

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS

JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE:	Historian in Residence
TERM OF OFFICE:	5 years
RESPONSIBLE TO:	Registrar
WORKING WITH:	
Governance	President, Registrar and other College Officers
Management	Director of Finance and Operations, Library and Archives Manager and Archives and Records Manager
RESPONSIBLE FOR:	N/A
ELECTED/APPOINTED:	Appointed
TIME COMMITMENT:	4 PA per month
SALARY:	Voluntary

JOB PURPOSE

The purpose of the Historian in Residence (HiR) is:

- To contribute background knowledge to help those grappling with complex policy issues, to inform policy making, avoid reinventing the wheel and repeating past mistakes.
- To ensure the most appropriate use of historical analyses to raise questions about, and contribute to debate on, current issues.
- To assist psychiatrists and historians to formulate research questions which have relevance to the 'history-policy' interface.
- To assist in answering questions on the history of psychiatry which emerge within, and outside, the College.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Work alongside the Archivist and Honorary Archivist in interpreting or displaying the College's historical artefacts.
- Contribute to academic development of the History of Psychiatry Special Interest Group
- Liaise with special interest groups, faculties and College committees when they seek advice on an issue of history or 'history and policy'.
- Work collaboratively with Archivist when questions arise about the history of psychiatry.
- Help ensure that psychiatrists who use historical material to contribute to policy debate and College publications use high quality historical analyses in a sound manner.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential

- Experience of clinical work in psychiatry
- Interest in public engagement

Desirable

- A PhD, MD or equivalent academic achievement on a subject relevant to 19th and 20th century psychiatric history in the UK.
- Interest in current mental health policy

THE COLLEGE VALUES

Courage

- Champion the specialty of psychiatry and its benefits to patients
- Take every opportunity to promote and influence the mental health agenda
- Take pride in our organisation and demonstrate self-belief
- Promote parity of esteem
- Uphold the dignity of those affected by mental illness, intellectual disabilities and developmental disorders.

Innovation

- Embrace innovation and improve ways to deliver services
- Challenge ourselves and be open to new ideas
- Seek out and lead on new, evidence-based, ways of working
- Have the confidence to take considered risks
- Embrace the methodology of Quality Improvement to improve mental health services and the work of the College.

Respect

- Promote diversity and challenge inequalities
- Behave respectfully – and with courtesy – towards everyone
- Challenge bullying and inappropriate behaviour
- Value everyone's input and ideas equally
- Consider how own behaviour might affect others
- Respect the environment and promote sustainability.

Collaboration

- Work together as One College – incorporating all members, employees, patients and carers
- Work professionally and constructively with partner organisations
- Consult all relevant audiences to achieve effective outcomes for the College
- Work together with patients and carers as equal partners
- Be transparent, wherever possible and appropriate.

Learning

- Learn from all experiences
- Share our learning and empower others to do the same
- Value and encourage personal feedback
- Use feedback to make continuous improvements
- Create an enabling environment where everyone is listened to, regardless of seniority
- Positively embrace new ways of working.

Excellence

- Deliver outstanding service to members, patients, carers and other stakeholders
- Promote excellent membership and employee experience
- Always seek to improve on own performance
- Promote professionalism by acting with integrity and behaving responsibly
- Demonstrate accountability in all that we do
- Uphold the College's 'Core Values for Psychiatrists'.

INTERNAL COLLEGE CONTACTS:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Department: Finance and Operations• Section/Project: Library and Archives• Name of Contact: Fiona Watson• Job Title: Library and Archives Manager

October 2023.