



Volunteer Role Description **Role title:** Research Ambassador

Role is supported by: National Coordinator for Research Ambassadors and Research Coordinators. As the role is a Trust Volunteer one it is co-ordinated by the Advice and Volunteer Manager, National Office.

Overview of role	The main objective of this role is to promote and support research/ enquiry-led learning in the U3A Regions.
Main responsibilities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To promote the importance of research/enquiry-led learning in the relevant Region, in close cooperation with the Regional Trustee. 2. To cooperate with other Research Network members regionally and nationally and other people as appropriate. 3. To promote the involvement of Research Coordinators to work with Networks in the Region and encourage their participation in the Research Network. 4. To promote the use of resources such as the guide to <i>Getting Involved in Research</i>, the National Research Database and relevant information on the national website. 5. To encourage the recording of projects in the National Research Database and assume an editorial role. 6. To seek opportunities to speak at regional and network meetings to report on and promote research/enquiry-led learning initiatives. 7. To organise workshops for all U3A members in the region to showcase and inspire involvement in research/enquiry-led learning. 8. To forward relevant information to Research Coordinators for committees, websites and newsletters in the region. 9. To encourage the reporting of activities in <i>Third Age Matters</i>, <i>Sources Online</i> and the Trust's <i>Newsletter</i>. 10. To make contact and build mutually beneficial relationships with relevant external organisations in the region. 11. To ensure that external requests for U3A research participants are handled according to U3A protocols. 12. To participate in meetings, training and other activities organised by the National Research Subcommittee.
Skills and knowledge required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective communication skills • Organisational skills • Interpersonal skills • Responsive and reliable • Able to work as part of a team, including a virtual one • Up-to-date knowledge of the U3A movement • Knowledge of types of research or enquiry-led learning • Knowledge of equality, diversity and inclusion
Training and support provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing training • Email and telephone support • Regular group support sessions and meetings
Expenses and subsistence	Reasonable travel expenses will be provided. This will cover public transport, car mileage paid @ 45p per mile. For longer journeys, please check with national office before committing to expenditure.