

# Centering Disability in the Academy: Research Priorities, Knowledge Exchange, and Career Development

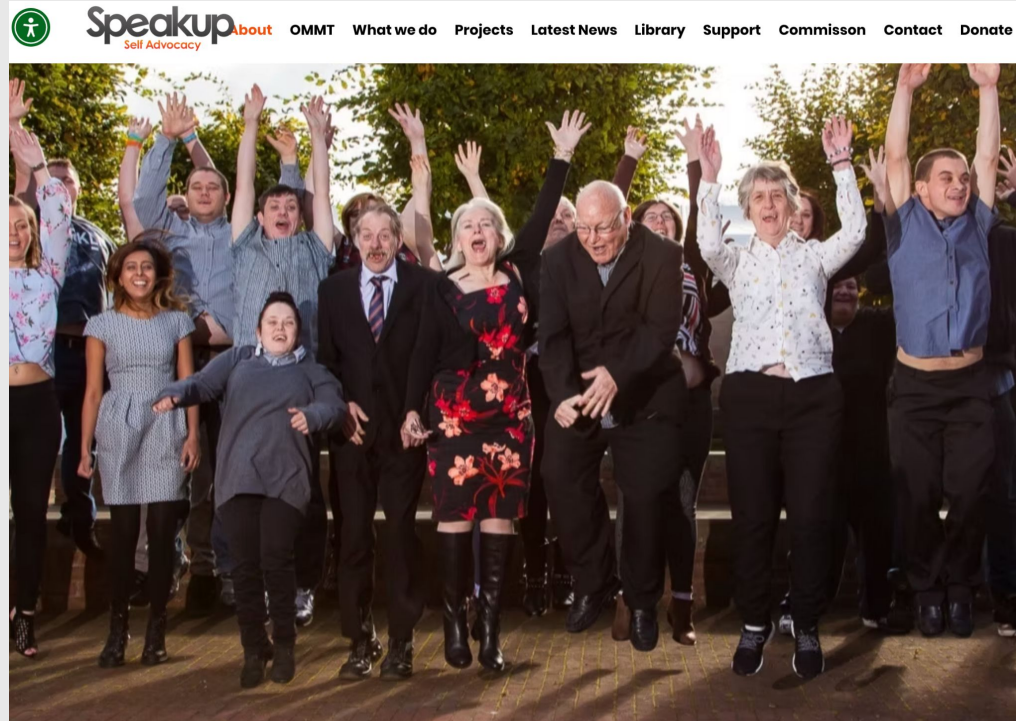


[Disability Matters website](#)

Rhea Halsey, Christina Lee, Ankita Mishra, Dan Goodley



# Thank you to Speakup Self-advocacy



# Aims of our paper

- Briefly introduce the Disability Matters programme
- Introduce our conversation as paper approach
- Dan will pose two questions to Rhea, Christina and Ankita

# Disability Matters – a very big Research project





**Disability Matters** is a very big research project happening in different parts of the world. It is funded by the Wellcome Trust.



This research will change health research for the better and ask what matters most to disabled people.



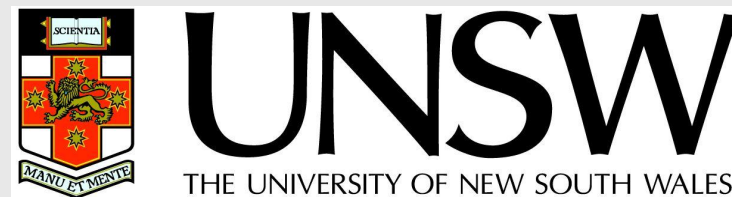
The project will help more disabled people to lead research.

It will also help to remind everyone that disability is everywhere in health and science research.



We want to make a new group of disability researchers across Australia, Canada, India, Singapore and the UK.





People **1st**



## Our research will:

- Include disabled people and be about them, with them and run by them
- Change the way disabled people work in health research
- Make research friendly





## Our research will:

- Help disabled people to become researchers
- Help a lot more disabled people get grants to do research
- This will make plans and research for disabled people better



Lots of researchers will make this happen, they are from:

- Sheffield
- Toronto
- Delhi
- Sydney
- Singapore



These universities will work with disabled people's organisations, so that research is led by disabled people.



Some Disabled People's Organisations, from the five countries involved, sit on the International Research Advisory Board. This will help this research.



These organisations are:

- Disability Rights UK (DRUK)
- Disabled People's Association Singapore (DPA)
- Action for Ability Development and Inclusion India (AADI)
- Council of Canadians with Disabilities (CCD)
- Women with Disabilities Australia (WWDA)



We will also work with the National Association of Disabled Staff Networks (NADSN).

# Ankita's Phase: What are the health priorities of disabled people in Australia, Canada, India, Singapore and the United Kingdom?



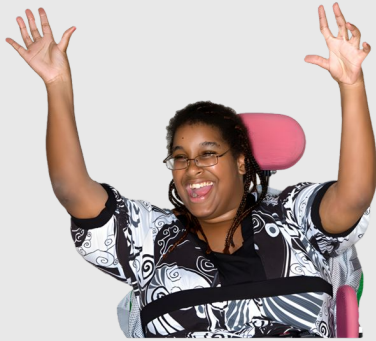
## Ankita's research asks:

What are the health needs of disabled people in the different countries involved in this work?



**Christina's phase: What transformative knowledge pertaining to equity, diversity and inclusion can be generated through a focus on anti-ableist and anti-disablist practice?**





## **Christina's work asks:**

What exciting changes can be made in learning to make research more equal for everyone?



This part of our work seeks to change research for the better by thinking about new and exciting ways of improving:



- Equity – equal and fair opportunities for all
- Diversity - different people
- Inclusion - including everyone

**Dan's Phase: How can we develop a new cadre of disabled and disability-positive researchers and professional services colleagues?**



# Rhea's 'cross-cutting work': Our Programme Manager responsible for strategy, management and administration



## So to our questions



**Question 1: Can you tell me about your role and key achievements in Disability Matters?**

**Question 2: What work was involved and challenges you faced in meeting these achievements?**

**QR code to our website**, or the link itself:

<https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/ihuman/disability-matters>

**We are on:**

Twitter/X @DisMatters

Bluesky @dismatters.bsky.social

Instagram @disability\_matters

We also have a mailing list.

