**PhD Studentship at Birmingham City University & Kidderminster Harriers Football Club**

**Project title:**

We are pleased to offer this unique opportunity of a fully-funded PhD studentship as part of our ongoing collaboration with Kidderminster Harriers Football Club. We invite interested candidates to submit a research proposal within the broad area of sport and exercise medicine, with a specific focus to football. This is an excellent opportunity for a forward thinking, research driven graduate to design and implement novel research, whilst also maintaining clinical work.

**Collaborative organisation:**

Kidderminster Harriers Football Club

**Funding:**

This is a 36 month (3 year) fully-funded PhD Studentship, in-line with the Research Council values, including a tax-free stipend of £14,777 per year (paid monthly) and tuition fees of £4,260 per year. Stipend is increased annually in line with Research Council recommendations. Students may also apply for additional funding to support conference attendance and continual professional development opportunities.

**Project summary:**

This project, which will be undertaken in collaboration with our partner organisation, Kidderminster Harriers Football Club, will offer the successful candidate the opportunity to engage in their proposal research within the broad area of sport and exercise medicine, with a specific focus to football.

The successful candidate will also engage in a work-based learning placement, for 30 hours per week, across their three years of study (with regular holiday allowances applied). This placement will be for a ‘Lead Academy Sports Therapist’ working within Kidderminster Harriers Football Club. Therefore, previous experience of providing sports therapy within a professional sports team or clinical setting is essential. In addition, availability to work evenings and weekends is essential due to the demands of match-days, training, and data collection requirements. By engaging in this particular PhD Studentship opportunity, it is anticipated that the combination of academic study and applied experience will leave the successful candidate well-placed for a career in this particular discipline.

**Person specification:**

***Essential –***

* First class honours degree in Sports Therapy, Sports Rehabilitation, or Physiotherapy
* Applied clinical experience in either a team or clinical setting for a minimum of 12 months
* Fully insured member with The Society of Sports Therapists or other Allied Health Profession such as Physiotherapy (Chartered Society of Physiotherapy) or Sports Rehabilitation (The British Association of Sport Rehabilitators and Trainers)
* Ability to communicate confidently and clearly with a wide range of people both orally and in writing
* Available to work evenings and weekends due to the demands of match-days, training, and data collection requirements

***Desirable –***

* Post-graduate Degree
* Experience of quantitative research methods, alongside a strong understanding of SPSS and Microsoft Excel software
* Experience and confidence in using biomechanical software
* Trauma Qualification

**Contact:**

The successful candidate will principally be supervised by Dr. Peter K. Thain. The remainder of the interdisciplinary team will include Adam Kelly and either Dr. Andrew J. Murphy or Dr. Richard Blagrove depending on proposal and expertise. For further information please contact Adam Kelly via [Adam.Kelly@bcu.ac.uk](mailto:Adam.Kelly@bcu.ac.uk) or +44 (0)121 331 7092.

**Application procedure:**

Please follow this generic link to apply and reference ‘KHFC’ on your application – <http://www.bcu.ac.uk/courses/health-phd-2018-19> Please start your application by clicking ‘How to apply’ followed by ‘Apply online’

Supporting documents will include –

* Curriculum Vitae
* Supporting Statement – 1000 word supporting statement detailing your experience and suitability to complete the research degree and applied work
* Research Proposal – 1000 word proposal detailing your desired research suggestions for this PhD Studentship (including your potential research title, rationale, methodology, hypothesis, and data collection timeline)
* Academic Reference
* Professional Reference

**Application deadline:**

Wednesday 8th August 2018

**Potential interview date:**

Week commencing Monday 13th August 2018

**Successful candidate start date:**

Saturday 1st September 2018