

The Professor Sir Richard Trainor PhD Scholarships 2016-17

Project Title: Transforming the Person through Youth Service Provision

Partner Organisation: Youthscape

King's is now inviting applications for one of the Professor Sir Richard Trainor PhD Scholarships in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at King's College London in collaboration with Youthscape. The scholarship will commence from October 2016 onwards and is open to new incoming PhD students only.

Project Description:

The project will seek to discover what transformation among young people looks like, how this transformation can be measured, and what kinds of intervention best succeed in bringing about transformation among young people. In a time of cuts and closures, youth provision is at an all time low, while need among young people is at an all time high; there is therefore a need to maximise resources and to be strategic in the way we respond to the needs of young people. In partnership with Luton-based youth work charity Youthscape, the research will be carried out among practitioners and through face-to-face work with young people, exploring the contexts and settings in which transformation is possible, what lasting change looks like, and how it can be quantified. As a faith-based charity, Youthscape works holistically from a Christian ethos, seeking the social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing of all young people regardless of belief or background. Part of the project will therefore be to focus on creating a transformational theology for faith-based youth work practice, encompassing both the faith-focused and non-faith-focused aspects of working among young people, and discerning what it means to have a theology of practice in a pluralistic age.

The Department of Theology and Religious Studies was ranked 9th of all UK Theology and Religious Studies departments in the 2015 REF, with 76% of our research activity assessed as 'world leading'. It is a research-led department with a strong reputation for contribution to scholarship, teaching and practice. The Department is located on the Strand Campus of King's College London where the studentship will be based.

Supervisors:

Lead Supervisor: Professor Oliver Davies

Second Supervisor: Professor Meg Maguire

Application documentation: applicants must complete and submit:

- a CV
- personal statement identifying which project they would like to be considered for explaining why they would be suitable

to graduateschool@kcl.ac.uk by 12pm (UK BST) on 29 February 2016. The subject line of the email should read 'RT Scholarship 1617 - [*include the relevant project title*]'

All documents should be submitted as a single pdf.

Two academic references **must** be received by the deadline for the application to be eligible. Candidates are responsible for instructing referees to submit their references to graduateschool@kcl.ac.uk using the subject line 'RT Scholarship 1617 – [*name of applicant*]’.

Selection: Please note that as part of selection, short-listed candidates may be invited for interview.

Funding Details: The scholarship will provide an annual payment of £15,000 which can be used to cover tuition fees and/or living costs. In addition, funds will be provided by the partner organisation to cover travel and administrative costs.

Length of Award: 3 years (PhD)
