

# NERUPI network BAME Outcome Gap Events

Evaluating & Researching University  
Participation Interventions

## October—December 2020

### Speaker Biographies

**Dr Jason Arday** is an Associate Professor in Sociology at Durham University in the Department of Sociology. He is a Visiting Research Fellow at The Ohio State University in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, an Adjunct Professor at Nelson Mandela University in the Centre for Critical Studies in Higher Education Transformation and a Trustee of the Runnymede Trust, the UK's leading Race Equality Think-tank. Jason is also a Trustee of the British Sociological Association (BSA) and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts (RSA). He sits on the Centre for Labour and Social Studies (CLASS) National Advisory Panel and is a School Governor at Shaftesbury Park Primary School in London.



**Nona McDuff OBE** was appointed Pro Vice-Chancellor, Students & Teaching at Solent University, Southampton in July 2019 having previously been Director of Student Achievement at Kingston University, London. She is the Chair of the Race Action Group, a member of the UUK Advisory panel on racial harassment and a member of the Advance HE Peer Review Advisory Panel. Over the last decade Nona has worked closely with NUS, Advance HE and the Office for Students to raise the profile of learning and teaching, co-creation with students and race equality and inclusion for both staff and students. In 2017 she became a Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and was awarded an OBE for her services to diversity and higher education.



**Dave S.P Thomas** is an Occupational Therapist and Public Health Specialist, with a remit in social justice. He is currently reading for a PhD in higher education. His research focuses on the impact of Westernised ontologies, epistemologies, and pedagogies in shaping educational trajectories, achievement, and interest for racially minoritised students in higher education. He is a consultant to AdvanceHE on race, inclusion and equality, and a member of the Health and Care Professions Council diversity forum. He has published research in the areas of 'race', inequality, Occupational Justice and Social Justice and is the lead editor of *Doing Equity and Diversity for Success in Higher Education* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2020) and *Towards Decolonising the University: A Kaleidoscope for Empowered Action* (Counterpress Oxford, 2020). Dave tweets as @DaveThomasOT



### Speaker Biographies

**Dorrie Chetty** is an experienced academic who worked as a Senior Lecturer in Sociology at the University of Westminster. She is currently working on projects that relate to decolonizing the curriculum in higher education. She is the author of *Using Diversity to Advance Multicultural Dialogues in Higher Education* in: Race R. (ed) *Advancing Multicultural Dialogues in Education* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2018).

Also based at the University of Westminster, **Berekhet Berakhy** is Equality, Diversion & Inclusion Officer with a background in community engagement and volunteering services.



**Annette Hayton** is Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Education at the University of Bath and convenes the NERUPI Network on behalf of the University; she co-developed the NERUPI Evaluation Framework. Annette was previously Head of Widening Participation at the University of Bath and Goldsmiths, University of London and so has many years' experience managing activities designed to support successful progression to higher education. She aims to combine theory, research and practice, making praxis the foundation of her work to promote equity and foster progressive change within the education system. Annette is currently Innovative Practice editor for the journal Widening Participation and Lifelong Learning and a member of the International Centre for Higher Education Management at the University of Bath.



**Sarah Howls** as Head of Access and Participation, leads on the delivery of access and participation regulation and funding so that it delivers the OfS statutory duties as well as its strategic objectives and ambitions for access, success and progression for students from underrepresented groups. More specifically, Sarah leads on the work relating to higher education providers' access and participation plans ensuring that OfS reforms to access and participation are made a reality through clear expectations on providers on the level of ambition and commitments their plans should deliver. Sarah also leads on the OfS funding for access and participation, including the student premiums and Uni Connect ensuring that innovative approaches and insights on both regulation and funding are incorporated into our approach and drive delivery of the OfS's wider access and participation objectives.

