

The Professor Sir Richard Trainor PhD Scholarships 2016-17

Project Title: Mental health justice and the capability to live in the community

King's College London is now inviting applications for one of the Professor Sir Richard Trainor PhD Scholarships in the Department of Global Health & Social Medicine (GHSM). The scholarship will commence from October 2017 onwards and is open to new incoming PhD students only.

Project Description:

The inter-disciplinary research, part of a large Wellcome Trust Collaborative Award research project on mental health and justice, will bring to bear the capabilities approach (CA) to one of the central issues in mental health, ethics and international law: protecting and respecting a person's decision making. Building on state of the art work of the PI and others who are extending the CA to health issues and the human right to health, the research will examine how the CA could approach Article 19 (Right to live in the community) of the International Covenant of Rights of People with Disabilities (ICRPD). From a philosophical perspective how are we to conceptualize and justify central capabilities of individuals with mental impairments, especially the capability to live in one's own community? Participating in community life has been discussed in the CA literature. But, for people with diverse mental impairments this capability may have particular salience and difficulties. Why is this capability important? To what extent is support required? What qualifies as a community? The research will undertake philosophical reasoning (ethics, political philosophy, philosophy of medicine) that also engages with legal as well as qualitative research on the lived experience of Article 19 being done in Ghana, West Bank, and England.

The Department of GHSM, formerly Social Science, Health and Medicine, was ranked 10th among all similar UK departments in the 2014 REF with 76% of our research activity assessed as 'world leading or internationally excellent'. 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: Dr Sridhar Venkatapuram

Second Supervisor: Dr Hanna Kienzler

Application documentation: applicants must complete and submit:

- a CV
- personal statement explaining why they would be suitable
- university transcripts
- a writing sample
- two academic references

to graduateschool@kcl.ac.uk by 11:59pm (UK BST) on 7 May 2017. The subject line of the email should read 'RT Scholarship 1718 – [Mental health justice and the capability to live in the community]'

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 1718 – [*name of applicant*]'

Selection: Please note that as part of selection, short-listed candidates will 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. Applications are strongly encouraged to ensure they will have sufficient funding for the duration of their PhD programme.

Length of Award: 3 years (PhD)
