

## SLT excels in gender identity field

Matthew Mills, a consultant SLT working in the field of trans and non-binary voice and communication, has become the first SLT to be elected president of the British Association of Gender Identity Specialists (BAGIS).

BAGIS is an association of healthcare professionals from a wide range of disciplines, including psychology, psychiatry, endocrinology, urology, surgery, general practice and speech and language therapy. It was founded in 2014 with the aim of promoting excellence in clinical practice, research and training in transgender health and gender dysphoria.

Dr James Barrett, consultant psychiatrist and lead clinician at the London Gender Identity Clinic and outgoing BAGIS president, welcomed Matthew to the role: "Matthew has a deep understanding of the complexities in the field, and has developed robust voice and communication therapy which also champions therapist voice and coaching skills, psychological interventions and trans awareness training for professional competence. The association is in very safe hands."

Matthew and a dynamic council of



Outgoing BAGIS president Dr James Barrett (left) with new president Matthew Mills

multidisciplinary specialists throughout the UK will oversee a number of important BAGIS workstreams: developing a set of principles for gender dysphoria assessment, care and treatment within the UK; launching a BAGIS-based journal; spearheading fertility preservation treatment access for all trans and non-binary people; and ensuring inclusive language and sensitive communication.

BAGIS holds an annual UK symposium, to be held in Birmingham in 2020.

For more information, visit [bagis.co.uk](http://bagis.co.uk)

### RCSLT Study Day and AGM 2020: save the date

The RCSLT Study Day and annual general meeting will be held on **7 October** at the Titanic Centre in Belfast. Join us for this flagship CPD event in our 75th anniversary year, where you will hear from expert speakers and get the opportunity to network with SLTs from across the UK.

### Now hiring: RCSLT research and outcomes officer

Are you an SLT with an interest in research and evidence-based practice? The RCSLT is looking to hire a research and outcomes officer to join the research and development team at RCSLT HQ in London. The role offers a unique opportunity to develop your knowledge, skills and experience in speech and language therapy research in the broader context of the profession. Applications close at 9am on 16 March.

📍 For more information, see the advertisement on p24 or visit [bit.ly/RCSLTJobs](http://bit.ly/RCSLTJobs)

### Free online course: multidisciplinary working and MND

The Motor Neurone Disease Association and the University of Nottingham run a free online course, endorsed by the RCSLT, to help allied health professionals (AHPs) and trainee AHPs explore the key factors in the effective operation of a multidisciplinary team for the treatment and care of people living with motor neurone disease. The course start dates for 2020 are 2 March, 18 May and 28 September.

📍 For more information, visit [bit.ly/2us6uBe8](http://bit.ly/2us6uBe8)

### Upcoming RCSLT webinars

The RCSLT has an exciting calendar of webinars lined up for 2020. Hear from expert speakers covering a wide range of topics relevant to the profession and get your questions answered. Our webinars also provide a great opportunity for bite-sized CPD and can be conveniently completed within your lunch hour!

📍 Check out all forthcoming webinars at [www.rcslt.org/webinars](http://www.rcslt.org/webinars)

## Have you heard about RCSLT podcasts?

The RCSLT is trialling podcasts in 2020 as a new approach to sharing content with members and stakeholders.

Podcasts are audio files which you can listen to online from an app or website (we use [www.soundcloud.com](http://www.soundcloud.com)) or download to your own devices to listen to later.

Our podcasts cover topics from learning, research, policy and public affairs, and we will be adding to the collection throughout the year with member interviews and round-ups of key issues in speech and language therapy.

To access the podcasts, either stream live from

[www.soundcloud.com/rcslt](http://www.soundcloud.com/rcslt) or download the SoundCloud app ([soundcloud.com/mobile](http://soundcloud.com/mobile)) to listen on mobile.

We welcome member feedback on this new format, and want to know what topics you would like us to cover in future instalments. Email your feedback to [cpd@rcslt.org](mailto:cpd@rcslt.org) or join the conversation on Twitter using the hashtag [#RCSLTpodcasts](https://twitter.com/RCSLTpodcasts)

