

Is AI the future of health and social science? A debate.

The National Centre for
Research Methods (NCRM)

Prof Gabriele Durrant

NCRM and UKRI grant

- Organised by the National Centre for Research Methods (NCRM)
- Part of an UKRI funded research and training grant on Digital Skills development (2.5 years, until April 2027), team at University of Southampton and UCL. www.ncrm.ac.uk/innovation/AI.php

National Centre for Research Methods (NCRM)

 Provides high-quality training in core and cutting-edge research methods

 Wide range of research methods areas (quant, qual, mixed, creative, digital, visual methods, ...)

 Across career lifecourse, sectors, disciplines, within and beyond the Social Sciences

 High uptake: >1 Mio website users, >13,000 course and event participants, > 500 days of courses

 Evidencing high impact

NCRM Training activities on research methods

- Some of our ESRC funding is changing
- Thrilled to continue to offer some of our core and advanced research methods training
- Based on the very successful collaboration between the University of Southampton and the University of Manchester and collaborating Centre partners
- Secured further funding from UKRI for AI skills development
- Please explore our website for further activities on AI



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www.ncrm.ac.uk

Welcome Programme

AI Debate (17:30–19:00)

- Welcome & opening vote - **Prof Gabriele Durrant** (University of Southampton), Chair, 5 mins
- Case for the motion: **Prof David Bann** (UCL, University College London), 25 mins
- Case against the motion: **Dr Peter Tennant** (University of Leeds), 25 mins
- Rebuttals (5mins x 2)
- Audience Q&A (20 mins)
- Closing remarks & final vote (5 mins)

Drinks reception (19:00–20:00)

Introduction of Speakers

- **Prof David Bann**, University College London

Professor of Population Health

His work focuses on the distribution of health, its underlying causes, and how this knowledge can be leveraged to enhance public health. His research interest includes also AI and the future of scientific research.

- **Dr Peter Tennant**, University of Leeds

Associate Professor of Health Data Science

Initially trained as an epidemiologist, his research is now mainly focussed on improving causal inference in applied health and social science research.

Vote 1:

Is AI the future of health and social science?

Answer options:

Yes

No

Unsure

Vote 2:

Is AI the future of health and social science?

Answer options:

Yes

No

Unsure

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