



Dear OPSYRIS members,

We are excited to introduce ourselves as your new OPSYRIS committee, based at the University of East Anglia (UEA) in Norwich. We look forward to meeting you at OPSYRIS events and hearing about your interests and work in psychological research in stroke.

Our sincere thanks to Nele, Kathleen, Andrea and Elise for all the wonderful OPSYRIS events they organised over the last two years. Thank you to Andrea for staying on as our Treasurer!

Best wishes,  
Stephanie, Andrea, Fergus and Cat

HELLO!

### OPSYRIS ANNUAL MEETING

We are thrilled that our next annual meeting will run in hybrid format (in-person and online) in Nottingham.

The meeting will feature a symposium on '**Lessons learned from running clinical trials testing complex interventions**' with confirmed speakers **Dr. Eirini Kontou** and **Dr. Shirley Thomas** and a few more to be announced shortly.

**When?** Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
**Where?** Nottingham (UK)



### CALL FOR OPSYRIS23 ABSTRACTS – DEADLINE 28 APRIL

## OPSYRIS23 CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Abstracts are invited for poster, oral and quickfire (5 min) presentations at the OPSYRIS23 meeting. We welcome submissions on a broad range of topics relating to psychological research into stroke and advances in clinical services, including both planned and ongoing projects as well as service evaluations.

Please submit your 250-word structured abstracts (Background, Aims, Methods, Results, Discussion & Conclusions) using the online form **Friday 28 April** on this link: [Abstract submission form](#).

### OPSYRIS23 RISING STAR AWARD

A regular feature, and highlight, of our annual meetings is the rising star prize. The title is given to a selected early career researcher or clinician. Each year we welcome nominations for new candidates. As well as the prestige and winning a commemorative award, winners are also welcomed to show their work at the meeting at the oral presentations.

Please submit nominations via email with a brief (half page) justification to [info@opsyris.org](mailto:info@opsyris.org)



### THE NEXT OPSYRIS WEBINAR

We hope to continue the series of OPSYRIS webinars.

Please let us know about the topic you'd like the next webinar to focus on, by completing this short online survey: [Webinar suggestion form](#)

### RESEARCH STUDY RECRUITING SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPISTS IN STROKE

Trainee Clinical Psychologist, Siân Carroll at the UEA is carrying out a doctoral thesis study on staff screening behaviours with people with post-stroke aphasia, focussing on Speech and Language Therapists (SLTs) working in stroke in the UK or Australia.

"We know that stroke survivors with communication difficulties post stroke are at an increased risk of low mood and depression than those without aphasia, but despite this there is no current published research exploring screening rates with this client group. We hope to explore with staff what may influence current screening practices in aphasia and what factors are helpful / unhelpful in screening; giving staff a voice to highlight barriers to this, which can then be used to support staff to continue to improve patient care and effectively support people with aphasia."

"We are focusing on Speech and Language Therapists as they are the most qualified professional group to adapt communication and likely to come into contact with people quickly after their stroke, in line with National Clinical Guidelines for Stroke."

It is an online, complete anonymous questionnaire, and it would be great if you could complete the survey if you are a SLT and able to in your own time and / or pass onto SLT colleagues you know. It takes roughly 15 minutes to do. Thank you very much in advance!

The links for the survey are **UK** <https://www.pytoolkit.org/c/3.4.2/survey?s=gEAYm>  
**AUSTRALIA** <https://www.pytoolkit.org/c/3.4.2/survey?s=3n2PF>

### 3 RESEARCH VACANCIES AT UCLan

Please see below for details of 3 vacancies in the Applied Health Research hub, at the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan). The closing date for applications is **Tuesday, 21 February 2023**

**Research Assistant (Job Reference: REQ007193)**  
Grade/Salary: E (£23,715 - £26,396)  
Job Category / Type: Professional Services  
Hours: 36.25 hours per week  
<https://www.uclan.ac.uk/jobs/research-assistant>

**Senior Research Assistant (Job Reference: REQ007194)**  
Grade/Salary: F (£27,131 - £31,411)  
Job Category / Type: Professional Services  
Hours: 36.25 hours per week  
<https://www.uclan.ac.uk/jobs/senior-research-assistant>

**Research Associate (Job Reference: REQ007195)**  
Grade/Salary: G (£32,348 - £37,474)  
Job Category / Type: Academic  
Hours: 37.00 hours per week  
<https://www.uclan.ac.uk/jobs/research-associate-1>



### YOUR EVENT, JOB ADS AND RECRUITMENT

We are very happy to include your event, job ads, and calls for recruitment to your study in our newsletter. Please get in touch with the secretaries, Fergus Gracey and Cat Ford on [info@opsyris.org](mailto:info@opsyris.org)

