

## **ESHG Observership Report**

For my one-month observership, I was hosted, supervised and mentored by Professor Inga Prokopenko, from September 11<sup>th</sup> to October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Inga Prokopenko is a Professor in e-One Health and Distinguished Chair, Head of Statistical Multi-Omics, Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, School of Biosciences and Medicine, and Co-Director of People-Centred AI Institute at the University of Surrey, United Kingdom.

The Prokopenko lab focuses on designing statistical models for predicting risks for several disease conditions, including diabetes, kidney disease and pregnancy loss, using large population databases. For the duration of my stay, I engaged with the different project leaders and members as well as participated in and contributed to discussions during section meetings. Presentations during these section meetings enabled me to appreciate the types and interpretations of the statistical models used and the selection criteria. Additionally, I attended selected institutional seminars showcasing work on disease risk determination and modelling using AI. Importantly, the timing of the observership coincided with my PhD thesis Viva. The team provided constructive reviews of my work, which were instrumental in shaping preparations towards my final presentation and gave me alternate perspectives on the impact of my work.

My experience with the Prokopenko lab was very pleasant and fulfilling. Although my observership has ended, I can participate in a GWAS course that is taught periodically under the leadership of Professor Prokopenko in January 2024. This will be a great opportunity for me to appreciate the concept and acquire skills to independently perform GWAS analyses.



Members of the Prokopenko Lab. From left to right (Amy, Maria, Tingyu, Prof Prokopenko, Elizabeth, Claudia, Yevheniya, Zhanna)



A send-off party also to celebrate a successful PhD viva