

Edward Tolhurst, Staffordshire University

My teaching, research and external commitments are interwoven and complementary elements of my academic career. Since commencing as a Lecturer at Staffordshire University in January 2014 I have gained valuable experience of research, course leadership, teaching and student support - as well as developing a role within a prestigious European network of academics. I have a PhD in Health Studies and am a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

I am a health researcher in the field of ageing and care. My focus within this field is the experience of dementia and how this is shaped by relationships and wider social and cultural factors. Through my research I aim to obtain an enhanced sociological perspective of dementia that addresses the challenges encountered by people with the condition and also by informal carers. I am currently undertaking a qualitative study on the experience of women with dementia, which received funding from the British Academy. I am also leading the work package of a substantial European project, which is funded by Erasmus+.

My teaching spans undergraduate and postgraduate levels, including PhD supervision and examination. As part of my wider responsibilities at Staffordshire University, I am Deputy Chair of the School of Health and Social Care's Research Ethics Committee. This role requires me to coordinate the ethical review of research proposals. I also peer-review bids for funding for the University's Research, Impact and Innovation Service. In addition, I have undertaken the external review of research funding bids for high-profile funding organisations.

My publication record is a boost to my academic status. Over my academic career I have achieved 12 publications. Nine of these are in international peer-reviewed journals, and eight of these are as first or sole author. I have also disseminated my research findings and methodological insights via other platforms, including a substantial number of oral presentations at national and international conferences.

I have been a Board Member of the European Sociological Association (ESA) Research Network on Ageing in Europe since 2014. I was appointed Vice-Chair of the Network for the period 2018-2019, and am Chair-elect for the period 2020-2021. As a leader within this Network I am involved in decision-making with regard to our events, communications and recruitment of new Board members. This Network is an association of academics and researchers situated across Europe. It hosts significant events, including a biennial midterm conference and a regular PhD workshop. With regard to these events, I review the submission of abstracts and contribute to the final decision on the inclusion of presented papers.

I have extensive experience as a peer-reviewer for international journals. I have conducted reviews for high-status journals, including *The Sociology of Health and Illness*. I am also a board member of *The International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*.

I should very much welcome the opportunity to apply my experience and skills within the role of Editorial Board Member for *The Sociology of Health and Illness*.