

Dr. Conor Hammersley

BBUS, MSc, PhD

Fulbright Scholar

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Current Position

06-2024 to present **Principal Investigator** Leading applied research on rural men's mental health, wellbeing, and structural determinants of health, with direct engagement across policy, community, and health systems.
NYCAMH / NEC, Bassett
Healthcare Network

Appointments, Affiliations, and Academic awards

Appointments and affiliations

11-2023 to 05-2024 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, Dept of Public Health and Epidemiology, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI)

01-2023 to 08-2023 **Research Fellow**, Fulbright engagement: Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University in the City of New York

09-2022 to 08-2023 **Visiting Researcher**, Fulbright engagement: Bassett's New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health (NYCAMH)

05-2022 to 12-2022 **Lead Analyst & Report Author**, Ireland's first quantitative attitudinal study on men and masculinity. Men's Development Network. International comparative study with Equipundo (Center for Masculinities and Social Justice), USA

11-2018 to 09-2019 **Research Assistant**, Irish College of General Physicians (ICGP)

10-2017 to 05-2018 **Research Assistant**, Bioscience Research Institute, TUS, Ireland

Academic Awards

06-2022 to 08-2023 **Fulbright Scholarship Recipient** (Columbia University in the City of New York)

04-2020 to 11-2023 **Teagasc Walsh Scholarship Recipient**

09-2019 to 11-2023 **SETU President Scholarship Recipient**

Grants & Funding History

01-2025	Principal Investigator	U.S. CDC/NIOSH → Johns Hopkins POE Total Worker Health® Center for Mental Health	Funded	Award No. U19OH012297: Title: Navigating Industry Change: A Mixed-Methods Study on Structural Change and Male Farmer Mental Health in Upstate New York Co-PI: Dr. Julie Sorensen (NYCAMH) Amount: \$10,000
02-2026	Principal Investigator	Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE)	Under Review	Farming Community Grant Program: Title: Side by Side: Building Community Capacity to Support Dairy Farmers through Periods of Transition Amount: \$170,000
10-2025	Principal Investigator	USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)	Under Review	AFRI A1661 – Rural Economic Development Seed Grant Title: Consolidation, Identity, and Mental Health: Understanding the Social Costs of Agricultural Restructuring in Rural America Co-PIs: Dr. Julie Sorensen (NYCAMH); Dr. Florence Becot (Penn State) Amount: \$300,000

10-2024	Principal Investigator	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries (NMFS).	Submitted (Unfunded)	Citizen Science Funding Opportunity (FY2025) Title: Navigating the Tide: Exploring the Social Sustainability, Mental Health, and Identity Impacts of Climate Change on Young Fishermen in the Northeast. Co-PIs: Dr. Julie Sorensen (NYCAMH); Dr. Amanda Roome (NYCAMH) Amount: \$200,000
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Policy Engagement & Government Briefings

Congressional Policy Briefings on Agricultural Worker Health and Rural Mental Health
 United States Capitol, Washington, DC | February 2026

- Member of Northeast Center for Occupational Health and Safety (NIOSH) research delegation
- Conducted evidence-informed briefings with U.S. Congressional offices on agricultural safety, farmer mental health, and rural occupational health priorities

Policy Collaboration with New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) – Suicide Prevention Center of New York

New York State | 2025 – Present

- Engaged in active collaboration with senior leadership at the New York State Office of Mental Health and the Suicide Prevention Center of New York to explore rural and agricultural suicide prevention initiatives.
- Contributing sociological and qualitative expertise to discussions on community-based and workplace suicide prevention strategies for farming and rural populations.

Lead Researcher for a nationally adopted government programme on Farmer Mental Health

Dublin, Ireland | September 2019 – January 2024

- Led a government-funded, multi-departmental initiative (DoH, DAFM, HSE) to develop and evaluate a national farmer mental health programme.
- Evidence adopted into Ireland’s Healthy Ireland Strategic Action Plan 2021–2025 (Action 2.10).

International Research Leadership & Collaboration

Bassett Healthcare Network / New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health – Umeå University (Sweden) Collaboration

United States – Sweden | Ongoing

- Lead sociologist for a transnational mixed-methods program examining rural trust in public health science
- Responsible for sociological theory development, qualitative study design, and comparative analysis
- Collaboration with interdisciplinary teams across public health, occupational health, and implementation science

IAWA / ISWA 2026 Working Group on Mental Wellbeing in Farming
 Switzerland | Ongoing

- Co-developer and international collaborator on a working group addressing social sustainability and mental wellbeing in agriculture
- Contributed to conceptual framing and proposal development with partners from Harper Adams, Exeter, UCD, Agroscope, and Penn State

Advisory Positions (Invited Roles)

Advisory Board Member, Johns Hopkins POE Total Worker Health Center in Mental Health, Baltimore, MD, United States. October 2024 – Present.

Advisory Board Member, University College Dublin (UCD), Agri Mental Health Group Farming Minds, Dublin, Ireland. September 2024 – Present.

Advisory Board Member, European Innovation Partnerships (EIP) project FARM CONNECT, Brussels, Belgium. April 2022 – Present.

Advisory Board Member, Boys & Young Men's Pilot Programme Shona Project, a national school-based programme supporting boys' and young men's engagement with masculinity, mental health, and respectful relationships. March 2025 – Present.

Advisory Board Member, Football Cooperative: Community football health intervention for men, SETU Waterford, Ireland. October 2024 – Present.

Advisory Board Member, Dublin Rape Crisis Centre (DRCC): Sexual consent implementation framework for men and rural communities. July 2022 – Present.

Peer Review Publications

Hammersley C, Serhan W, Sharp MK, Cullinan M, Clyne B. (2025) Stakeholder perceptions of 'guidance and standards' for developing clinical practice guidance in Ireland. *Evid Policy*. 2025 Jul 9; PubMed PMID: 40713158.

Hammersley, C., Richardson, N., Meredith, D., McNamara, J., Carroll, P., & Jenkins, P. (2024). *Supporting Male Farmer Mental Health: Analysing the effectiveness of a bespoke farmer mental health training programme targeted at farm advisors in Ireland*. *Journal of Agricultural Education and Extension*, 30(1), 1–29. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1389224X.2024.2339801>

Hammersley, C., Meredith, D., Richardson, N., Carroll, P., & McNamara, J. (2023). *Mental health, societal expectations and changes to the governance of farming: Reshaping what it means to be a 'man' and 'good farmer' in rural Ireland*. *Sociologia Ruralis*, 63(S1), 57–81. <https://doi.org/10.1111/soru.12411>

Hammersley, C., Richardson, N., Meredith, D., McNamara, J., & Carroll, P. (2022). *Qualitative study exploring health supports for male farmers in rural Ireland*. *Journal of Agricultural Education and Extension*, 29(4), 511–538. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1389224X.2022.2082498>

Hammersley, C., Richardson, N., Meredith, D., Carroll, P., & McNamara, J. (2021). *"That's me, I am the farmer of the land": Exploring identities, masculinities, and health among male farmers in Ireland*. *American Journal of Men's Health*, 15(4). <https://doi.org/10.1177/15579883211035241>

Rose, D. C., Budge, H., Carolan, M., Hall, J., **Hammersley, C.**, Knook, J., Loble, M., Nye, C., O'Reilly, A., Shortland, F., & Wheeler, R. (2023). *Farming wellbeing through and beyond COVID - 19: Stressors, gender differences and landscapes of support*. *Sociologia Ruralis*, 63(S1), 3–10. <https://doi.org/10.1111/soru.12425>

Manuscripts Under Review

Hammersley, C., Trombley, D., Morris, F., & Sorensen, J. (2025). *Masculinity, structural precarity, and mental health: A case study of dairy farmers in rural New York*. Original research article submitted to the **American Journal of Public Health**, Special Issue Submission: *Masculinity and Health in the 21st Century and Beyond*.

Trombley, D., Roome, A., **Hammersley, C.**, & Sorensen, J. (2025) "The cost of inputs exceeds income": An exploratory study of farm operational and procedural change in Southern Vermont. Manuscript under review at **New Solutions: A Journal of Environmental and Occupational Health Policy**.

Journal Reviewer

10-2025 *J of Ag Education and Extension* RAEE-2025-0186: *Educational Resource Needs and Strategies for Successful Transition and Succession Planning in Dairy Farm Business*

09-2025 *Health Science Reports* *Mental Health Burden Among Austrian farmers: Sociodemographic, Work-related, and Health Behavior Factors*

07-2025	<i>Journal of Agromedicine</i>	WAGR-2025-0038.R1: <i>Resilience, Loneliness, and Mental Well-being in the UK Farming Community</i>
05-2025	<i>Health Security</i>	HS-2025-0072: <i>One Health Security 2035: Embedding Mental Health Intelligence in Multilateral Crisis Governance</i>
10-2024	<i>Intl J. of Men's Social and Community Health</i>	IJMSCH-2024-0011: <i>Farming Men Responding to Hardship with Social Connection: a Photovoice Project on Masculinities and Positive Mental Health</i>
05-2024	<i>Journal of Agromedicine</i>	WAGR-2024-0062: <i>A mixed methods assessment of an online mental health and resilience programme for agricultural students</i>
04-2023	<i>Sociologia Ruralis</i>	SORU-23-024: <i>Passive endurance. An analysis of barriers to aid among Male Flemish farmers.</i>
09-2023	<i>Journal of Agromedicine</i>	WAGR-2023-0120: <i>Youth mental health stigma and self-efficacy among adult agricultural leaders</i>
06-2022	<i>Journal of Agromedicine</i>	WAGR-2022-0034: <i>The impact of COVID-19 on farmers' mental health: a case study of the UK</i>

Teaching, Supervision, & Curriculum Development

Course Developer (Invited Appointment)

Department of Sociomedical Sciences, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University in the City of New York | 2024–2025

- Developed graduate-level course *SOSC P8756 – Rural Mental Health* (1.5 credits), including syllabus, learning outcomes, and assessment framework. Course approved for Spring 2025 delivery; teaching not undertaken due to visa restrictions.

Graduate Research Supervision

Doctoral Supervisor (Supervisory Team Member), PhD Candidate: Nimra Azeem

- South East Technological University (SETU), Ireland. Dissertation: “Mental Health in the Fields: Exploring Present-Day Challenges, Coping Strategies, and the Role of Family Support in the Lives of Male Farmers.” (Ongoing)

Part-time Lecturer

Department of Science and Health, South East Technological University, Ireland | 2019–2022

- Taught undergraduate modules across exercise science, health sociology, and applied health promotion
- Co-ordinated syllabus, learning outcomes, weekly content, and assessment framework

Reports/Policy Documents

Hammersley, C. (2025). *Men, masculinity, consent, and sexual relations in Ireland: A qualitative exploratory study*. Dublin Rape Crisis Center (DRCC), WE-Consent Project. In press, pending publication.

Hammersley, C., Richardson, N., Meredith, D., McNamara, J., & Carroll, P. (2024). *Supporting male farmer mental health in Ireland: Final evaluation report*. Available at: <https://engagetraining.ie/app/uploads/2024/07/OFG.Final-Evaluation-Report.pdf>

Hammersley, C., & Doyle, K. (2022). *The Man Box: Men and masculinity in Ireland today*. Men's Development Network, Ireland. Available at: [MAN-Survey Final-Report.pdf](https://www.man-network.ie/media/website/publications/2022/On-Feirm-Ground—Wellbeing-for-farmers.pdf)

Hammersley, C., Richardson, N., Meredith, D., McNamara, J., & Carroll, P. (2020). *Exploring the context of male farmer mental health and support opportunities in Ireland: A formative evaluation report*. Available at: <https://www.teagasc.ie/media/website/publications/2020/On-Feirm-Ground—Wellbeing-for-farmers.pdf>

Collins, C., Hanley, K., **Hammersley, C.**, Doran, G., & Foy, F. (2019). *"Finding a future path": Career intentions of GP trainees and recent GP graduates: Report of the 2019 survey*. Irish College of General Practitioners. Available at: [Career-intentions-report-of-GP-trainees-and-recent-graduates.pdf](https://www.icgp.ie/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Career-intentions-report-of-GP-trainees-and-recent-graduates.pdf)

Doctoral Study

Thesis: 'On Feirm Ground': Exploring and supporting male farmer mental health in rural Ireland (PhD dissertation, South East Technological University, 2023).

PhD Defense (Viva) Decision: **Distinction with no modifications required**, November 2023.

Advisors: Dr. Noel Richardson, Dr. David Meredith, Dr. Paula Carroll, Dr. John McNamara

Distinguished Recognition

O-1 Visa Recipient, awarded by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to individuals with extraordinary ability in their field, April 2024 – Present.

Certificate of Recognition, European Society for Rural Sociology (Sociologia Ruralis): Top 10% of authors cited by the journal, 2023 (Impact Factor: 3.2).

Invited by the President of Ireland to attend the global HeForShe function at Áras an Uachtaráin, in recognition of work on gender and health in rural communities, June 2022.

Conferences / Seminars (Selected)

Hammersley, C. (2025, September). *Structuration and rural masculinity: A mixed-methods analysis of the impacts of food system centralization on male farmer identity and mental health*. Nordic Meeting of Agricultural Occupational Health, Ystad, Sweden. (Oral presentation)

Hammersley, C. (2025, July). *Structure, agency, and farmer mental health: Exploring the impacts of dairy farm consolidation across New York State*. Bassett Medical Center Grand Rounds, Cooperstown, New York. (Invited presentation)

Hammersley, C. (2025, June). *Dairy farmer mental health: A mixed-methods analysis of food system centralization and wellbeing*. International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health (ISASH) Conference, Portland, Maine.

Hammersley, C., Trombley, D., & Sorensen, J. (2025, April). *Investigating the impacts of food system centralization and monopolization on farmers, identity, rural communities, and food system stability*. Public Health Student Forum, Johns Hopkins University.

Hammersley, C., Richardson, N., Meredith, D., Carroll, P., & McNamara, J. (2022, June). *'On Feirm Ground': Supporting rural men's wellbeing and the role of agricultural advisory staff*. WONCA World Rural Health Conference, University of Limerick, Ireland.

Hammersley, C., Richardson, N., & Carroll, P. (2020, October). *On 'Feirm Ground': A formative evaluation of a bespoke male farmer mental health training programme*. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting & Expo, Men's Health Caucus, San Francisco, CA. (Virtual presentation)

Education

09-2019 to 11-2023 **PhD (Research), Health Sciences** South East Technological University, IRE
09-2016 to 09-2018 **MSc (Research), Health Promotion** Munster Technological University, IRE
09-2012 to 09-2016 **BBus, Sport and Exercise** Munster Technological University, IRE

Invited Media & Public Scholarship (Selected)

- *HSE Talking Health & Wellbeing Podcast* — “Healthy Masculinity” (Episode 105). Health Service Executive, Ireland, 2025.
- Op-ed: “Influencers Andrew Tate and Jordan Peterson are symptoms of a fraying ethic of care.” *Irish Examiner*, March 2025.
- *The Beef Edge Podcast* — “Helping Farmers’ Health & Wellbeing.” Teagasc, Ireland, October 2021.
- *The Cure Podcast* — “Men’s Health, Identity, & Belonging” (Parts 1 & 2). Ireland, March–April 2023.
- *Rebel Matters Podcast* — “Masculinity, Identity, & Violence.” Episode 107. Ireland, 2022.
- *The Professional Hypnotherapists Podcast* — Session 0010. Ag Mental Health Week, 2020.

Media Coverage (Selected)

- “Project to strengthen farmers’ mental health ‘very successful’.” *Irish Examiner* (Coverage of Farmer Mental Health Research), June 2025.
- “Masculinity and identity impact male farmers seeking help for their health – study.” *Agriland* (coverage of peer-reviewed research), September 2021.
- “Mental health challenges when being ‘the farmer’ is seen as the only option.” *Irish Farmers Journal* (coverage of research on agricultural policy and farmer mental health), October 2021.
- “Female farmers tend to identify with masculine norms to feel accepted – study.” *Irish Farmers Journal* (coverage of peer-reviewed research on gender and farming), September 2021.

Invited talks, Panels, & Cultural Events (Selected)

- Book launch (invited): John Connell, *The Lambing Season: Stories of Life on an Irish Family Farm*. In conversation with Conor Hammersley. Pegasus Books, October 2024.
- Invited speaker: “Preventing Violence against Women: What Needs to Change?” Dublin Rape Crisis Centre (DRCC), national webinar, February 2022.
- Invited public discussion: Men’s Mental Health Week Instagram Live on men’s mental health and wellbeing. Síolta Wellbeing Community, Ireland, 2025.

References and further information available upon request