PhD Opportunity

Adoption of proprietary home and community automation technologies in support of ageing-in-place

Supervisory team
Dr Chris Bowers, Dr Chris Russell, External Supervisor TBA

Director of Studies:
Dr Chris Bowers, Digital Innovation and Intelligent Systems Research Group, University of Worcester

Supervisors:
Dr Chris Russell, Association for Dementia Studies School of Allied Health and Community University of Worcester

Research Group: [Association for Dementia Studies](#)

The PhD Opportunity

This PhD study will investigate the adoption of proprietary automation technologies used in the home or in the community by people affected by dementia.

Technology has the potential to impact significantly on the health and well-being of people affected by dementia not least in reducing social isolation and opening up opportunities for engaging in life, learning and leisure.

If everyday technology is made available rather than technology specifically designed for people living with dementia, then people will be more likely to use it as they will feel it is part of normal life rather than drawing attention to their condition and therefore being potentially stigmatising or embarrassing.

Potential areas of investigation are:

- Automation and assistance of everyday tasks.
- Cognitive support to address confusion and assist in memory recall, thinking and planning.
- Adapting the environment to account for behavioural and mood changes.
- The use of automation to support physical activity and/or health and well-being

Application Process
To begin the application process please go to
https://www.worc.ac.uk/courses/dementia-studies-mphilphd

ned out on a part time or full time basis so please select the relevant application link. On the application form, please make it clear that you are applying for one of our advertised projects so we can direct it straight to the relevant people.
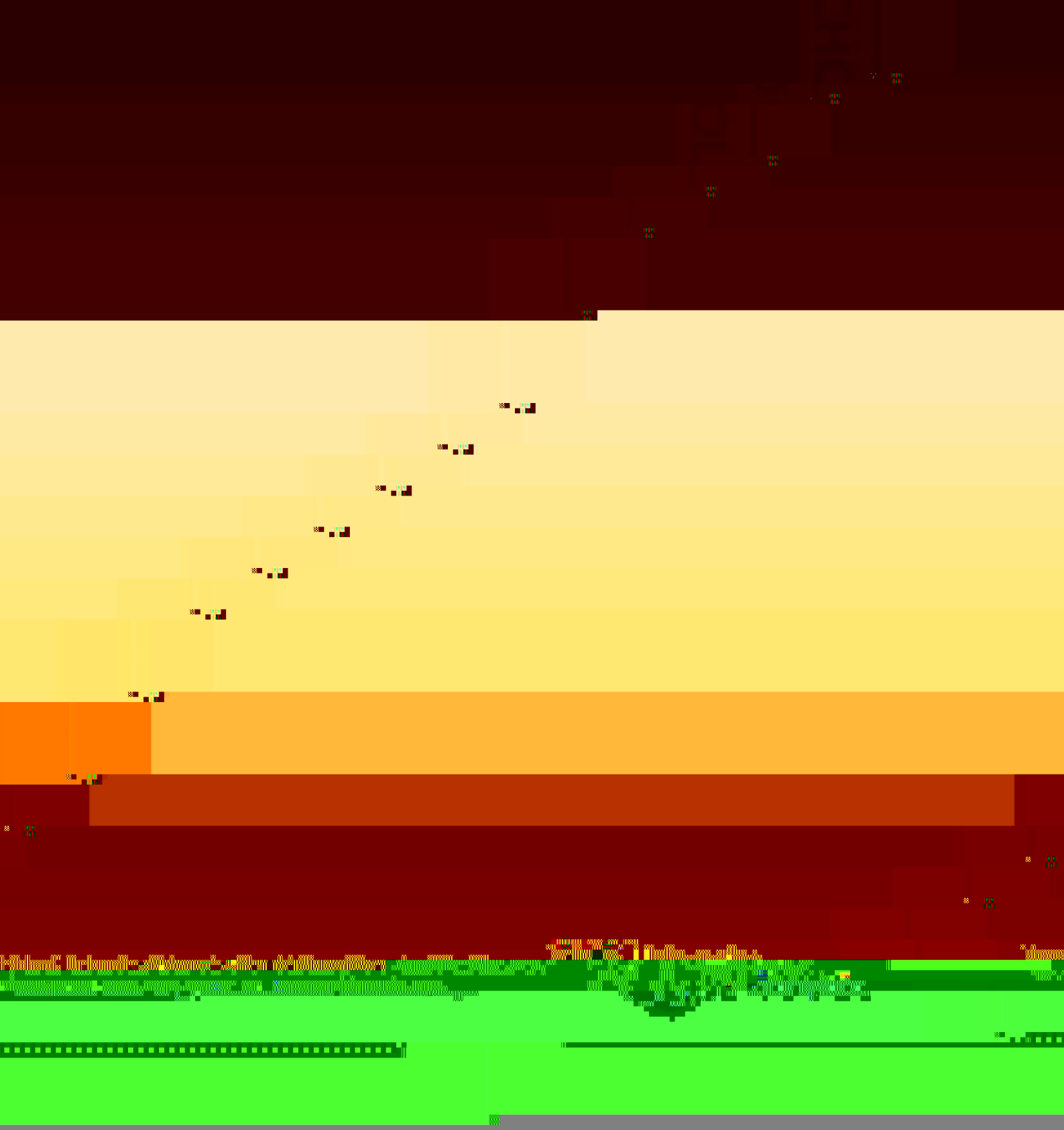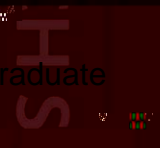
The Interview
All successful applicants will be offered an interview with the proposed Supervisory

Research Degrees at Worcester

Our research students are central to our overall mission for research. They are working at the cutting edge of their disciplines and driving forward the quality of our research whilst enriching our research culture. We are looking to increase our research student numbers as a strategic imperative.

Our commitment to our students is reflected in the results of the Postgraduate Research Experience Survey 2023 in which we ranked 3

Uncertain - The real-world is often complex and messy resulting in noisy and inaccurate data.

Dynamic - The real-world is ever-changing resulting in a highly dynamic environment.

Computationally challenging -
are computationally very difficult for a computer such as learning and interaction. Yet we required small compact devices to performance this on a regular basis such as mobile devices performing face-recognition.

Widening Participation
As part of its mission statement the University is committed to widening participation for its higher degrees. Although most candidates will have an undergraduate and/or a Masters degree, the University is happy to accept applications from candidates with relevant professional qualifications and work related experience.

For further information or an informal discussion on this project, please contact Dr Chris Bowers (Director of Studies) via email at c.bowers@worc.ac.uk