

## EDI Conference - 25 March 2026 - Day 1

09:00-10:00	Registration: Manchester Suite Foyer							60 mins
	Welcome and Keynote: Manchester Suite							
10:00-10:25	Welcome Address: Alistair Jarvis, Chief Executive, Advance HE Keynote: A(nother) leadership paradox: Equity in HE is important; but please be quiet(er) about it Professor Donna Whitehead, Vice-Chancellor, University of Brighton							25 mins
	Panel: Manchester Suite							
10:25-11:10	Courage and pragmatism in inclusive leadership Chair: Alistair Jarvis, Chief Executive, Advance HE Professor Donna Whitehead, Vice-Chancellor, University of Brighton Professor Frances Corner, Chair of the Maudsley Charity, board member of LAMDA, Creative UK and the All-Party Parliamentary University Group Professor Zainab Khan, Pro Vice-Chancellor Academic Resources & Transformation, London South Bank University							45 mins
11:10-11:25	Refreshments: Manchester Suite Foyer							15 mins
	Parallel Session 1							
	Room: Manchester Suite 1.1 - Interactive workshop	Room: Milano 1.2 - Interactive workshop	Room: Brussels Suite 1.3 - Interactive workshop	Room: 104 1.4 - Oral presentations	Room: 105 1.5 - Oral presentations	Room: 109 1.6 - Oral presentations	Room: 110 1.7 - Walkshop	
11:25-12:25	<b>Reimagining equality impact assessments in Higher Education: A participatory workshop introducing an innovative equality analysis framework</b> Professor Chantal Davies, Professor Ruth Healey, Dr Holly White, Dr Kim Ross and Chantal Worsdell, University of Chester and Melanie Crofts, University of Hertfordshire	<b>The inclusion tapestry: Co-creating and analysing inclusive cultures through creative expression</b> Professor Virginie Grzelczyk, Aston University	<b>When EDI meets martial arts: Flow, formlessness and institutional change</b> Dr Sammy Li and Loreal Stokes, University of Birmingham	<b>1.4a Back in the closet? LGBTQIA+ students in distance learning</b> Dr Andrew Potter, Dr Leigh Downes, Professor Caroline Derry, Dr Ellesar Elhaggagi, Aimee Waterer and Xinyi Lu, The Open University  <b>1.4b Assessing inclusively: A reflective and collaborative tool to strengthen inclusive assessment design</b> Dr Rebecca Quew-Jones and Joanna Clarke, University of Portsmouth	<b>1.5a Closing the awarding gap: Listening to our Black Science students</b> Jennie Bellamy and Dr Louise MacBrayne, The Open University  <b>1.5b The sum of many parts: Embedding intersectionality in HE practices</b> Dr Pradeep Passi, University of Salford	<b>1.6a EDI data: Developing a road to success</b> Naheed Nazir and Amraze Khan, Manchester Metropolitan University  <b>1.6b Leaving the silo behind: Transforming Northumbria's approach to EDI by shifting the focus from characteristic-based actions to comprehensive inclusivity</b> Rachel Brown and Fiona Snook, Northumbria University	<b>Walking the talk: Exploring threshold concepts in EDI practice</b> Simran Kaur, University of Strathclyde	60 mins
12:25-12:35	Transition Period							10 mins
	Parallel Session 2							
	Room: Manchester Suite 2.1 - Interactive workshop	Room: Milano 2.2 - Interactive workshop	Room: Brussels Suite 2.3 - Interactive workshop	Room: 104 2.4 - Oral presentations	Room: 105 2.5 - Oral presentations	Room: 109 2.6 - Oral presentations	Room: 110 2.7 - Ten-minute thesis	
12:35-13:35	<b>The antiracist university: A play</b> Dr Sheena Kalayil and Dr Andy Smith, University of Manchester	<b>A tale of two halves: Reflections from De Montfort University's REC silver journey</b> Annette Hay and Dr Hardeep Basra, De Montfort University	<b>Seen, safe, understood: Equitable safeguarding in Higher Education through multi-agency and intersectional approaches</b> Noor Da Silva and Hannah Roche, University of Northampton and Huma Abbasi, Northamptonshire Police	<b>2.4a From induction to inclusion: Empowering student voices at Durham</b> Ayrtan Magaia, Durham University  <b>2.4b Breaking barriers: New report calls for urgent action on ethnic diversity in Higher Education leadership</b> Dr Louise Oldridge and Dr Jessie Pswarayi, Nottingham Trent University and Ben Vulliamy, The Association of Heads of University Administration (AHUA)	<b>2.5a Co-creation in action: Aston University and partners driving disability inclusion across the Midlands</b> Rabia Ahmed and Corinna Fletcher, Aston University  <b>2.5b Including students with intellectual disabilities in Higher Education</b> Deirdre Bonar and Sylvia Healy, TU Dublin	<b>2.6a Celebrating diversity: Student-led EDI training</b> Dr Maria Canal and Adella Tobing, University of Manchester  <b>2.6b Evaluation of offline adjustments and improving accessibility for distance learning Science students</b> Dr Christopher Hutton and Dr Fiona Aiken, The Open University	<b>2.7a Integrating cultural humility and anti-racism into postgraduate Healthcare curricula</b> Vittoria Sorice, University of Derby / Chesterfield Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Dr Jill Gould, University of Derby  <b>2.7b Student perceptions of inclusivity at Hartpury University</b> Elizabeth Bradley-Covey, Hartpury University  <b>2.7c Racialised experiences in Higher Education: A case study of students at an English university</b> Dr Nishani Jeyapalan, University of Bedfordshire	60 mins
13:35-14:20	Lunch: Manchester Suite Foyer and Restaurant							45 mins
	Parallel session 3							
	Room: Manchester Suite 3.1 - Interactive workshop	Room: Milano 3.2 - Interactive workshop	Room: Brussels Suite 3.3 - Interactive workshop	Room: 104 3.4 - Oral presentations	Room: 105 3.5 - Oral presentations	Room: 109 3.6 - Oral presentations	Room: 110 3.7 - Walkshop	
14:20-15:20	<b>Tackling gender stereotypes through play: A hands-on workshop on the laeolab board game and its pedagogical implications</b> Dr Andreeana Pastena, Universitat de les Illes Balears and Ninna Makrinov, David Reynolds, Sara Parisi and Mercy Lio, University of Warwick	<b>What are you hiding - and why? An invitation to explore unrecognised and unheard experiences among disabled HE staff - and what can happen when untapped potential is released</b> Jane Cordell, Result CIC	<b>The venus fly trap: A decolonial perspective on EDI work in UK-based student unions</b> Yasir Yeahia, Birmingham City University and Ananya Sreekumar, Warwick Students' Union	<b>3.4a Inclusive research in action: The ASPIRE pilot</b> Professor Eitlyn Kenny, Olivia Barfi, Asli Kandemir, Nosheen Qamer and Kally Bharti, University of Birmingham  <b>3.4b Taking decolonising the curriculum forward at the University of Manchester</b> Dr Lou Shirley, University of Manchester and Sohini Biswas, University of Manchester Students' Union	<b>3.5a The Women in Academia (WinA) Project: A mixed-methods approach to advancing women's careers</b> Associate/Assistant Professor Talar Moukhtarian, University of Warwick  <b>3.5b Good practice benefits everyone: 20 years of advancing gender equity at Chemistry at York through embedding innovation and quiet culture change</b> Dr Leonie Jones and Dr Derek Wann, University of York	<b>3.6a Muddling to flourishing: An institutional response to disabled students' stories</b> Dr Anne Shaw, University of Greater Manchester  <b>3.6b What disabled graduates won't tell you: Employability problems, challenges, opportunities, and the subtle missing links</b> Dr David Gordon, De Montfort University	<b>Step into their shoes: Sustaining Black community co-creation in HE</b> Dr Nicole Lotz, The Open University	60 mins
15:20-15:35	Refreshments - Manchester Suite Foyer							15 mins
	Parallel Session 4							
	Room: Manchester Suite 4.1 - Interactive workshop	Room: Milano 4.2 - Interactive workshop	Room: Brussels Suite 4.3 - Interactive workshop	Room: 104 4.4 - Oral presentations	Room: 105 4.5 - Oral presentations	Room: 109 4.6 - Oral presentations	Room: 110 4.7 - Ten-minute thesis	
15:35-16:35	<b>Working together is success: Using external partnership to build psychologically safe development programmes</b> Nate Belgrave and Hannah Rustomjee, University of Manchester	<b>Testing a student-centred guide for inclusive practice: Insights from doctoral research</b> Dr Rehana Awan, The Open University	<b>Measuring inclusion and equity of curricula, resources, teaching, and assessment: A novel approach</b> Dr Antony Aleksiev, Applied Inspiration and Karolina Chojnacka, The Academy of Contemporary Music	<b>4.4a 'Five key questions' approach to equality impact assessments: Moving away from obscure policy and governance terminology to meaningful localised impact understanding</b> Nilisha Vashist and Catherine Long, University of Leeds  <b>4.4b Revolutionising equality impact assessments: Embedding inclusion through innovation</b> Amy Hedges, Durham University	<b>4.5a (Not so) subtle acts of exclusion: How to understand, identify, and stop microaggressions</b> Professor Jerome Cranston, University of Saskatchewan  <b>4.5b Old tools, new insights: Re-introducing the Advance HE Equality in Higher Education Student Statistical Report</b> Dr Panagiota Sotiropoulou, Advance HE	<b>4.6a Embedding inclusive leadership: Intentional about inclusion leadership programme</b> Mona Patel and Amraze Khan, Manchester Metropolitan University  <b>4.6b Designing EDI into summative assessments</b> Professor Dr Ale Armellini, Jovana Radulovic, and Dr Becky Quew-Jones, University of Portsmouth	<b>4.7a Students taking resits need specific support: Embedding equity and inclusion in assessment</b> Dr Karen Lander, University of Manchester  <b>4.7b Data drives for borrowed insights: Building trust and engagement in EDI data</b> Laxman Godhanian, City St George's, University of London  <b>4.7c Acknowledging ageism: An unexplored aspect of the mature student experience</b> Millie Bolt, University of Leeds  <b>4.7d Embedding equity and accountability: Integrating EDI and CPD into global teaching frameworks</b> Ambreen Tajmal, Queen Mary, University of London	60 mins
16:35-16:45	Transition Period							10 mins
	Summative Plenary: Manchester Suite							
16:45-17:00	David Bass, Director, EDI, Advance HE and Robiu Salisu, Senior Consultant, Inclusive Institutions, Advance HE							15 mins
18:00-19:00	Equality Charters Drinks Reception: Dublin							60 mins
18:15-19:00	Drinks Reception EDI Conference: Manchester Suite Foyer							45 mins
	Dinner: Manchester Suite							
19:00-22:00	Conference Dinner and Charters Awards Celebration Welcome: Anne Mwangi, Head of the Race Equality Charter, Advance HE Pre-dinner speaker: Professor Dibyesh Anand, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Global Engagement and Employability) and Professor of International Relations, University of Westminster and Co-Chair, University's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee and Chair, London Higher Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Network							180 mins