

Meet our Speakers

Annette Hayton,
NERUPI Convenor, University of Bath



Annette convenes NERUPI (Network for Evaluating and Researching University Participation Interventions) She was previously Head of Widening Participation at the University of Bath and at Goldsmiths, University of London. She has many years of experience in managing activities designed to support successful progression to higher education as well as developing strategies to ensure that all students have a positive experience of university study. Annette is interested in how educational theory, research and evaluation can be developed and applied in practice to promote positive change within the education system, aiming to combine theory and practice in her work. She is co-developer of the NERUPI Framework and has published a number of books and articles on widening participation and is Innovative Practice Editor for the journal 'Widening Participation and Lifelong Learning'. Annette is a member of ICHEM (International Centre for Higher Education Management) at the University of Bath and a Trustee of Midsomer Norton Schools' Partnership (MNSP) and leads on the Bath Hub.

Working in Partnership

John Blake
Director for Fair Access and Participation, Office for Students



John Blake is the Director for Fair Access and Participation. His role is to ensure universities and colleges are doing all they can to support learners from all backgrounds, especially the most disadvantaged, to access and succeed in higher education.

John took up his position at the Office for Students in January 2022. Prior to joining OfS, he was a senior leader and researcher in the schools sector, leading on public affairs and curriculum research and design for Ark, policy and strategy for Now Teach and History initial teacher education for the Harris Federation. He has also worked as Head of Education and Social Reform for the think tank, Policy Exchange, was a founder governor of Oak National Academy, and served as an advisor to the government on reforms to initial teacher training and continuing professional development.

Panel Discussion: Partnerships in Action

Communities: Sophie Clutterbuck

Director of London Engagement, London Metropolitan University



Employers: Shaid Parveen,

Senior Teaching Fellow and Employability Lead, Aston University

Shaid Parveen is a qualified lawyer and the Associate Dean for Enterprise and Engagement for Aston Law School and the School of Social Sciences and Humanities at Aston University. Shaid has extensive experience of teaching undergraduate and postgraduate courses which have included vocational courses for lawyers.

Shaid has a proven track record in EDI and is the Chair of the Birmingham Law Society, Race, Ethnicity and Cultural Heritage subcommittee. She has extensive links with practice and has a particular interest in developing employability skills amongst students.

Schools and Colleges: Sarah Kelleway

Senior Outreach Officer, University of Essex



Sarah joined the University of Essex Outreach Team in 2017, initially as an Outreach Officer and is now Senior Outreach Officer. Formerly a secondary school teacher, she has been responsible for several key Outreach projects, including creating Essex's Outreach Mentoring Programme, initiating a greater involvement of student staff from WP backgrounds into the team's work, and coordinating school partnership schemes to promote closer collaboration and enhanced impact. Sarah has been a member of NERUPI's Working Groups on Student Ambassadors and Access and Participation Plans, which she has found invaluable to her and the team's practice. She is delighted to be speaking today and looks forward to sharing ideas with other outreach professionals across the UK.

Communities of Practice/Praxis Teams: Dr Samuel Dent
Head of Academic Development, Staffordshire University



Starting out in student support services, **Dr Samuel Dent** gained frontline experience of the real challenges facing staff and students in a diverse range of services and teaching modes, which inspired him to start his PhD research. Since then, Dr Dent has worked for the Universities of Kent, Sheffield, and Nottingham Trent.

Demonstrating local, national and international impact, Dr Dent has secured a cumulative total of £2.5 Million in external funding for addressing barriers to student success, on a range of topics, including Course Design, Widening Participation, Research and evaluation, Personal Tutoring, and inequities in attainment, progress and retention.

Dr Dent's latest's book on Theory of Change in Access and Participation includes contributions from a range of institutions and authors – many of them NERUPI members; <https://blackwells.co.uk/bookshop/product/Theory-of-Change-by-Samuel-Dent-editor-Anna-Mountford-Zimdars-editor-Ciarn-Burke-editor/9781800717909>