

ISSUE 7

GRADUATE COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

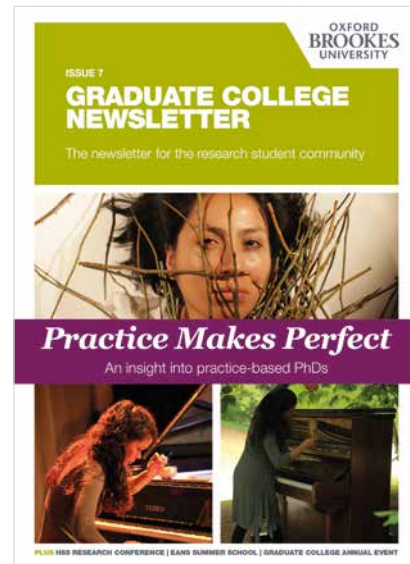
The newsletter for the research student community



Practice Makes Perfect

An insight into practice-based PhDs





Graduate College Newsletter, the newsletter of the research student community at Oxford Brookes University.

Thank you to all students and staff who have contributed to this edition of the Newsletter.

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We reserve the right to edit contributions before we publish and to refuse editorial items.

Co-ordinated and edited by the Research Degrees Team.

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Contributions are welcome from all sections of the University and should be sent to:
asa-gcnewsletter@brookes.ac.uk

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News



Graduate College Research Student Exhibition

Research students from across the University came together for another successful Graduate College Research Student Exhibition.

This year's Graduate College Research Student Exhibition was held in The Forum of the John Henry Brookes Building on 3 and 4 May 2017. This annual display of research students' work from across the University included many vibrant posters, impressive abstracts and video presentations, and as always, there were cash prizes for the best exhibits.

Rather than looking for evidence of research results, the judges focused on the researcher's ability to present their work in an eye-catching and engaging way, such that it was understandable to a non-specialist in their field. One of the winners, Anne Youngson from the Department of English and Modern Languages, certainly achieved this with her poster 'Once upon a Time, A Study into how Stories Begin'. Anne's presentation included the opening paragraphs of famous fiction such as 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' and 'Lord of the Flies' and Anne made her presentation interactive, and therefore more engaging, by encouraging viewers to try to identify the stories these excerpts were from.

Margo Socha from the School of Architecture, another of the exhibition winners, also encouraged visitor participation. Her poster was titled 'Legacy and Land' and Margo asked viewers to think about how they would define legacy or what they think their legacy will be, then to write their thoughts

on a Post-It note and add it to the display. It proved to be a really thought-provoking exercise with lots of interesting and inspiring comments!

The third winner was Catherine Lowenhoff, from the Department of Psychology, Social Work and Public Health, with her poster on 'Exploring the role of health visitors in supporting mothers with mental health problems'. Catherine's poster included some intriguing imagery and graphical displays of data that really caught people's attention and communicated her content expertly well. Special commendations were also made to Somhatai Timsard, Francisco Gomez and Findlay Bewicke-Copley.

Alex Newton from the School of Arts presented a movie entitled 'You cannot stand in the middle of this' which formed part of a piece of work he was working on for his practice-based PhD. Sound was an important aspect of the movie and headphones were provided to enable people to fully appreciate the composition without distractions. Another of the presentations drawing a lot of attention from visitors was the 'Novel Food Lab' from Indroneel Chatterjee in the Oxford Brookes Business School. Indroneel's research focuses on people's acceptance of insects for human consumption and participants were asked to complete a questionnaire before being given the option to try some unconventional food samples!

The prize-giving and buffet lunch were held in the Executive Suite, which overlooks The Forum and allowed students and their supervisors to enjoy their lunch with a view of the exhibition below. The whole event was very well attended and there was a real sense of comradery among the exhibitors. Next year's event will take place on 2 and 3 May 2018 and we would like to encourage all research students from across the University to take part in this worthwhile and enjoyable event.

Brookes' PhD Student wins best poster at EANS Summer School

The European Academy of Nursing Science (EANS) is an independently organised body composed of individual members who have made significant contributions to the advancement of nursing science in Europe through scholarship and research. Their purpose is to be the scientific community in Europe providing inspiration, collaboration and academic leadership in nursing. Each year a cohort of nurses who are in their first year of their PhD are selected from countries all over Europe to attend EANS summer schools for three consecutive years; to learn all there is to know about the MRC guidance for complex interventions. Tasks are set throughout the three years to encourage international collaboration and sharing of ideas and experiences.

Catherine Lowenhoff, research student in the Department of Psychology, Social Work and Public Health, described it as “a privilege and a pleasure” to be part of the EANS summer school programme. Catherine attended a two week summer school in Barcelona in 2015, a one week summer school in Halle, East Germany in 2016 and has just finished the last of her three summer schools.

At the final summer school, which took place in Malmo, Sweden, students in their third year presented a poster summarising their research. Catherine was absolutely thrilled to be announced as the winner of the best poster at the prestigious EANS gala dinner which took place in Malmo Town Hall, by invitation from the Mayor, on Thursday 6 July 2017.

Catherine spoke of her success, “This was a fabulous end to an inspiring journey. I have learnt so much and have made friends for life among the many brilliant nursing researchers of the future. If there are any nurses out there just starting a PhD, I wholeheartedly recommend that you apply for this brilliant opportunity. All the details are on the EANS website (european-academy-of-nursing-science.com). Of course, none of this would have been possible without the support and encouragement from my supervisors at Oxford Brookes; Professor Jane Appleton, Dr Jan Davison-Fisher and Dr Nick Pike; and all the wonderful PhD students at Brookes who have made me laugh, helped me (a lot!) and kept me sane (sort of!) Thank you to you all.”

Another feature of the EANS summer school was a debate. Each year, students are presented with a motion to discuss and then debate in front of all the summer school students and lecturers, with second year students presenting the main arguments. The motion given this year was “This house believes that philosophies of nursing and the reality of nursing practice are best maintained as ‘Strangers in the Night’”. Brookes’ research student Emma Blakey was put forward to be one of the speakers and thanks to a fantastic team effort, a lot of discussion was generated and it was a very successful debate. After the afternoon’s activities, students were able to relax at the gala dinner. Emma said “The dinner was a wonderful opportunity to reflect on our week at the summer school. We noted that at this time in the world when people are building walls, we are in fact building bridges of friendship and scholarship; long may this continue!”



HEALTH VISITOR SUPPORT FOR MOTHERS WITH MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS: USING MRC GUIDANCE TO REDEVELOP A COMPLEX INTERVENTION

CATHERINE LOWENHOFF
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WHY WAS THIS RESEARCH NEEDED?

- 1. PERINATAL MENTAL HEALTH IS A SIGNIFICANT PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE.
- 2. ALL WOMEN IN THE UK HAVE ACCESS TO THEIR ANTENATAL AND POSTNATAL CARE. THEREFORE THERE ARE POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES TO IDENTIFY MENTAL HEALTH AND OFFER APPROPRIATE INTERVENTIONS.
- 3. NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH IS A HIGH PRIORITY AREA FOR HEALTH VISITORS.

AIM OF THIS RESEARCH

TO COLLABORATE WITH HEALTH VISITORS TO DEVELOP A CREDIBLE, FEASIBLE, ACCEPTABLE AND EFFECTIVE HEALTH VISITOR-LED INTERVENTION FOR MOTHERS WITH MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS.

THE RESEARCH: PHASE I

ANALYSING THE NATURE OF THE PROBLEM

- A literature review of the aetiology, prevalence and impact of perinatal mental health problems was completed.
- An exploratory conceptual analysis of literature was undertaken to explore variations in definition, practice and current care.
- A critical review of the NICE guidance was completed to understand the implications of the recommendations in the guideline for health visiting practice.

THE RESEARCH: PHASE II

EXPLORING THE EVIDENCE BASE FOR PERINATAL MENTAL HEALTH INTERVENTIONS

- A number of complementary reviews were performed in order to address questions of lower effectiveness, contextual variations in intervention acceptability, feasibility and mechanisms of action? (p.38).
- Core components, key clinical activities and salient intervention characteristics of a potential effective, acceptable and feasible intervention that could be delivered by HVs were extracted from reviews.
- Appropriate theories and frameworks to explore how and why interventions are likely to work were identified.

THE RESEARCH: PHASE III

FINDING OUT WHAT HEALTH VISITORS ARE DOING AT THE MOMENT: THE FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE THEIR PRACTICE AND WHAT THEY THINK SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN A HEALTH VISITOR-LED INTERVENTION IN THE FUTURE

- An electronic survey of health visitors was distributed to 826 members of the Institute of Health Visiting (IHV) - May 2015. Returned survey n=322 representing 39% of the target population and 78% of the IHV staff workforce.
- In England and Wales to understand current practice against NICE guidance, to explore the evidence-based practice? (p.29) and to test the acceptability of health visitor-led intervention.
- Focus group phases and 10 focus groups in England and Wales to understand current practice against NICE guidance, to explore the evidence-based practice? (p.29) and to test the acceptability of health visitor-led intervention.
- The SAGE responses to the open-ended questions were thematically analysed using NVIVO.

THE RESEARCH: PHASE IV

CONSIDERING THE EVIDENCE FROM RESEARCH PHASES II) WITH THE WISDOM OF CLINICAL PRACTICE (PHASE III) TO DEVELOP A NEW WAY OF WORKING.

- A methodological Delphi study involving 27 expert health visitors was undertaken to get consensus on which activities should be taken forward? (p.32) in the development of a feasible, acceptable, effective intervention framework that could be used to guide health visiting practice in the future.

DRAFT INTERVENTION FRAMEWORK TO INFORM THE SUPPORT THAT HEALTH VISITORS PROVIDE TO MOTHERS WITH MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS

CONTEXT: STRUCTURES, CULTURE, CAPACITY, COMPETENCES

MULTI-MORAL ALIGNANCE	RECORD EDUCATION	INTERVISED ASSESSMENT	EMOTIONAL WELLBEING	SKILL CARE	DETAILED INTERVENTIONS
• Establishing a shared vision and purpose for the intervention across all stakeholders.	• Identifying the educational needs of health visitors and other staff involved in the intervention.	• Identifying the assessment needs of health visitors and other staff involved in the intervention.	• Identifying the emotional well-being needs of health visitors and other staff involved in the intervention.	• Identifying the skill care needs of health visitors and other staff involved in the intervention.	• Identifying the detailed intervention needs of health visitors and other staff involved in the intervention.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

• I would like to thank the following people for their support and assistance during the research process: Professor Jane Appleton, Dr Jan Davison-Fisher, Dr Nick Pike, Emma Blakey, and all the other PhD students at Oxford Brookes University.



FHSS Research Conference

Academics and research students from across the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences came together for a successful research conference with the theme of ‘The Other’. The conference proved hugely popular, with more than 60 attendees from across the University. The conference allowed academics to present and discuss their research, and provided the opportunity to debate various issues around topics within the conference theme.

Several research students were given the opportunity to present their work; six students gave full papers and four students gave three minute thesis presentations. Sarah Waters, PhD student in the Department of English and Modern Languages, presented a poster of her work exploring melancholia and depression in the Early-Modern period and present day through Shakespearean drama. Shamsa Khan, PhD student in the School of History, Philosophy and Culture, presented research which addressed the question *Can personal identity be defined by emotional continuity?*

Professor Anne-Marie Kilday, PVC and Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences said: “It was great to share and celebrate the vibrant research culture across the Faculty with fantastic contributions from colleagues and doctoral students.”



Poetry Meets Science at the Oxfordshire Science Festival

Dr Niall Munro, Oxford Brookes’ Alumnus and Director of the Oxford Brookes Poetry Centre, was one of the judges in the recent Oxfordshire Science Festival (OSF) Schools Poetry Competition, which attracted over 400 entries from 21 different Oxfordshire schools, with young poets ranging in age from 6 to 13 years old.

Many of the winning poets joined the judges to read (superbly well!) from their work at a special ceremony on 17 June during the Oxfordshire Science Festival at Oxford Town Hall. The event also featured performances from two of the co-judges; Tomasz Dobrzycki, a University of Oxford DPhil student and science-rapping contestant in the UK FameLab competition; and poet Kelley Swain, who has written extensively about poetry and science and was one of the poets-in-residence at the Oxford University Museum of Natural History in 2016.

The overall winner was 9 year old Kathi Viehhauser’s ‘Metamorphosis’, which Kelley Swain said impressed her ‘with its fresh, joyful take on a classic theme’.

You can read all the winning poems on the OSF website at www.oxfordshiresciencefestival.com/schools-poetry-competition.html

Pictured above: Tomasz Dobrzycki (DPhil student, University of Oxford), Kelley Swain, Kathi Viehhauser, Niall Munro (Oxford Brookes University), and Cathy Rose (Events Manager, Oxfordshire Science Festival)

The EdD in the Limelight

On Saturday 24 June, the 6th Annual Doctor of Education (EdD) Colloquium was held, entitled ‘Doctoral Journeys’. This student organised event has grown in popularity over the past few years, providing a valuable networking forum for students of education on both the Professional Doctorate and PhD programmes.

Harcourt Hill welcomed visitors from Birmingham, Bradford, Canterbury, London and Lincoln as well as more local contributors. In addition, staff and students from the University of Hawai’i, Manoa joined the event, who not only conducted the opening session but also brought proceedings to a close with some traditional singing and ukulele playing to celebrate Hawaiian culture.

Last year the Brookes’ EdD team and students were saddened by the death of Maggie Sugre, an energetic and enthusiastic student in her 4th year on the programme. She was remembered by those who knew her with the inaugural Sugre Memorial Lecture, delivered by Dr David Mills, Director of Oxford University’s ESRC Doctoral Training Centre. Dr Mills shared his insights about professional doctorates from an anthropological perspective and stimulated a number of interesting and thought-provoking questions.

This year’s event was organised by research students Charlotte Maddison and Rachael Falkner, both in their second year on the programme. Thank you to both; their hard work made the event a great success!

'The Art of Writing' Training Day

The annual Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Research Student Training Day took place on Saturday 1 April and this year's theme was 'The Art of Writing'. Academic writing is not the only writing style research students have to master; creating a presence on social media is now the norm and, once the PhD is complete, the writing of job applications in a competitive market demands yet another set of writing skills.

Speaking first was Professor Richard Marggraf Turley, Professor of Engagement with the Public Imagination, Aberystwyth University. This talk included practical tips on using academic phraseology, suggestions for 'stylistic power-ups', and how to place academic work in the sphere of public engagement.

The next session, led by Professor Glen O'Hara from the School of History, Philosophy and Culture, expanded on the theme of public engagement through writing online for journalism, blogging and social media. A regular blogger and tweeter himself, Professor O'Hara emphasised the importance of the impact agenda and the pressure on academics to be relevant from TV historians to subject-specific blogs. The more connected you are, the more relevant you are; and Professor O'Hara provided tips and guidelines on how to get started in social media.

After lunch the focus turned to writing for career purposes. Liz Robertson, Careers Consultant at Brookes, demonstrated the importance of showing rather than telling when writing job applications, adapting your style to give firm evidence of your experience. This session included contributions from Dr Rico Issacs, Reader in Politics in the Department of Social Sciences and Dr George Gosling, Lecturer in History, University of Wolverhampton, both of whom gained their PhDs at Brookes. They shared their experiences of job hunting in the academic market; an inspiring end to what had been a very interesting and worthwhile day.

1.4k Shares for PhD Student's Article

First year PhD student Rajkamal Singh Mann, from the Oxford Brookes Business School, has written a joint article with Professor Pritam Singh on diversification of crops in Punjab, India. The article was published in The Tribune (India) in May 2017 and The Tribune's website showed it had received 1400 shares within the first month alone; evidence of the widespread reach of Oxford Brookes Business School's research.

You can read the full article at

www.tribuneindia.com/news/comment/why-the-centre-does-not-want-punjab-to-diversify/408037.html

Alcohol Research Mixer

The inaugural 'Alcohol Research Mixer' at Oxford Brookes took place on Tuesday 13 June 2017. The event was the brain child of Dr Emma Davies, Lecturer in Psychology and was funded by a departmental research award. The day was jam-packed with academic presentations, networking and a funding workshop. Academics with a research focus on alcohol attended from many UK universities; including the University of Cambridge, UCL, and from as far away as Northumbria University.

Parvati Perman-Howe from the Department of Psychology, Social Work and Public Health attended the event: "As a PhD student I found networking with like-minded, and many senior, academics to be an invaluable experience. As I am currently seeking a grant for my research, which looks at the effect of the strength of alcohol on consumption, the funding workshop was a brilliant opportunity to learn from academics with a proven track record of securing research funding. I hope the hints and tips I learnt will help me to secure the grant that I need!"



Practice-Based PhDs in the School of Arts



© Stu Allison



Kesia Decote Rodrigues, a research student from the School of Arts approaching the end of her practice-based PhD, recently held her PhD final show '*myths & visions*' as part of her examination.

Kesia's research investigated interdisciplinary strategies for the piano recital, and aimed to explore new and innovative ways to present classical music and engage audiences. The starting point of her research emerged from her practice as a classical pianist and her questions about the conventions of live classical music, for example: the lack of visuals in the performance space and the formal behaviour expected from musicians and the audience.

In her research, Kesia explored ways to shape her piano recitals as a comprehensive work of art. She developed and presented experimental piano performance projects, investigating specific elements combined in the piano recital, such as: installation, storytelling, lights, theatre, performance art, and dance. Kesia also proposed some challenges to the conventional role of the spectator by delivering one-to-one performances, and by presenting the piano recital as a kind of promenade performance.

In her PhD final show, *myths & visions*, the performance started outdoors

then carried on indoors. The musical programme was weaved with elements from dance (the movements were all choreographed), and the audience was guided by ushers to walk and sit in designated areas at specific moments in the performance. It was presented at three sold out evenings in the Drama Studio.

Kesia said, "It was reassuring to have such a warm response from the audience, who gave me really insightful feedback. It has been a privilege to do a practice-based PhD, where I could develop my research in the way that is more relevant for my work and for my audience; with piano performances! I have been really fortunate to have very encouraging support from my supervisors, department and technical staff, which has allowed me to explore my research questions in a highly creative way. The next step is to finish the text of my thesis. I am looking forward to the insightful process of writing down the reflections about my three years of practice-based research. I must also mention my sponsorship from CNPq – Brazil, which has been essential for my PhD studies."

Veronica Cordova de la Rosa, a practice-based research student also from the School of Arts, held an exhibition in The Glass Tank at Oxford Brookes University during 2016 entitled 'Images of Violence from Mexico: A Performance Art Based Enquiry'.

The exhibition mapped Veronica's PhD research journey, shown via sculptures, xerographs and documentation of live art. Veronica said, "For several years I had been a distant and more attentive witness of the violent situation in Mexico. I could have decided to ignore it, but the information was overwhelming and I had the need to talk about it through performativity."

Her research questions included 'To what extent can I transform images of violence into performances that create empathy towards victims of violence and have a positive impact?' The aims of her investigation were to create images and sculptures and explore the use of these in performativity; to conduct a practice-based research project that explored human violence through performance without traumatising the viewer and maintaining ethical values in the aesthetic perception; and to develop a methodology in performance art in which she expresses her work as practice and the use of herself as a participant.

The School of Arts has a dynamic and thriving research environment and an excellent reputation for both its research quality and impact. The School of Arts encompasses both practice-based PhD's as well as text-based PhDs in a diverse range of disciplines, including social sculpture, sonic art, popular music, opera, film studies and publishing.

Coming up

Research student training sessions to look out for this academic year.

Please check for updates to this programme, including dates and venues, at www.brookes.ac.uk/research-student-training/

GRADUATE COLLEGE TRAINING PROGRAMME

Semester 1 – 2017

- Induction session for new research students
- Time Management: planning your research degree and keeping up momentum
- The Viva Examination
- Training to enable supervisors and research students to develop applications for ethical approval
- Tackling the writing up stage of the research degree

Semester 2 – 2018

- Induction session for new research students
- Research degrees – strategies for successful part-time study
- Data Management and Storage
- Managing your supervisor and building a good working relationship with your supervisory team
- Presentation Workshop – Session 1 (Open to all)
- Presentation Workshop – Session 2 (Restricted numbers – to be agreed in session 1)
- Media Training Workshop
- Shut Up and Write
- Introduction to Public Engagement
- 12 Tips on how to make LinkedIn work for you

LIBRARY AND IT TRAINING

Semester 1 – 2017

- Copyright for research students: RADAR and submitting the electronic version of your thesis

Semester 2 – 2018

- Endnote Training
- Finding information for your research

CAREERS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Semester 1 – 2017

- Coaching Tools for personal and Professional Development
- Peer Coaching Lunch
- How to Get a Job: Successful Applications and Interviews for Researchers
- Enhancing your Personal Effectiveness as a Researcher: An Introduction to the MBTI Personality Framework
- Networking and Social Media for Researcher Careers

Semester 2 – 2018

- Life Design Training
- How to Get a Job: Applications Masterclass for Researchers
- How to Get a Job: Interview Skills Masterclass for Researchers

Graduate College Events

The Graduate College aims to nurture and encourage a strong community amongst its research students at Brookes. Several activities are run across both semesters to enable you to network with likeminded students and share ideas.

Here are the events currently scheduled for the 2017/18 Academic Year:

Networking Social Event for all Research Students and Supervisors
Wednesday 18 October, from 5.00pm

Guided Tour and Cream Tea at the Bodleian Library
Tuesday 7 November, from 10.30am

Speed Networking Event
Thursday 7 December, 10.00am to 12.00pm

3 Minute Thesis Event
Wednesday 7 February, 10.00am to 2.00pm

Research Student Breakfast Seminar
Tuesday 20 March, 9.30am to 12.00pm

Graduate College Annual Research Student Exhibition
Wednesday 2 May, 10.00am to 5.30pm

Guided Tour and Picnic at the Oxford Botanic Gardens
Thursday 7 June, from 11.00am

Further details will be circulated via email, or you can check for updates on events at any time at www.brookes.ac.uk/graduate-college/events/

Services and Support Wellbeing

Wellbeing services are located on the ground floor of the Buckley Building on the Headington Campus (behind Starbucks) and are available to all students enrolled with Oxford Brookes. Services include Counselling, the Disability and Dyslexia Services and the Multifaith Chaplaincy.

Our **Counselling Service** is available to all enrolled students. It is a free and confidential service which aims to work with you to enhance your emotional wellbeing; to help you clarify and overcome problems or issues that concern you; and to develop resources and skills to manage your life at University more effectively.

The Counselling Service runs a number of talks for enrolled Brookes students. Talks have a focus on a particular issue or problem using peer reviewed materials and up to date research and thinking. These are delivered in a lecture style and require no participation from attendees. You can

find full details of all talks available at www.brookes.ac.uk/students/wellbeing/counselling/talks/

Our **Disability Service** can provide you with advice and information if you have a disability or medical condition/s.

The **Dyslexia/SpLD Service** provides advice and support for students with specific learning difficulties including dyslexia, dyspraxia/DCD, attention deficit disorder and dyscalculia.

The **Multifaith Chaplaincy** is here to offer friendship and spiritual care to all members of the University including students and staff, UK and internationals, people from any faith tradition or no faith at all.

You can find further details about Wellbeing, or sign up for any of the services it provides, by visiting our website at www.brookes.ac.uk/students/wellbeing/



For further information about all the Graduate College social and networking events, please visit:

www.brookes.ac.uk/graduate-college/events
or email: asa-gcevents@brookes.ac.uk

Research Student and Alumni Profiles

Here, along with our regular research student profiles, we speak to one of our recently conferred PhD students.



**Dr Samih Kokandi, Oxford Brookes' Alumna
Department of Sport, Health Sciences and
Social Work**

“The PhD journey gave me a lot of transferable skills and experience: I became more confident about what I was working on; more able to handle a number of tasks at the same time; my time management skills were improved; and my research skills were enhanced. Only two months after graduation from Oxford Brookes University, I started working as a dietitian in an allergy centre in Jeddah.

My PhD study focused on the role of oral high dose vitamin D supplementation on asthma outcomes, mainly on airway inflammation. I was based in the Functional Food Centre (FFC) at Oxford Brookes University which is an excellent place for researchers. The laboratories in the FFC include many essential tools for research.

I am a Saudi Dietician and before starting my PhD, I had worked for over three years as a clinical dietitian in King Abdul Aziz University Hospital, Saudi Arabia. I had completed a master's degree in Human Nutrition and my dream was to do a PhD in my field.

The first nine months of my PhD were spent designing my study protocol and obtaining ethical approval from the University Research and Ethics Committee (UREC) at Oxford Brookes University and from King Abdul Aziz University in Saudi Arabia, where the study was partly conducted.

A number of studies had been conducted to investigate the association between vitamin D levels and allergic disease, such as asthma. However, there were few studies and trials that had investigated the effectiveness of vitamin D supplementation on such diseases. Moreover, there had been a number of shortcomings within the clinical trials conducted to study the effectiveness of vitamin D supplements, such as lack in power of study, inadequate vitamin D supplement or dose, and ineffective study time.

Despite the sunny climate, vitamin D deficiency is a serious problem in Saudi Arabia. According to a recent study,

vitamin D deficiency and insufficiency were found in 80-90% of the Saudi population. In addition to a very high rate of vitamin D deficiency, asthma is widely spread in Saudi Arabia. For these reasons we decided to undertake our intervention study in Saudi Arabia.

Vitamin D is an important component for human health. Calcium homeostasis is the classic function of vitamin D; however, in this study we were focusing on the non-classical effects of vitamin D, mainly its immunological effects. The intervention study aimed to investigate the effect of oral high dose vitamin D supplement (200 000 IU) on airway inflammation (primary outcome), lung function and control of the symptoms (secondary outcomes) of asthma participants. Participants were recruited from the allergy and asthma outpatient clinic at King Abdul Aziz University Hospital (KAUH) in Jeddah.

The PhD journey gave me a lot of transferable skills and experience: I became more confident about what I was working on; more able to handle a number of tasks at the same time; my time management skills were improved; and my research skills were enhanced. Only two months after graduation from Oxford Brookes University, I started working as a dietitian in an allergy centre in Jeddah. I am also applying for academic jobs in universities in Saudi Arabia. My dream is to be able to stimulate the desire of learning in students instead of giving the information. I would like to undertake research as well as being a part-time dietitian specialising in allergic disease.



**Sophie Edwards
Department of Social Sciences**

The title of my PhD is 'A comparison of craniomandibular ontogeny between hominoids of the Late Miocene and Early Pliocene in relation to contemporary climate change and paleoecological shifts.'

Before I started my PhD, I had just completed my BA (Hons) in Archaeology at the University of Leicester. While I was conducting research for my undergraduate dissertation, Dr Simon Underdown allowed me access to the hominin fossil casts at Oxford Brookes and I was impressed by the palaeoanthropological aspects of the Social Sciences department, in particular the laboratory and osteological collections. As a PhD student, I was welcomed into the Human Origins and Palaeo Environments (HOPE) research group. The potential learning benefits and opportunity to work alongside prominent researchers in the same field was a significant advantage of applying to study at Brookes.

The hominoids of the late Miocene and early Pliocene have been studied in relatively little detail in relation to the tumultuous climate change within which they inhabited. A more thorough account of how shifting paleo-environments affected the evolution of contemporary hominoids can be achieved by studying the shape variation of the craniomandibular morphology of relevant fossil specimens. My interdisciplinary research examines extant hominoid morphology and how they relate to their contemporary habitats with the aim of elucidating the impact environment has on the selective pressures that shape evolutionary trajectories.

Understanding the extent to which variation in cranial morphology occurs between species is a vital component for understanding how environmental factors contributed to manipulating our evolutionary pathways.

The advantage of using extant species in this study is their known habitats. We can use this environmental data coupled with geometric morphometric analyses of skull morphology in living primates and compare this knowledge to extinct hominins living in similar biomes. Ultimately, this research will provide a better foundation for understanding the evolution of the hominid skull. Understanding the extent to which variation in cranial morphology occurs between species is a vital component for understanding how environmental factors contributed to manipulating our evolutionary pathways.

Coming from undergraduate life straight into a PhD project was quite daunting, but I have had wonderful support from my supervisors and the Research Degrees Team, and I soon felt very comfortable researching here. When I first started my PhD, public speaking was such a frightening thought to me. Now that I am in my final year, I can tentatively say that I have overcome this and all it took was *lots* of practice. I really enjoy preparing posters and giving presentations at conferences now, as this is what really gave me the arena to practice public speaking and engagement, along with the opportunity to become an Associate Lecturer at Brookes. If presenting an hour long lecture on a stage in front of 100+ undergraduates doesn't cure your performance anxiety, I don't know what will.

I hope to be awarded my PhD in 2018 and then become a Postdoctoral Fellow continuing to research in the field of Palaeoanthropology.



Suman Saha
Department of Computing and Communication Technologies

The title of my PhD is ‘Online human action detection and instance segmentation in temporally untrimmed videos.’

I started my research degree at Oxford Brookes in September 2014, following completion of an MSc in Computer Science at the University of Bedfordshire. The Artificial Intelligence and Vision Research Group at Brookes has a world class reputation and the Computer Vision and Robotics Team has a close relationship with the University of Oxford. These are factors which motivated me to undertake a research degree at Brookes, along with the full-time funded University Research Scholarship.

The Machine Learning and Computer Vision Group at Brookes has the cutting edge of computing resources which facilitate students to undertake state-of-the-art (SOA) research to compete against other leading research institutions and organisations. For example, high performance cluster servers; work stations loaded with extremely fast graphical processing units which are highly optimised for parallel processing. The Robotics and Cognitive Research Group provides SOA robotic platforms such as RoboThespian, NAO humanoid robots, Baxter and TurtleBot.

Emerging real-world applications require an all-round approach to the machine understanding of human behaviour which goes beyond the recognition of simple, isolated actions, traditionally from whole videos. Imagine an autonomous flying surveillance UAV which is able to report that a person is “leaving his bag unattended” while somebody

else is “trying to unlock a door but is failing to do so”; a robotic surgical assistant which understands that the surgeon is preparing to dissect a tissue strand and reconfigures its arms to help him distend the target surface while adjusting camera focus; or a smart car spotting children walking along the sidewalk near a zebra crossing and pre-emptively adjusting its speed to cope with the possibility they suddenly decide to cross the road. The potential of such “aware agents” to improve people’s quality of life, security levels and business prospects is quite frankly enormous.

What smart cars and robotic surgeons need to achieve is a comprehensive awareness of what takes place in a complex environment, such as a street crowded with other vehicles and pedestrians. Such understanding needs to mature incrementally and has to be put to good use in real-time. Multiple simultaneous activities need to be first located and then recognised. Unfortunately, human activities are inherently difficult to capture and sometimes very hard to categorise. We are developing a framework which, given an incoming video stream, is able to incrementally learn and instantaneously detect, localise (in space and time) and recognise any number of complex human activities present.

The most exciting thing for me as a research student is the freedom to undertake independent research and focus on the development of a significant and original piece of research in my area of expertise. After completing my PhD, I hope to join as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow and continue my research in Artificial Intelligence and Computer Vision.

The potential of such “aware agents” to improve people’s quality of life, security levels and business prospects is quite frankly enormous.



Ksenia Penchukova
Oxford Brookes Business School

The title of my PhD is ‘Under-representation of female executive directors on company boards’.

Before embarking on my PhD journey, I worked in Human Resources where recruitment and talent development played a large part in my responsibilities. I became closely acquainted with diversity and equality, which gave rise to my interest in my research topic: why there are so few women in directorship roles in the UK’s private sector, in comparison to the number of men.

I wanted to find an educational institution with academic expertise in the area of gender diversity and women leadership, and I found the Centre for Diversity Policy Research and Practice, led by Professor Simonetta Manfredi, which specialises in research on equality and diversity within organisations.

The main purpose of my research study is to explore the issue of gender diversity in the UK’s corporate sector. Specifically, I wish to evaluate the problem of women’s under-representation at the leadership echelons of UK publicly listed businesses with a primary focus on the executive director level of UK FTSE 100 organisations. Women’s representation at executive director level of UK’s FTSE-100 boards remains very low. The number of female executive directors on FTSE-100 boards decreased over the recent years, while women’s representation at non-executive director level grew.

This study will explore whether it is the gender diversity at executive director level that adds equal, if not greater value to organisations, and therefore, is the level where female

representation should be targeted and improved. I will set out to identify the main causes of women’s under-representation at executive directorship level by exploring and comparing the experiences of a number of female executive directors and a group of male Chief Executive Officers, in order to determine the barriers and obstacles that prevent women from progressing in their careers.

At the beginning I was a little anxious about my transition. After all, I was ‘putting on hold’ my full-time corporate career, relocating abroad and embarking on a three-year academic experience. But the support that I have received from the various teams at Oxford Brookes University has been great from the very beginning. In addition to the abundant training opportunities offered at Brookes, both at University and at Faculty level, there are numerous debates, presentations, talks and conferences running throughout the year.

While being a research student, I particularly enjoy the opportunity to combine the theoretical dimension with practical. In my research project I first look at the academic perspective and explore the various theories and schools of thought that are out there. Then through fieldwork, I am able to assess these theories against people’s real-life experiences and provide evidence-based explanations.

At the moment, I plan to return to the corporate world after completing my PhD. However, I am also keen to explore a possible career in academia.

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Miguel Fernandes Ferreira
Department of Mechanical Engineering and Mathematical Sciences

The title of my PhD is 'Development of a system of parametric equations for optimal damping coefficients'.

I first heard about Oxford Brookes University when looking for the best institution to pursue a master's degree in Motorsport Engineering. I was initially impressed with the facilities, with plenty of high end racing cars on display and incredible equipment available. However, it was when the interaction with lecturers and technicians started that the real value of Oxford Brookes shined through. Having achieved my master's degree, I made the decision to stay and continue to develop my understanding of my area of interest.

The typical automotive suspension system is composed of a spring and damper installed at each wheel of the vehicle. The characteristics of the spring/damper pair are carefully selected in order to confer the desired behaviour to the vehicle. Generically, automotive suspension should promote traction and stability during dynamic manoeuvres while providing the required amount of comfort to passengers. The challenge in automotive suspension design arises from the conflicting nature of the parameters needed to achieve a balanced behaviour.

Current passive systems employ dampers with nonlinear characteristics that provide different levels of force depending on the velocity, and sometimes position, of the damper. The correct choice of nonlinear characteristics can achieve a compromise that confers the intended characteristics. Achieving the optimal setup is a complex task that typically relies on iterative methods that require a large amount of time and resources as well as

The development of a set of parametric equations capable of determining the optimal damper functions for a wide range of vehicles and applications would address the current issues

testing grounds or specialised equipment.

Virtual simulation has become an important tool for optimisation. However, due to the complex nature of the problem being addressed, this method tends to require a large amount of computational resources. The development of a set of parametric equations capable of determining the optimal damper functions for a wide range of vehicles and applications would address the current issues related to optimising a passive system, without the excessive cost and complexity of implementing an active system.

Settling into the research environment was very straight forward. Research students are very approachable and the facilities are organised in a way that promotes interaction, making it easy to get to know everyone. There are also great initiatives from students, the department and the University to organise and promote social events. The amount of resources available is fantastic; the University has free access to a great database of journals and other publications with plenty of support from librarians specialised in different subjects. The University offers a very comprehensive training program for research students, including weekly sessions covering different areas such as ethics, data visualisation and speaking with the media.

The most enjoyable part of being a research student is having the freedom to pursue knowledge in my particular area of interest. It is very rewarding when I realise that I am progressing into becoming an expert in my field.



Lauren Harding
Department of Midwifery, Community and Public Health

The title of my PhD is 'How do school nurses identify and work with school-aged children (5-19 years) at risk of abuse and neglect?'

I first came to Oxford Brookes in 2014 to undertake a postgraduate diploma in Specialist Community Public Health Nursing (school nursing). At the end of this course, the Course Lead emailed us with some information about PhD studentship opportunities in safeguarding children and I decided to apply.

My passion is safeguarding children and Oxford Brookes has a reputation for high quality research in this field. It also has the Children and Families Research Group and the new Oxford Institute of Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Research (OxINMAHR), which sounded like ideal platforms for inter-departmental learning.

My background is paediatric nursing and I worked in the community as a staff nurse for two years before training as a school nurse. I am on the clinical academic PhD programme, so I still work one day a week in clinical practice and hope to complete my PhD over four years.

The aim of my research project is to understand how school nurses identify and work with school-aged children at risk of child abuse and neglect in England. School nurses are nurses specially trained in public health, who work with primary and secondary schools to look after the health needs of school pupils. This can include mental and emotional health support, health promotion and sexual health. In more recent years, the

role of the school nurse in safeguarding children from child abuse has increased and the literature suggests that school nurses may be taking on a role that historically was more the remit of a social worker. At the same time, child abuse and neglect remains prevalent in society and the NSPCC (2016) suggests that for every known victim of child abuse in the UK, there are eight unknown victims. Little is known about the work of school nurses with these vulnerable children, or the skills, knowledge and tools they use to identify risk factors of child abuse and neglect.

An exploratory, mixed-methods approach will be used for the study, combining information from the electronic 'diaries' that school nurses keep on a day-to-day basis, as well as in-depth interviews with school nurses about their experiences.

I enjoy the variety that comes with being a research student and feel privileged to be able to dedicate time to study in-depth an area that interests me. My PhD supervisors, Professor Jane Appleton and Dr Jan Davison-Fischer, are very supportive and approachable and, of course, the support of my fellow PhD students has been invaluable.

After my PhD I would like to continue in a clinical academic role and contribute to the development of nursing practice in the protection of children and young people from harm.

For more current research student profiles please visit:
www.brookes.ac.uk/students/research-degrees-team/current-students/graduate-college/student-profiles/

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Congratulations!

Congratulations to all our Research Students on the successful outcome of their vivas and the conferment of their degrees during the period December 2016 – July 2017.

Faculty of Health and Life Sciences

Doctor of Philosophy

Mine Aksular

Use of baculovirus surface display for characterization of AHSV4-VP2 antigenic structure

Ellie Beaman

Investigations into altered cellular glycosylation associated with metastatic competence in breast cancer cell lines

Adam Burns

Applications of next-generation technologies in the diagnosis of haematological diseases and cancer

Emmanuel Debrah

Cerebral mechanisms of breathlessness and its relief

Nicola Dewland

Does an objective laboratory measurement of platelet quality correlate with clinical efficacy?

Leo Graves

Taking a Closer Look: Exploring the functional roles of P10 in baculovirus-infected cells

Samih Kokandi

The effect of vitamin D status on lung function and airway inflammation in adults in Saudi Arabia and the UK

Daan Meester

The effect of distractor-treadmill training on neural correlates and gait function after stroke

Karina New

Contribution of the structural signature $\beta 2+/\beta 2$ -subunit interface to the function of the $(\alpha 4\beta 2)2\beta 2$ nicotinic acetylcholine receptor

Alessandra Rocchetti

Interactions between the plant Golgi apparatus and the cytoskeleton

Julien Rudisch

Bimanual coordination and motor learning in children with unilateral motor disorders

Priya Samuel

Investigating the role of microRNAs and extracellular vesicles in cisplatin resistance in ovarian cancer

Adele Timbs

Characterisation of genetic complexity in chronic lymphocytic leukaemia

Andrea Frances Tolmie

Influence of the cell wall on the organisation and dynamics of intracellular components in Arabidopsis thaliana

MSc by Research

Molly Lloyd Jones

A comparison of different work: rest in a high intensity interval training programme; the effect on performance and health parameters

Liam McWhirter

The effect of aerobic base training on heart-rate variability and performance in elite youth football players

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Doctor of Philosophy

Nawaf Al-Yaseen

Islamic public policy and morality principles and their effect on trade mark registration and protection in the light of the TRIPS Agreement

MHD Samer Altoutou

The confrontation over Iran's nuclear programme status: Nature, scope and legality

Melanie Bashor

Engineering Tolerance: Origins of multicultural education policies in the Atlantic World from 1941 to 1988

Francis Cabana

Using nutritional ecology (native ingredients and chemical competition) of the Javan Slow Loris (*Nycticebus javanicus*) to improve captive feeding husbandry

Lucy Clarke

Ordinary Sanctity: Grief and the fiction of Marilynne Robinson

Crispin Hyde-Dunn

Henry VII: A study of visual display in life and death

Caroline Rond

Imaginary companionship and adult memory narratives: An interpretive phenomenological analysis

Catherine Rushmore

Chemicals and their users in the British Home: 1930-1980s

Janet Walters

Architectural planning and behavioural conventions in the re-use of spiritual properties in sixteenth-century London

PhD by Published Work

Alan Bailey

Hume on scepticism, experience and religious belief

Magda Svensson

Conservation and ecology of nocturnal primates – Night Monkeys, Galagos, Pottos and Angwantibos as Case Studies

Doctor of Education

Daniel Butcher

'Figuring and Becoming': Developing identities among beginning nursing students

Oxford Brookes Business School

Doctor of Philosophy

Bjoern Asmussen

How do brand managers conceptualise brands? An investigation in the age of the internet-based democratisation of brand management

Kiran Karrouchi

Reciprocal impacts of climate change and socio-economic structures with implications for poverty and an analysis of comparative economic paradigms for sustainable policy solutions: A case study of Pakistan

Aisha Kolawole

An empirical analysis of energy demand in Sub-Saharan Africa

Sandra Liliana Preciado Pacheco

Global brand meaning and symbolic consumption in the fashion industry: Comparing consumer's perceptions in Bogota and London

Ringkar Situmorang

Exploring expatriation and localization of managers in the international hotel industry: a case study from Jakarta, Indonesia

Shirley Velasquez

Ecuadorian remittances, gender, and family relations. A study of the transnational ties between Ecuadorian migrants in England and their families in Ecuador

Xiaolei Zhang

Factors that shape an organisation's risk appetite: insights from the international hotel industry

Doctor of Coaching and Mentoring

Sally Bonneywell

Exploring the experience of simultaneous individual and group coaching of female leaders in a multinational organisation

Faculty of Technology, Design and Environment

Doctor of Philosophy

Jalawi Alshudukhi

Fixed chain-based wireless sensor network for intelligent transportation systems

Stephen Barker

The design, analysis and evaluation of a biometric humanoid robotic head

Ryan Bromley

Art in the mouth: A critical evaluation of the chemical senses in contemporary art

Camilla Chlebna

The role of institutions for the development of the wind energy industry in Britain and Germany

Celia Maria Correia Macedo

A 'Dream-House' for Luanda's low income population: Analysing perceptions, aspirations and reality through a Participatory

Post-Occupancy Assessment (PPOA) framework

Erick Silva Omena De Melo

Exerting state power in core and semi-peripheral countries: Land clearance and domination strategies in London, Rio de Janeiro and Johannesburg

Aya Kasai

Nothing Matters: Answering the question 'Where's the Art?' through MA and Gen

Dimitrios Moutaftsis

Improved structural, embodied carbon and cost efficiency of single story industrial buildings using sandwich panels

Fraser Murray

Sent to Coventry: the role of a social network in the settlement of dispersed Congolese asylum seekers

Soroush Nikeghbali

Density and Design: The impact of urban densification on design qualities in residential neighbourhoods

Adewole Ogunyadeka

Transactions and data management in NoSQL cloud databases

Mircea Cristian Roman

Heterogeneous parallel multi-radio transmission system in wireless vehicular communication

Mina Samangooei

Individuals cultivating edible plants on buildings in England

Turki Mohammed S Shoaib

Place branding in a globalizing Middle East: New cities in Saudi Arabia

Francesco Sticchi

A Spinozan analysis of film experience

Peter Turner

An investigation of priming, self-consciousness, and allegiance in the diegetic camera horror film

Lucy Warwick

Print and British Imperialism: the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, 1826-46

MSc by Research

Molly Fitches

Mathematical modelling of blood glucose regulation

Yanli Qi

A non-invasive glucose measurement device

Davide Sciortino

Particulate matter analysis from a GDI engine: correlation with combustion characteristics and mixture preparation



Stay connected

Brookes has a strong and vibrant research student community. Here are just some of the ways you can stay in touch:



Cream Tea and Tour of the Bodleian Library

The Graduate College invite all research students to join them for cream tea at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, followed by a private guided tour.

The Bodleian Library is one of the oldest libraries in Europe, and in Britain is second in size only to the British Library, with over 12 million printed items.

Your 90 minute Extended Tour will cover Divinity School, Convocation House, Chancellor's Court, Duke Humfrey's Library, Radcliffe Camera's upper reading room and Gladstone Link.

Bodleian Libraries, Broad Street, Oxford, OX1 3BG
Tuesday 7 November 2017, from 10.30am

Places are limited and available on a first-come first-served basis so book early to avoid disappointment. Bookings will open on Monday 2 October 2017 at 9.00am. Look out for our email with further information or email asa-gcevents@brookes.ac.uk

Research Student Web Forum

The Oxford Brookes Research Student Forum is a Google Groups web forum where you can chat and network with other research students at Brookes. It is a student-led forum so please feel free to ask a question or start a new discussion.

You can join the Research Student Forum now at <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/brookes-research-students>

 Follow us on Twitter @brookesGC

For further information on all of our activities please visit:
www.brookes.ac.uk/graduate-college/events

OXFORD BROOKES RESEARCH ALUMNI COMMUNITY

Join our new group on LinkedIn



Join our growing, vibrant network of Oxford Brookes research students, past and present, where you can:

- engage with current students.
- stay in touch with Alumni.
- share career experiences.
- look at the transferable nature of your skills, within and beyond academia.

You can request to join the group now at www.linkedin.com/groups/8579492



An evening at the Museum of the History of Science

On 13 July, a group of 15 research students attended a private out of hours tour of the Museum of the History of Science, led by renowned Deputy Director, Dr Stephen Johnston. The tour was followed by a drinks reception.

This was a really successful event and brought together students from a diverse range of disciplines, from engineering to nursing to creative writing. Feedback from the event was very positive: "I have lived in Oxford for the best part of 30 years and never been to the Museum of Science. I will definitely be taking my visitors there in future!" "It was great to be shown around by someone who is so enthusiastic about the collection." "I have visited the Museum twice before, but it was a completely different, and even more absorbing experience with such a knowledgeable and engaging tour guide!"

Spotlight on research...

Follow the research journey of one of Brookes' PhD students.

GEORGE SALTAOURAS
Faculty of Health and Life Sciences



I first joined Oxford Brookes University as a Research Assistant in the Functional Food Centre in January 2014. My main role was to conduct human studies investigating the role of different food products in metabolic markers, such as blood glucose and insulin.

I was part of the Nutrition Research Group; composed of research students, academics and staff members of the Functional Food Centre. I really appreciated the quality of research that took place, as well as the support students got from their supervisors, and knew that undertaking a research degree at Oxford Brookes would be an exciting experience.

I became a research student at Brookes in September 2016 and the title of my PhD is 'Nutrition and pelvic cancer patients: a mixed-method study to explore dietary habits, nutritional awareness and patient experiences'. My research project is a collaboration between two departments within the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences and I have the opportunity to work with two research groups; one I already know (Nutrition group); and one that I am excited to get to know (Supportive Care group).

There are more than 2.5 million people in the UK living with a cancer diagnosis of which 50% will survive their disease for ten years or more. With the increasing number of cancer survivors, it is important to consider the short and long-

term self-management needs related to a number of lifestyle factors, including dietary requirements.

Pelvic cancer includes cancers of the prostate, ovaries, rectum and bladder, all of which are common in the UK. Pelvic radiotherapy is often an integral part of the multidisciplinary approaches used to treat pelvic tumours. However, adverse effects following radiotherapy, such as bowel dysfunction, incontinence and fatigue, can persist for months and years beyond the end of treatment and can have a significant impact on a patient's diet and subsequent nutritional status. Treatment side-effects and fears of cancer recurrence, or developing a secondary cancer or comorbidity, are likely to influence patients' sense of well-being.

Whether they have or have not made dietary changes following their diagnosis, pelvic cancer patients often have concerns about their diet and are interested in receiving information about healthy eating. There is also growing evidence that demonstrates the impact of a healthy diet on improved physical quality of life and lower body weight of pelvic cancer survivors. However, diet and nutrition is a neglected aspect of survivorship care. A recent report from the National Institute for Health Research suggests that many patients with cancer do not receive dietary advice from their healthcare professionals and that for those who do, the advice received is

often considered confusing.

In this project, I focus on pelvic cancer patients treated with radical radiotherapy. Using a mixed-methods approach (surveys and interviews) I will measure food habits, identify appetite issues, explore symptom experiences and evaluate nutrition support received during and after treatment for pelvic cancer patients. I will also assess patients' awareness of and attitudes towards current dietary recommendations. It is expected that results from the project will inform the development of future patient-focused nutrition interventions and care services.

A research degree is a great opportunity for training and learning. I enjoy working in an academic environment and learning about new research approaches, such as qualitative research. I am also involved in a variety of committees as a student representative, which gives me the opportunity to inform the University about student issues and familiarise myself with the way the University works to enhance student experience.

I am aiming for a career in public health nutrition. I see myself as a future researcher who works towards the improvement of people's health and well-being. I have always believed that during my PhD studies I will develop a ground-breaking research idea and I am confident this will happen soon.

"With the increasing number of cancer survivors, it is important to consider the short and long-term self-management needs related to a number of lifestyle factors, including dietary requirements."

RESEARCH DEGREE STUDENTSHIPS

Oxford Brookes University is pleased to offer funding towards a range of full-time Studentships.

Visit the following website to access full details of all funding opportunities currently available:

www.brookes.ac.uk/studentships

“The supervision is highly effective, challenging and inspirational. I really appreciate that I take ownership of the research project where supervisors are members of my research team. It really enriches the research process and provides a great learning environment.”

PRES 2017

91%

of Oxford Brookes research students felt that their supervisor/s had the skills and subject knowledge to support their research.

PRES 2017