

# Widening Participation and Graduate Progression

## Programme

- ♦ **09:15**      **Registration and Refreshments**
- ♦ **09:45**      **Welcome and Introduction**  
**Annette Hayton**  
University of Bath
- ♦ **10:00**      **Moving on up? Class, Gender and Experiences of Graduate Transition**  
**Professor Nicola Ingram**  
Sheffield Hallam University  
  
**Nicola Ingram** will report on the findings from the 'Paired Peers project' drawing on qualitative research from case studies to explore issues of class and gender in graduate employment transitions.
- ♦ **10:45**      **Degrees of Difference: The Impact of Socio-Economic Background on the Earning Returns to Higher Education in the UK**  
**Dr Matt Dickson**  
University of Bath  
  
**Matt Dickson** will present his research on the impact of an undergraduate degree on early career earnings and how these returns to Higher Education vary by socio-economic background and prior attainment.
- ♦ **11:15**      **Break**
- ♦ **11:30**      **WP and Graduate Progression**  
Approaches and Interventions
- ♦ **12.30**      **Lunch**
- ♦ **13:15**      **Practical Workshop Session**  
Focus on Access and Participation Plans
- ♦ **14:00**      **Discussion and Feedback**

# WP and Graduate Progression

Graduate outcomes are of increasing interest to students, particularly for those from groups under-represented in HE. Students, their teachers and their families are questioning the value of a degree when there is no guarantee that it will lead to graduate employment or further study. Although HEIs can point to the considerable financial and social benefits of higher education research has shown that, regardless of degree, socio-economic status has a significant impact on employment outcomes and income levels. As a result HEIs are now required to put measures in place to address these inequalities. This session will give participants the opportunity to hear about recent research in this area and explore strategies for addressing the issue in their university.

**Nicola Ingram** will report on the findings from the 'Paired Peers project' exploring issues of class and gender in graduate employment transitions. **Matt Dickson** will present his research on the impact of an undergraduate degree on early career earnings.

The morning workshop will consider what sort of interventions and services could be offered by HEIs to enable students to gain the maximum personal and professional benefits from their degree.

## Speaker Biographies

TBC