

Speaker Biographies

Jacqueline Stevenson is Professor of Education and Head of Research in the Sheffield Institute of Education, Sheffield Hallam University. She is a sociologist of education with a particular interest in policy and practice relating to equity and diversity in higher education, widening participation, access and student success, pedagogic diversity and the stratification and marketisation of higher education. Key areas of focus are the social and academic experiences of religious students, black and minority ethnic students' degree attainment and success, policy and practice relating to the higher education experience of refugees and other forced migrants, and the social and academic experiences of international students. She has undertaken research and evaluation for a range of organisations, including the Higher Education Funding Council for England and the Office for Fair Access. Jacqueline is on the Governing Council of the Society for Research into Higher Education and is a member of the Higher Education Race Action Group. She was previously Professor of Higher Education at Leeds Beckett University. Her most recent books are: *Possible Selves and Higher Education*, (with Ann-Marie Bathmaker and Holly Henderson) and *Evaluating Equity and Widening Participation in Higher Education* (with Penny-Jane Burke and Annette Hayton). Jacqueline was recognised with an MBE in the New Year's Honours List.

Julian Crockford has managed the University of Sheffield's Widening Participation Research and Evaluation Unit (VPREU) since it was set up in 2012. VPREU has a remit for evaluating and researching widening participation issues across the whole student lifecycle. Julian's research interests are wide-ranging but focus primarily on how widening participation and student success policies are implemented at an institutional level and how this intersects with forms of institutional and tacit knowledge, issues of effective and meaningful evaluation and how 'impact' can be defined and understood in this context. He is mid-way through a Doctorate in Education exploring the positioning of evaluation in policy and practical discourses around widening participation and fair access.

Annette Hayton is Visiting Fellow 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. For further information on her research and a list of her publications, see Annette's Research Gate profile: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Annette_Hayton.

Andrew Bengry is a senior lecturer in Psychology at Bath Spa University and co-developer of the NERUPI Framework. He has worked in higher education for over ten years and has held positions at the University of Bath, University of Southampton, National Centre for Research Methods (NCRM) and University of Birmingham. His research interests are in youth and identity, and how culture contextualises and shapes social identification and identity construction processes. He has worked on projects that have investigated students' experiences of higher education and innovation in qualitative research methodology. Further information on Andrew's publications can be found here: <https://www.bathspa.ac.uk/our-people/andrew-bengry/>.

Alex Wardrop is Evidence and Effective Practice Manager at the Office for Students. Her current work at the OfS centres on establishing and sustaining a culture of evidence and evaluation. She has worked at University of Bristol, UWE and Bournemouth University in a variety of administrative, teaching and research roles. She is committed to the importance of collaborative, caring and creative thinking for making positive change in the world.