**NADSN Subgroups**

**Meredith Wilkinson: Disabled Women in Academia Network**

I will introduce the Disabled Women in Academia Group. This is a sub-group of NADSN and is for women of all different career stages and areas. I will describe the rationale for setting up the group and the work we have done so far as well as the plans for the future.

**Stuart Gore: Blind and Visually Impaired Staff and PGRs in Academia Network**

The NADSN Blind and Visually Impaired Staff and PhD Students in Academia Network is a space for blind and visually impaired professionals and researchers in academia. We are here to build a strong, supportive community that fosters connection and growth. Our aim is to empower our members through networking, sharing resources, and offering guidance to navigate academic life successfully. Together, we work towards enhancing both professional achievement and personal well-being.

We have two main objectives. First, to advocate for accessibility and raise awareness about the additional challenges our members face in systems not designed for us. Second, to equip our members with actionable strategies and resources to thrive in academia. These objectives are central to making meaningful change. If you are a blind or visually impaired staff member or PhD student in academia, we invite you to join us. Let’s share experiences, ideas, and solutions that can transform how we work and grow. Together, we can create an environment where accessibility is the norm, not the exception.

By building this network, we’re not just advocating for change; we’re creating a foundation for success and equity. Let’s come together to make academia a place where everyone has the tools and support to shine.

Dr Stuart Gore is a lecturer and programme lead for masters in psychotherapy and counselling at the University of Leeds. Dr Stuart Gore is a lecturer and chartered counselling psychologist. He is the programme lead for the MA in psychotherapy and counselling at the University of Leeds and works in private sector psychology. He is passionate about advocating for blind and visually impaired community through challenging ableism in academia, the world of psychology and society more widely.