

University of Bradford

Name of Organisation:

University of Bradford

Fellowship Summary

The University of Kelaniya and University of Bradford Commonwealth Professional Fellowship programme will focus on capacity building in healthcare services in Sri Lanka through knowledge transfer and training on curriculum development and delivery to meet the growing needs and skills gaps in the field of occupational therapy in Sri Lanka.

Weblink for Candidates

<https://www.bradford.ac.uk/external/>

Eligibility

Professionals involved in curriculum development, course delivery leading to professional qualification, as well as teaching, training, supervising, and assessing occupational therapy or physiotherapy students in higher educational institutions in Sri Lanka will be eligible to apply. Those selected for fellowships will not be eligible to engage in any form of clinical practice in the host institution during the fellowship.

Proposed Fellowship Dates

21/02/2024 to 16/05/2024

Proposed Activity

12-week programme, commencing mid-February 2024, to be drawn up by the University of Bradford. The programme will include activities related to (a) curriculum development in occupational therapy (OT) through focus groups and discussions with academics at the University of Bradford; (b) clinical supervision and assessment with OT professional in the NHS; and (c) applying for WFOT recognition

Potential areas of training proposed:

Teaching and learning: this would include exploring different models of student-centred learning, active learning strategies, and innovative teaching methodologies.

Curriculum development: work with experienced faculty to develop a curriculum that meets international standards and best practices for occupational therapy education. This would include mapping the curriculum, designing course materials, integrating and assessing clinical practice within the programme, and developing assessment strategies.

Evidence-based practice: participate in training sessions on evidence-based practice, learning how to find, evaluate, and apply current research in occupational therapy to clinical practice and teaching.

Clinical supervision: observe and participate in clinical supervision sessions to develop skills in this area. Learn best practices for providing constructive feedback, setting goals, and evaluating clinical performance.

Cultural competence: explore strategies for developing a culturally sensitive and responsive occupational therapy programme. Working with faculty and staff to integrate cultural competence into the curriculum and exploring best practices for working with diverse populations.

Technology and lab facilities: explore the latest technology and lab facilities used in occupational therapy education and clinical practice including hands-on experience with cutting-edge equipment and tools.

Accreditation: work with an experienced faculty to identify the requirements for obtaining the relevant country/international accreditation (WFOT accreditation for the BSc Honours in Occupational Therapy programme at the University of Kelaniya.)

The skills gained by Fellows will help to strengthen and upgrade the programmes offered by Fellows in their home country, Sri Lanka, which will in turn strengthen the relevant professionals and the services that they are able to offer to persons with disabilities.

The fellowships will help to improve the quality of education and training provided to OT students and ensure that it meets international standards. This, in turn, will help to produce well-trained OT professionals who can provide high-quality care to patients in Sri Lanka.

Proposed CSC development themes:

1. Strengthening health systems and capacity: enhance skills and knowledge in teaching and clinical supervision, which can help improve the quality of OT education and clinical services in Sri Lanka.
2. Promoting global prosperity: OT can play a key role in enabling people to participate in the workforce and in community life, which can contribute to economic and social development.
3. Access, inclusion and opportunity: developing a culturally oriented programme to ensure that OT services are responsive to the needs and values of diverse populations, including people with special needs.
4. Science and technology for development: learning about advanced technology and lab facilities
5. Strengthening resilience and response to crises: OT can play a role in supporting individuals and communities to recover from trauma and disasters, which can contribute to resilience and wellbeing.

Priority Theme

Strengthening health systems and capacity