

Insights Event

The privilege of student success: ethnicity awarding gaps in higher education?

4 December 2020, Virtual

Overview

Policy makers, practitioners and researchers are paying increasing attention to awarding gaps in Higher Education. Advance HE publishes data annually detailing the size of these gaps. For example, in the academic year 2018/19, 81.4% of white students received a first/2:1 compared with 68.0% of BAME students, representing a BAME degree awarding gap of 13.3 percentage points. Most concerning, there has been little change in the size of this gap since the publication of the first Advance HE statistical report in 2003/04.

This insight event will present the most up to date data on awarding gaps in UK HE highlighted by the 2020 Advance HE statistical report, with particular focus on ethnicity and race. But it is not enough to simply point to the current problem. The event will also convene important discussions about the barriers to achieving equal academic outcomes for students, and the practical steps that can be taken to finally start to reduce these gaps. We will discuss the reasons some groups of students have very high attainment at school, but not at university, and where there are pockets of good practice in UK HE. This will include contributions from experts and facilitated group discussions among attendees.

Programme

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| 12:45pm | Waiting room opens |
| 1:00pm | Main room open/housekeeping |
| 1:05pm | Welcome Introduction to Advance HE and the statistical reports Gary Loke, Director (KID), Advance HE |
| 1:15pm | Overview of Findings from the Statistical Report Natasha Codioli, Advance HE |
| 1:45pm | What Works – how are we reducing awarding gaps? Chaired Panel Discussion with Q&A Views from a staff panel, senior representatives and academics. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chair, Gary Loke, Director, Advance HE |

- Professor Heidi Safia Mirza, Emeritus Professor UCL Institute of Education, Visiting Professor Race, Faith and Culture, Goldsmiths College, University of London
- Omar Khan, Director, Transforming Access and Student Outcomes in HE (TASO)
- Ruqia Osman, former Education Officer, SU, University of Bath

2:45pm **Break**

3:00pm **Breakout Sessions**
Discussion focused on 2 or 3 key questions emerging from report

3:40pm **Feedback**

3:50pm **Conclusions**
Amanda Aldercotte, Head of Research, Advance HE

4:00pm **Close**