

The Next Steps for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion – From inclusive leadership and culture to embedded equitable practice

10 June 2021, Virtual Conference Platform

Theme

The inaugural Advance HE Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) conference in Ireland will focus on EDI priorities for higher education across the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. The conference will provide an opportunity for delegates to consider the contextualised aspects of EDI as they relate to embedding EDI in institutional strategies and ensuring implementation across the institution. In particular, there will be specific focus on enabling action and a culture that supports equality across all equality grounds through inclusive leadership - recognising the extensive work already being undertaken in on gender equality across the island of Ireland.

The conference will consider the challenges and opportunities for leading a strategic approach to EDI. The event will showcase good practice from across Ireland and the UK and share how Advance HE is supporting the sector in this change agenda.

We are pleased to host two leading voices on EDI as keynote speakers, Professor Sally Mapstone, University of St Andrews, Scotland and Professor Ivana Bacik, Trinity College Dublin. Further, the conference will provide opportunity to hear from panel contributors and colleagues about ‘what works’ for to tackling inequalities in higher education in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. Within this context, delegates are invited to consider how to approach challenges on race and addressing practical implementation of strategy and activities around the equality grounds. Delegates will be challenged to consider strategic solutions that will truly deliver on leading inclusion and a culture change for their institutions. Delegates will end the day with some practical insights and actions to implement within their institution, inspired to consider more strategic approaches to institution-wide EDI activities.

The conference will be held on the Advance HE virtual conference platform and has been designed as an immersive and engaging digital experience which offers delegates the following features:

- a full day of **live-streamed sessions** of keynotes, panel discussions and workshops addressing current issues in higher education
- opportunity to interact with other delegates in a **virtual networking space**
- full **online support** throughout the day
- access to all the digital content after the conference
- a **virtual resources centre**, where delegates can obtain copies of recent reports from Advance HE and partners

Find out more and book your place [here](#)

Programme

- 9.30am** **Platform opens for networking**
- 10.00am** **Welcome**
David Bass, Assistant Director of Membership, Advance HE
- 10.20am** **Keynote Speaker – Mainstreaming Diversity**
Professor Sally Mapstone, Principal and Vice Chancellor, University of St Andrews, Scotland, Followed by Q&A from the audience
- 10.50am** **In conversation**
Informal discussion on leading a strategic approach to EDI – driving the change
Chaired by David Bass, Assistant Director of Membership, Advance HE:
- Dr Orla Flynn, President of Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology
 - Professor Sally Mapstone, Principal and Vice Chancellor, University of St Andrews, Scotland
 - Nicola Doherty, Head of Education Sales EMEA & LATAM and out@in Dublin Lead, LinkedIn Learning
 - Mpho Mokotso, Gender-based violence activist, MASI member and freelance columnist
- 12.00pm** **Lunch and Virtual Networking**
- 1.00pm** **Panel Discussion on Race Equality – how to approach challenges on race**
Chaired by Arun Verna, Head of the Race Equality Charter, Advance HE:
- Dr Amanullah De SONDY, Head of the Study of Religions Department, Senior Lecturer in Contemporary Islam and Chair of Race Equality at University College Cork and Director, Nasc – the Migrant and Refugee Rights Centre
 - Owen Ward, Programme Coordinator, Access Centre, NUI Galway
 - Sahar Ahmed, PhD Candidate, School of Law, Trinity College Dublin
 - Dr Eburn Joseph, Director, Institute of Antiracism and Black Studies
- 2.00pm** **Break**
- 2.20pm** **Parallel Workshops – addressing the practical implementations of strategy and activities relating to equality, diversity and inclusion**
- Tackling Racism on Campus: From Critical Conversations to Action to Accountability – Nighet Riaz, Programmes Advisor, Advance HE and Khadija Mohammed, Senior Lecturer, University of the West of Scotland
 - Impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on how we work and manage caring responsibilities – Ellen Pugh, Senior Adviser, Advance HE and Ross Woods, Senior Manager, HEA Centre of Excellence for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

- 3.20pm** **Keynote speaker**
Professor Ivana Bacik, Associate Professor, Law, Trinity College Dublin
Followed by Q&A
- 3.50pm** **Closing comments**
Eilis Flanagan, Head of Membership (Ireland), Advance HE
- 4.00pm** **Close**