**Call for expressions of interest: UKRN Newcastle Local Network Lead**

The UK Reproducibility Network (UKRN) enables researchers and institutions to collaborate, so they are better able to conduct rigorous, reproducible, and transparent research. As a member of UKRN, Newcastle University is committed to supporting an active Local Network of researchers, research students, and technical and professional support staff with an interest in working together to strengthen these aspects of our research culture.

We are looking for someone to be our Local Network Lead (LNL). This is a high-profile role that will help develop the network, facilitate network activities and represent the University in working with UKRN and LNLs at other institutions. The LNL will work closely with the UKRN Institutional Lead (Candy Rowe), receive administrative support and an annual budget for network activities. It offers a great development opportunity to build your networks (internally and externally), develop your skillset (though involvement in UKRN and institutional activities), contribute to UKRN publications and have a positive impact on how we do research at Newcastle University.

This is a significant role (estimated at 0.1FTE) and candidates should seek the approval of their line manager before applying. For those applying on a Fixed Term contract we can consider the practicalities of extending contracts to represent the time taken for the post.

The role is for 12 months in the first instance, renewable up to three years. Please note that this role is not remunerated.

To submit an expression of interest, please send no more than 200-300 words to openresearch@ncl.ac.uk by **Friday 19th April**, setting out why you are interested in this role and what you would bring to it. Shortlisted candidates will be asked to deliver a brief presentation to members of the network, who will vote to elect the network lead.

**Responsibilities**

The role of the UKRN LNL is to develop and support a local network that encourages and facilitates openness, transparency and reproducibility in research and to represent that network by engaging with the wider UKRN community.

Specific duties include:

* Supporting and promoting initiatives to promote reproducibility and transparency, including ReproducibiliTea Journal Club, the University Open Research Awards and training in open and transparent research practices.
* Providing and supporting forums for UKRN Newcastle members to engage in discussions relating to rigorous, reproducible, and transparent research.
* Acting as the University’s point of contact for UKRN - disseminating information from UKRN to network members and representing the views of network members to UKRN.
* Promoting the network to researchers, research students, and technical and professional colleagues across the University.
* Advocating for rigorous, reproducible, and transparent research practices at relevant committees and events.
* Working with the UKRN Institutional Lead to agree priority activities for the network and ensuring they are delivered.
* Engaging with UKRN representatives and other local network leads to share knowledge and experiences through meetings, events and an annual retreat.

**Personal attributes**

We are ideally looking for someone who has some of the following attributes:

* Illustrates motivation towards improving openness and transparency in research and is willing to be a university champion in these areas.
* Has experience in fostering networks of researchers with a common purpose/interest.
* Has experience working with a wide range of individuals at varied levels of seniority.
* Has effective communication and networking skills.
* Is a role model for behaviours that support a positive research culture.

**Further information**

If you would like an informal chat with a former LNL to find out more about the role, please contact Helen Gray or Steve Boneham

* **UKRN Newcastle:**<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/open-research/ukrn-newcastle/>
* **Open Research:**<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/open-research/>
* **UKRN:**<https://www.ukrn.org/>

**Application Timetable**

1. Expression of Interest to be submitted by **Friday 19th April.**
2. Presentation to the UKRN Newcastle network and vote to elect LNL **Tuesday 30th April.**
3. Elected candidate(s) to start in LNL role from **early May 2024**.