Queen's Psychology professor receives Canadian Foundation for Innovation Leaders Opportunities

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Christopher Bowie (psychology) was granted $74,500 for research on neurocognitive impairment in individuals suffering from schizophrenia.

“This is a project that aims to study the ways neurocognitive impairment in people with schizophrenia affects them in the real world,” he said.

“Neurocognition includes things like attention span, learning new information … planning and problem solving. People with schizophrenia tend to have problems in these areas persistently.”

Bowie said even with treatment, functioning day-to-day can be difficult for those suffering from schizophrenia.

“The typical treatment is called antipsychotic medication. For many people, there remain tremendous problems functioning in the community.”

Bowie said the amount of funding from the provincial government for his research hasn’t been released.

“Those funds haven’t been formally announced yet.”

Bowie said the award from CFI will be used to set up his research project at Queen’s.

“This funding will allow me to set up a lab with state of the art equipment and develop new treatments [for schizophrenia].

“I think that when I applied for funding, my confidence came from the level of excellence at Queen's. I knew Queen’s had a high success rate,” he said. “It’s a natural progression from the work I have been doing for 10 years.”