

Meet our Presenters

SESSION A

The Light: Main Hall Ground Floor

A partnership approach to early literacy attainment raising with unaccompanied minors

Liz Ferguson, University of East Anglia (UEA)

Liz has worked in several different roles in UEA's Outreach team. In recent years she has focused on widening participation activities for especially under-represented groups including students with experience of local authority care, estranged students, and forced migrant students. Liz coordinates the Care Experienced & Estranged Student Network at UEA, offering practical information and support to current undergraduates studying with limited family support. Liz is Chair of the eastern region group of the National Network for the Education of Care Leavers (NNECL).

Uncovering partnership working's hidden benefits – collaboration and co-creation with UCL Careers Extra students

Penny Longman, University College London



Penny is a Senior Careers Consultant and leads the UCL Careers Extra programme of enhanced careers support for undergraduates from under-represented backgrounds. Before joining UCL she was responsible for higher education and careers guidance in a school and 6th form college. She undertook a master's researching students' and graduates' perceptions of the benefits of Higher Education participation in the context of increased emphasis on graduate employability but widely acknowledged inequality of access to graduate positions. Her MA dissertation focused on factors which enable young people to make the most of university, barriers they may face and implications for practice.

Meet our Presenters

SESSION B

Ada Salter Suite: Ground Floor

Partnership working within Creative Arts Outreach

Perry James, Make Happen



Perry has worked with Make Happen, the Essex based partnership of the Uni Connect programme, for the past three years. In his role, Perry works with schools in Colchester and Tendring to plan activities which engage students about the benefits and realities of progressing to HE. Over the past year, he has focused on a progressive project designed to help Year 10 students explore their future education and career options within the Creative Arts.

Collaborative Evaluation in Practice; delivery practitioners as evaluation partners

Vicky Cotterill, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Collaborative Outreach Partnership (DANCOP)

Vicky is currently DANCOP Evaluation Manager where she leads on the evaluation of a range of outreach initiatives as part of the Uni Connect Programme. Her professional expertise includes the design and implementation of evaluation strategies and the effective engagement of stakeholders throughout this process.

Meet our Presenters

SESSION C

Waldo Williams Suite: Ground Floor

Plan, Prepare, Provide: working with secondary school Art teachers to help support students to succeed

Professor Abigail Harrison Moore, University of Leeds



Abigail Harrison Moore is Professor of Art History and Museum Studies at the University of Leeds. Abigail's research focusses on art and design history, 1850-1930. She co-leads an international project on the histories of energy (see Harrison Moore and Sandwell, 'In a New Light; Histories of Women and Energy' (MQUP 2021)). She is currently an AHRC Fellow, working with Leeds Museum's Preservative Party to co-produce histories of women and energy in the home. She is responsible for leading 3 key projects to support young people and their teachers via art history; Discover ARTiculation, Discovery Days, and Plan, Prepare, Provide.

Dr Sarah Harvey Richardson, University of Leeds



Sarah Harvey Richardson is an Educational Engagement Manager at the University of Leeds, leading the Student Success Unit, Evaluation and Monitoring Team and strategic projects in the Educational Engagement Service. She is passionate about widening participation in higher education and is committed to ensuring all students have the support and resources they need to thrive during their time at University of Leeds and beyond. Sarah has worked in higher education since 2015, and has a background in arts education, engagement and research; completing her PhD in the School of Fine Art, History of Art and Cultural Studies in 2018, and working in arts organisations including Pavilion and The Hepworth Wakefield to engage children, young people, and adult audiences in the arts.

Selection and recruitment of societal stakeholders for city engagement

Rajiv Mahadew, Erasmus University, Rotterdam

Rajiv Mahadew works as City Engagement Officer for the Academic Outreach Programme (IDEA Center) at the Erasmus University Rotterdam. Rajiv has a background in local and national politics and knowledge of policy making at the municipal level. His background has brought him in contact with various civil society organisations in the field of poverty alleviation, youth, and welfare and youth organisations over the years. Since 2022, Rajiv has been working on widening participation through outreach activities in collaboration with civil society organisations.

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SESSION A

The Light: Main Hall Ground Floor

'Without faith, nothing is possible' Working with the Muslim student community

Dr Julie Vuolo, University of Hertfordshire



Dr Julie Vuolo is Deputy Head of Widening Access and Student Success at the University of Hertfordshire. In this role, she supports the strategic and operational delivery of the access and participation plan and leads the data and evaluation aspects of the team's work. Julie has worked in Higher Education since 2003 during which time she has undertaken a variety of academic and professional roles. Julie's doctoral research focused on what happens when students, their lecturers and their placement supervisors behave 'badly' towards each-other. Her current research interests include understanding the barriers and enablers to higher education for displaced (refugee) learners.

Engaging Students, Transforming Futures: Building Strategies to Increase Multicultural Student Ambassador Participation using the CLEAR Model

Arysha Lemmers, Erasmus University, Rotterdam



With a wealth of experience in event management and community building, Arysha thrives on crafting impactful experiences. From organizing educational events to fostering a vibrant multicultural student community, her passion lies in connecting people and ideas. Skilled in planning, communicating, and creative community building, she's dedicated to leaving a lasting impression.

Dr Anne Wijtzes, Erasmus University, Rotterdam

Anne is Programme Manager for the Academic Outreach Programme 'Onze Toekomst Verbinden' (Connecting our Future) in the Diversity and Inclusion Office at the Erasmus University

Dr Janna Michael, Erasmus University, Rotterdam



Janna Michael is a cultural sociologist fascinated by questions of boundary drawing and in- and exclusion in culture and education. Her research focusses on social inequality, education, and (cultural) consumption. Janna works as a postdoc researcher within the Academic Outreach Programme of the Erasmus University Rotterdam.

SESSION B

Ada Salter Suite: Ground Floor

Hidden impact of a co-creation project with care experienced learners

James Telfer and Monica Blount, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire
Collaborative Outreach Partnership (DANCOP)

As part of the wider UniConnect programme, James and Monica are a team of two specialising in Derby City. Coming from a teaching background of FE college (Outdoor Education) and 6th Form (Media) respectively, we are passionate about improving outcomes for young people through experiences and supporting their journeys into the next phase of education.

Our ‘Mind the gaps!’ experience. Working with partner universities, a mental health provider and student collaborators to co-create and deliver a well-being initiative

Nikki Anghileri, St Mary’s University, Twickenham

Nikki is Head of Widening Participation (student access, success and progression) at St Mary’s University, Twickenham

SESSION C

Waldo Williams Suite: Ground Floor

Working with Students as Partners: Harnessing authentic voices in strategic outreach activities for ethnically diverse students

Andy Adam, University of East Anglia (UEA)



Andy is the Outreach Project Officer at the University of East Anglia. He has spent the majority of his career within arts and education as a teacher, facilitator, and project manager. Being from a performing arts background, he's always keen to explore and embed creative approaches to facilitation and outreach activities. Andy leads on the strategic outreach activities for ethnically diverse and global majority students. He is also responsible for the partnership between the UEA Outreach and Students' Union in which we support student groups and societies to design and deliver outreach activities within local schools.

Haytham Mohamed, University of East Anglia (UEA)

Haytham is an Egyptian film researcher and filmmaker based in London. He recently submitted his revised PhD thesis and a documentary in Film Studies at the University of East Anglia (UEA). Haytham's research examined the representation of male homosexual characters in Egyptian cinema from 1963 until 2018. Haytham has been working as a PhD Student Lead and running the Black Humanities Project at UEA. BHP aims to address the disparity between white students and students of colour, focusing on those from Black heritage wanting to pursue Humanities subjects in Higher Education.

White Working-Class Boys: Are our measures of “working class” fit for purpose?

Jessica Whitby, Higher Education Progression Partnership South Yorkshire (HeppSY)



Jessica is an Evaluation and Data Officer for HeppSY (Higher Education Progression Partnership South Yorkshire) undertaking theory-driven evaluation research, based on the premise that all programmes and activities are theories incarnate.