







# SUB-PROGRAMME: TRANSLATIONAL NEUROSCIENCE AND NEUROTHERAPEUTICS

Intake 2027	Researcher	Research Interests (2026 – 2028)	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>• 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

	Stephan Steyn (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: major depressive disorder, exercise in psychiatric illness, essential fatty acids</li> <li>• Rodent models</li> </ul>	stephan.steyn@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
	Sarel Brand (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: stress and anxiety disorders; posttraumatic stress disorder</li> <li>• Zebrafish and rodent models</li> <li>• Analytical neurobiology</li> </ul>	sarel.brand@nwu.ac.za

	Francois Viljoen (Dr)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Analytical neurochemistry</li></ul>	francois.viljoen@nwu.ac.za
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Will have a 2027 post-graduate intake



Will not have a 2027 intake



2027 intake uncertain