://www1.aston.ac.uk/lhs/research/pgresopportunities/>
Closing date is 29th June and interviews are scheduled for 6th July.
3. For further information for the University of Stirling studentship go to:
http://www.dass.stir.ac.uk/news/show_news.php?id=94
Closing date is 30th June and interviews are scheduled for 13th July.

4. Funding

ESRC CASE studentships provide funding for students to undertake three years of study for a PhD degree which are jointly designed and supervised by an ESRC recognised university department and a non-academic organisation.

From ESRC:

- Standard tuition fees and maintenance grants
- Research Training Support (£750)

From the Trust:

- Up to £4,000 annual cash contribution to student
- A maximum of £2,000 annual cash contribution to academic dept

5. The Pharmacy Practice Research Trust

The Pharmacy Practice Research Trust was established by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of GB in July 1999 as an independent research charity with a broad objective to promote and develop the field of pharmacy practice research. Its trustees are drawn from senior health policy makers, leading academics and retailers.

The Trust has invested over £1.5m in research; 30% supporting capacity building in pharmacy practice research and 70% on commissioned research. Annual grants from the Pharmaceutical Trust for Education and Charitable Objectives and the Leverhulme Trades Charities Trust contribute to the funds of the Pharmacy Practice Research Trust. For further information and to access reports of Trust commissioned research go to: www.pprrt.org.uk