

Call for Applications: Deputy Director, Campbell UK & Ireland

Campbell UK & Ireland is a national centre of the international Campbell Collaboration. It's mission is to achieve positive social and economic change by promoting an evidence-based approach to policy and practice through the production and use of high-quality systematic reviews.

Campbell UK & Ireland is hosted by the Centre for Evidence and Social Innovation (CESI) at Queen's University Belfast and was formally launched in June 2017. The Centre has appointed five core staff and developed and approved its first Strategic Plan that will run from 2019-2021. For further details on Campbell UK & Ireland see: www.qub.ac.uk/campbell

Applications are now invited from eligible academics within Queen's for the position of Deputy Director of Campbell UK & Ireland to support the Director, Dr Sarah Miller, in leading the Centre and the implementation of its Strategic Plan. The position is available for three years in the first instance, with the opportunity for renewal.

Job Description

The Deputy Director will report to the Director of Campbell UK & Ireland, who is responsible for overseeing their work and in turn reports directly to the Director of CESI. The Deputy Director will, alongside the Director, attend and report to twice-yearly meetings of the Campbell UK & Ireland Advisory Board whose role is to provide guidance and support to the Director.

The Deputy Director will be part of the strategic leadership team for Campbell UK & Ireland. Within this, s/he will be responsible for supporting the Director by:

1. Contributing to the successful implementation of the Strategic Plan;
2. Proposing amendments to the Plan, as may be required, for consideration by the Advisory Board and approval by the Director of CESI;
3. Contributing to the development of an annual and detailed Work Plan of activities, outputs and outcomes and budgets for each 12-month period to achieve the Strategic Plan;
4. Contributing to the preparation of financial reports and accounts as required;
5. Contributing to the development of future Strategic Plans for consideration by the Advisory Board and approval by the Director of CESI;
6. Representing Campbell UK & Ireland internally within Queen's and externally;
7. Developing and maintaining excellent relationships with a wide range of internal and external stakeholders;
8. Contributing to the production and presentation of progress and financial reports, as required, by the Advisory Board and Director of CESI;
9. Deputising for the Director of Campbell UK & Ireland when required.

The Person

The Deputy Director should:

1. Currently hold an academic position within Queen's at the level of Lecturer or above and on a contract that runs for at least three years from the date of appointment to the position of Deputy Director of Campbell UK & Ireland;
2. Have considerable knowledge and expertise in undertaking systematic reviews to a standard equivalent to Campbell Reviews;
3. Have successfully published at least one systematic review with either the Campbell or Cochrane Collaborations or an equivalent organisation;
4. Have an excellent understanding of the work of the Campbell Collaboration;
5. Have experience of managing and leading research projects.

In addition to the above essential criteria, the following would be desirable:

7. Experience of contributing to the work of the Campbell Collaboration (e.g. as a peer reviewer, editorial board member and/or holding one or more positions within the Campbell Collaboration);
8. Research interests that fall within the scope of at least one of the Campbell Coordinating Groups; and
9. Experience as an author of a Campbell Review (either of a full review or at least of a published protocol).

How to Apply **(Please Note Extended Deadline)**

Applicants should submit the following by email to David Piekaar (d.piekaar@qub.ac.uk), by **4:00pm on Friday 16 August 2019**:

- A letter of application of no more than two pages summarising your relevant experience and achievements to date and how this aligns to the requirements for the post you are applying for;
- A summary Curriculum Vitae of no more than three pages summarising your career history, relevant outputs, grant income and other key achievements relevant to the post.

Further Information

The Strategic Plan for Campbell UK & Ireland is attached.

For further information please contact Dr Sarah Miller, Director of Campbell UK & Ireland at: s.j.miller@qub.ac.uk

STRATEGIC PLAN 2019 – 2021

1. Mission

Campbell UK & Ireland seeks to achieve positive social and economic change by promoting an evidence-based approach to policy and practice through the production and use of high-quality systematic reviews.

2. Background

The Campbell Collaboration

The Campbell Collaboration is an international, voluntary, non-profit research network that publishes systematic reviews. Campbell Reviews synthesise and evaluate the quality of evidence about programmes in social and behavioural sciences¹ with the aim of helping people make better choices and better policy decisions.

By focusing on the production of systematic reviews to the highest international standards, Campbell Reviews represent the authoritative source of evidence syntheses that can be trusted by policymakers and others. By promoting their wider use of Campbell Reviews in service design and commissioning, the Campbell Collaboration seeks to maximise the effectiveness of services in bringing about measurable improvements in people's lives.

As high-quality systematic reviews improve the confidence in the results they produce, policymakers and others can rely on them to a greater extent when making policy choices and resource decisions.

Campbell UK & Ireland

Campbell UK & Ireland is a national centre of the Campbell Collaboration, hosted by the Centre for Evidence and Social Innovation at Queen's University Belfast. Its role is to promote the work of the Campbell Collaboration across the UK and Ireland. The primary focus of this work is to encourage the greater production and use of Campbell Reviews nationally. We aim to achieve this through:

- supporting training and research capacity building in relation to systematic review methods;
- seeking funding to support research teams in the UK and Ireland undertake Campbell Reviews; and

¹ The current priority work areas for the Campbell Collaboration are: crime and justice; disability; education; international development; nutrition; social welfare; and knowledge translation and implementation.

- making strategic connections with research organisations, universities, NGOs and local and national governments across the islands to encourage the greater use of Campbell Reviews and promote a stronger focus on evidence-informed decision making.

3. Principles and priorities

Campbell bases its work on ten key principles:

1. **Collaboration**, by internally and externally fostering good communications, open decision-making and teamwork.
2. Building on the **enthusiasm** of individuals, by involving and supporting people of different skills and backgrounds.
3. **Avoiding duplication**, by good management and co-ordination to ensure economy of effort.
4. **Minimizing bias**, through a variety of approaches such as scientific rigour, ensuring broad participation, and avoiding conflicts of interest.
5. **Keeping up to date**, by a commitment to ensure that Campbell Reviews are maintained through identification and incorporation of new evidence.
6. Striving for **relevance**, by promoting the assessment of policies and practices using outcomes that matter to people.
7. Promoting **access**, by wide dissemination of the outputs of the Collaboration, taking advantage of strategic alliances, and by promoting appropriate prices, content and media to meet the needs of users worldwide.
8. Ensuring **quality**, by being open and responsive to criticism, applying advances in methodology, and developing systems for quality improvement.
9. **Continuity**, by ensuring that responsibility for reviews, editorial processes and key functions is maintained and renewed.
10. Enabling **wide participation** in the work of the Collaboration, by reducing barriers to contributing and by encouraging diversity.

4. Outcomes

There are two fundamental outcomes for Campbell UK & Ireland that will drive its work over the course of this current planning period:

- To double the number of Campbell Reviews published by teams in the UK and Ireland.
- To increase the use of Campbell Reviews in public discourse and policy formulation in the UK and Ireland.

There are currently 147 completed Campbell Reviews published in the Campbell Library, of which 38 (26%) are produced by teams based in the UK and Ireland. We will set a target of reaching 76 published reviews in the Campbell Library by the end of December 2021.

Setting targets for measuring the use of Campbell Reviews is more difficult. We will undertake work in the first year to develop a baseline for the current use of Campbell Reviews and will set ambitious targets for improving upon this for December 2021.

5. Strategic Objectives

To achieve these outcomes, Campbell UK & Ireland will focus its efforts on the following seven strategic objectives over the coming three years:

1. Establish the Centre as a national research hub for connecting researchers undertaking systematic reviews in the social sciences across the UK and Ireland.
2. Host and grow the Education Coordinating Group through the Centre, on behalf of the Campbell Collaboration internationally.
3. Develop strategic relationships with other organisations in the UK and Ireland committed to supporting the production and promoting the importance of systematic reviews.
4. Work with Universities across the UK and Ireland to promote and facilitate the provision of high-quality training and support for those undertaking systematic reviews and meta-analysis.
5. Organise seminars, workshops and other events across the UK and Ireland, in collaboration with a range of partners, that seek to promote the work of the Campbell Collaboration and particularly the findings of Campbell reviews and their better take up and use by policy makers, commissioners of public services and practitioners and service providers.
6. Engage with governments, policy makers, professional organisations and knowledge brokers in Ireland and the devolved administrations across the UK to promote the better use of systematic reviews.
7. Engage with service users and others whose lives would be improved by better-informed, evidence-based decision making.
8. Engage with a range of external funding organisations regionally and nationally to increase the resources available to support the production and dissemination of Campbell systematic reviews.

Activities & Outputs

Key activities and outputs against these seven objectives, and for each of the three years of this current planning period, is set out below. The activities and outputs for 2019 are provided in sufficient detail to represent our action plan for the year. A more detailed action plan for 2020 will be developed and agreed before the end of November 2019. This will also be repeated for the detailed action plan for 2021, to be developed and agreed before the end of November 2020.

As can be seen in the plans set out below, there are three underpinning drivers for the activities:

- The development of agreements with an **expanding network of partner universities** across the UK and Ireland that will be the main mechanism for the provision of training, the organisation of regional promotional and stakeholder events and the securing of external funding for systematic reviews.
- The development of **close working relationships with the What Works Network** nationally and with each of the What Works Centres and other key knowledge brokers.
- The **enhancement of the Centre's role nationally** in coordinating activities and collating and sharing information and resources and, within this, to lead the work of the Education Coordinating Group for the Campbell Collaboration internationally.

Strategic Objectives	Action Plans		
	2019	2020 (Provisional)	2021 (Provisional)
<p>1) Establish the Centre as a national research hub for connecting researchers undertaking systematic reviews in the social sciences across the UK and Ireland.</p>	<p>a) Enhance the Centre's website to further promote relevant Campbell Reviews.</p> <p>b) Enhance the use of the Centre's Twitter and Facebook pages.</p> <p>c) Maintain the fortnightly Meta-Evidence Blog.</p> <p>d) Establish and produce a monthly E-zine.</p> <p>e) Support biennial meetings of the Advisory Board.</p>	<p>a) Maintain and enhance further the Centre's website.</p> <p>b) Maintain and enhance further the use of the Centre's Twitter and Facebook pages.</p> <p>c) Maintain and enhance further the fortnightly Meta-Evidence Blog.</p> <p>d) Maintain and enhance further the monthly E-zine.</p> <p>e) Continue to support biennial meetings of the Advisory Board.</p>	<p>a) Maintain and enhance further the Centre's website.</p> <p>b) Maintain and enhance further the use of the Centre's Twitter and Facebook pages.</p> <p>c) Maintain and enhance further the fortnightly Meta-Evidence Blog.</p> <p>d) Maintain and enhance further the monthly E-zine.</p> <p>e) Continue to support biennial meetings of the Advisory Board.</p>
<p>2) Host and grow the Education Coordinating Group through the Centre, on behalf of the Campbell Collaboration internationally.</p>	<p>a) Consolidate the new administrative and organisational arrangements for the transfer of the Education Coordinating Group to the Centre.</p> <p>b) Clear the backlog of reviews requiring decisions in the system.</p> <p>c) Develop a plan and set targets for the growth of the Group over the next two years.</p>	<p>a) Deliver on the plan that has been developed for the Education Coordinating Group.</p>	<p>a) Deliver on the plan that has been developed for the Education Coordinating Group.</p>

Strategic Objectives	Action Plans		
	2019	2020 (Provisional)	2021 (Provisional)
<p>3) Develop strategic relationships with other Universities in the UK/Ireland committed to supporting the production of and promoting the importance of systematic reviews.</p>	<p>a) Identify and agree Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with five Universities: one in each of the Republic of Ireland, Scotland and Wales and two in England (one north and one south).</p> <p>MoUs to include: a commitment to: facilitating Campbell training and support for the production of Campbell Reviews; and seeking external research funding to support the production of Campbell Reviews.</p>	<p>a) Develop a network structure for partner Universities to meet and support one another.</p> <p>b) Increase the number of partner universities/research organisations with MoUs to 10.</p>	<p>a) Enhance the network structure for partner universities.</p> <p>b) Increase the number of partner universities/research organisations with MoUs to 15.</p>
<p>4) Promote and facilitate the provision of high-quality training and support for those undertaking, or using, systematic reviews and meta-analysis across the UK & Ireland.</p>	<p>a) Through the partner universities and with Evidence synthesis Ireland, establish and run a programme of national training events to be delivered regionally across the UK and Ireland. A total of five events to be delivered in this year.</p> <p>b) To establish a video library of freely-available training videos online, through the Centre's website.</p>	<p>a) Through the partner universities and with Evidence synthesis Ireland, to enhance further the programme of national training events to be delivered regionally across the UK and Ireland. At least 10 events to be delivered in this year.</p> <p>b) To enhance further, the video library of freely-available training videos through the Centre's website.</p>	<p>a) Through the partner universities and with Evidence synthesis Ireland, to enhance further the programme of national training events to be delivered regionally across the UK and Ireland. At least 10 events to be delivered in this year.</p> <p>b) To enhance further, the video library of freely-available training videos through the Centre's website.</p>

Strategic Objectives	Action Plans		
	2019	2020 (Provisional)	2021 (Provisional)
<p>5) Organise seminars, conferences and other events across the UK & Ireland, in collaboration with a range of partners, that promote the work of Campbell and its reviews and their better take up and use by policy makers, commissioners of services and practitioners.</p>	<p>a) Through partner universities, begin planning regional events to promote the work of the Campbell Collaboration.</p>	<p>a) With partner universities, deliver at least seven regional promotional events (three in England and one in each of the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales).</p> <p>b) Through the network of partner universities, begin planning work to host the first biennial national Campbell UK & Ireland conference in 2021.</p>	<p>a) With partner universities, deliver at least seven regional stakeholder events (three in England and one in each of the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales).</p> <p>b) Organise the first national biennial Campbell UK & Ireland conference supported by the network.</p>
<p>6) Engage with governments, policy makers, professional organisations and knowledge brokers in Ireland and the devolved administrations across the UK to promote the better use of systematic reviews.</p>	<p>a) Nationally, focus on developing relationships with the What Works Network and key knowledge brokers nationally begin to explore and scope out potential areas of collaboration.</p> <p>b) Regionally, through partner universities, begin scoping out and planning regional stakeholder engagement plans to build upon the promotional events, drawing upon the What Works Centres and other knowledge brokers as appropriate.</p>	<p>a) Draw up MoUs and agreements with the What Works Network and/or What Works Centres and other knowledge brokers, building upon the scoping exercise.</p> <p>b) Regionally, and with partner universities, organise follow-up engagement activities with key stakeholders for each of the seven regional events, drawing upon the What Works Centres and other knowledge brokers as appropriate.</p>	<p>a) Begin to deliver on the MoUs and agreements made with the What Works Network and/or What Works Centres and other knowledge brokers, building upon the scoping exercise.</p> <p>b) Regionally, and with partner universities, build upon the initial stakeholder engagements to develop and implement further stakeholder engagement activities, drawing upon the What Works Centres and other knowledge brokers as appropriate.</p>

Strategic Objectives	Action Plans		
	2019	2020 (Provisional)	2021 (Provisional)
7) Engage with service users and others whose lives would be improved by better-informed, evidence-based decision making.	<p>a) Identify the focus for an initial five service user focus groups and, working with partner universities, establish and organise at least one meeting of each group.</p> <p>b) Collate and disseminate the issues arising from the focus groups through the Centre website and also through to Campbell Coordinating Groups, as appropriate.</p>	<p>a) Maintain the initial five focus groups and establish and organise meetings for at least another five, with partner universities.</p> <p>b) continue to collate and disseminate the issues arising from the focus groups through the Centre website and also through to Campbell Coordinating Groups, as appropriate.</p>	<p>a) Review the existing 10 focus groups and adapt these and consider extending them as appropriate.</p> <p>b) continue to collate and disseminate the issues arising from the focus groups through the Centre website and also through to Campbell Coordinating Groups, as appropriate.</p>
8) Increase the resources available to support the production and dissemination of Campbell systematic reviews.	<p>a) Through the first set of training events, explore financial models to generate income from such events to sustain the core activities of the Centre.</p> <p>b) Work with partner universities to seek external funding for systematic reviews (to include some resources to cover the costs of the ongoing support provided by the Centre to local teams).</p> <p>c) Begin identifying and approaching potential donors and funders to support the core activities of the Centre.</p>	<p>a) Based upon previous year's activities, develop and begin to implement a financial plan to sustain the core work of the Centre.</p>	<p>a) Continue to implement the financial plan with the aim of ensuring that sufficient funding is generated to sustain the core work of the Centre from 2022 onwards.</p>