









# SUB-PROGRAMME: TRANSLATIONAL NEUROSCIENCE AND NEUROTHERAPEUTICS

Intake 2024	Researcher	Research Interests (2025 – 2027)	E-mail
	Brian Harvey (Prof)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-clinical neuroscience</li> <li>• Development and validation of animal models of psychiatry</li> <li>• Divulging neurobiological mechanisms underlying psychiatric illness and investigating novel drug targets</li> <li>• Special interests: anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, schizophrenia, addiction, obsessive-compulsive disorder</li> <li>• Wildlife neuroscience and pharmacology</li> <li>• Rodent and zebrafish models</li> </ul>	brian.harvey@nwu.ac.za
	De Wet Wolmarans (Prof)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-clinical neuroscience</li> <li>• Development and validation of animal models of psychiatry</li> <li>• Neurocognitive and neurobiological mechanisms underlying abnormal naturalistic animal behaviour and investigating novel drug targets</li> <li>• Special interests: obsessive-compulsive disorder, behavioural rigidity, cognitive inflexibility, reward processing, gut-microbiome, adenosinergic and monoaminergic mechanisms, immunity</li> <li>• Rodent and zebrafish models</li> </ul>	dewet.wolmarans@nwu.ac.za

	Francois Viljoen (Dr)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analytical method development and validation, immune reactivity in pre-clinical neuropsychiatric models</li> <li>• Special interests: monoaminergic dysfunction, immunity, metabolism, neurochemical analysis</li> </ul>	francois.viljoen@nwu.ac.za
	Linda Brand (Prof)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-clinical neuroscience</li> <li>• Divulging neurobiological mechanisms underlying psychiatric illness and investigating novel drug targets</li> <li>• Special interests: major depressive disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, receptor binding</li> <li>• Rodent models</li> </ul>	linda.brand@nwu.ac.za
	Madeleine Uys (Dr)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-clinical neuroscience</li> <li>• Divulging neurobiological mechanisms underlying psychiatric illness and investigating novel drug targets</li> <li>• Special interests: major depressive disorder, chronic fatigue syndrome</li> <li>• Rodent models</li> </ul>	madeleine.uys@nwu.ac.za
	Stephan Steyn (Dr)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-clinical neuroscience</li> <li>• Development and validation of animal models of psychiatry</li> <li>• Divulging neurobiological mechanisms underlying psychiatric illness and investigating novel drug targets</li> <li>• Special interests: major depressive disorder, exercise in psychiatric illness, essential fatty acids</li> <li>• Rodent models</li> </ul>	stephan.steyn@nwu.ac.za

	<p>Sarel Brand (Dr)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-clinical neuroscience</li> <li>• Development and validation of animal models of psychiatry</li> <li>• Divulging neurobiological mechanisms underlying psychiatric illness and investigating novel drug targets</li> <li>• Special interests: stress and anxiety disorders; posttraumatic stress disorder</li> <li>• Zebrafish and rodent models</li> </ul>	<p>sarel.brand@nwu.ac.za</p>
	<p>Tiaan Brink (Prof)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-clinical neuroscience</li> <li>• Development and validation of animal models of psychiatry</li> <li>• Divulging neurobiological mechanisms underlying psychiatric illness and investigating novel drug targets</li> <li>• Special interests: major depression, phosphodiesterase</li> <li>• Rodent models</li> </ul>	<p>tiaan.brink@nwu.ac.za</p>



Will have a 2025 post-graduate intake



Will not have a 2025 post-graduate intake



Uncertain whether projects for a 2025 post-graduate intake will be available; funding dependent; applications encouraged