13th Annual Academic Development Symposium 1 Thursday 5 May 2022

Global Communities: Building Communities and Improving Collaboration Programme
10:00-11:00 REGISTRATION AND POSTERS (VOTING CLOSES AT 14:45)
James McKay Hall, King’s College Centre
MS Teams General Room and Poster Room

11:00-11:05 WELCOME & INTRODUCTION
KQG5 Auditorium, King’s College Centre MS Teams Room A (Keynote)

PROFESSOR STEVE TUCKER
Institutional Resilient Learning Communities
Enhancement Theme Lead
DECOLONISING THE CURRICULUM ACROSS THE DISCIPLINES - WHAT CAN WE DO?

The question in the title of this presentation is one I am often asked by colleagues from across the sector. The challenge – beyond the term itself – is that before we can even begin to look at what we teach, we need to start by looking inwards and asking ourselves to reflect critically on who we are as teachers, surfacing assumptions that can be uncomfortable and even unknown.

In this presentation, I will share our work on a QAA Scotland Enhancement Theme project in this area to explore sensitive issues in relation to positionality and responsibility and to highlight why we – as a sector, as an institution and as individuals – need to begin this conversation at this time.
12:05-12:45 LUNCH AND POSTERS (VOTING CLOSES AT 14:45)
James McKay Hall, King’s College Centre
MS Teams Café/Social Area and Poster Room

CHOOSE ONE PANEL FROM EACH PAIR OF SESSIONS BELOW (SESSION: 1 OR 2 AND 3 OR 4)

12:45-13:30 SESSION 1

LEARNING TOGETHER: CONTINUING TO SUPPORT AN INCLUSIVE, ACCESSIBLE AND DIVERSE LEARNING CULTURE

Building on the 2021 Symposium discussions, this panel will share and explore practices as we work towards the “Inclusive” commitments of the University’s 2040 strategy. The strategy provides that we will welcome staff and students of all backgrounds. “Our commitment to inclusion will guide our education. We aspire to lead our sector in promoting health and wellbeing, and celebrating diversity”. In particular, we will explore presentations regarding Commitment 1 “We will care for the wellbeing, health and safety of our diverse community, supporting and developing our people to achieve their full potential” and Commitment 2 “We will encourage widening access to study by having fair and flexible entry routes, offering diverse qualifications, and providing a range of modes of delivery; our students will be able to succeed whatever their personal and social background”.

CHAIR: PROFESSOR ABBE BROWN Dean for Student Support
MOSES IKPEME Lecturer (Scholarship), School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition
DR HEATHER MORGAN Lecturer (Scholarship), School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition
DR MARY PRYOR Senior Academic Skills Adviser, Student Learning Service, Centre for Academic Development
SIAN WALLACE & ROMA DHASMANA Disabled Students’ Forum

ROOM: KQG5 Auditorium, King’s College Centre, MS Teams Room B
**12:45-13.30 SESSION 2**

**AN INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO LEARNING**

We will explore interdisciplinary approaches to learning. It will include discussions about some of the challenges we may need to overcome working across disciplines and lessons we can learn from others. In addition, reflect on the rewards of seeing students starting to think about their studies from different disciplinary perspectives and what they have gained from an interdisciplinary approach to learning.

**CHAIR:** PROFESSOR JENNIE MACDIARMID  
Director of the Interdisciplinary Centre for Health, Nutrition and Wellbeing

**DR LOUISE ROSS** Lecturer (Scholarship), School of Biological Sciences

**DR SHAHIDA SHAHANA** Lecturer (Scholarship), School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition

**NADA JODEH** 3rd Year Medical Student  
School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition

**ROOM:** KQG3 Multimedia Room, King’s College Centre  
MS Teams Room C

**13:30-13:45 BREAK AND POSTERS (VOTING CLOSES AT 14:45)**  
James McKay Hall, King’s College Centre  
MS Teams Café/Social Area and Poster Room
13:45-14:30 SESSION 3
UNDERSTANDING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS’ EMPLOYABILITY NEEDS

There will be short presentations which will explore a number of themes relevant to international students including the support provided by Aberdeen in assisting students to gain employment in their origin country, the jobs that our international graduates end up in and the skills demands of international companies.

CHAIR: DR HARMINDER BATTU Dean for International Student Pathways
DR JOHN BARROW Dean for Entrepreneurship & Employability
REGINA JASCHKE Senior Careers Advisor, Careers and Employability Service
DR PETER MORGAN Director - Internationalisation, Business School

ROOM: KQG3 Multimedia Room, King’s College Centre, MS Teams Room D

13:45-14:30 SESSION 4
MAINSTREAMING SUSTAINABILITY INTO EVERYDAY UNIVERSITY LIFE

In our 2040 strategy, under its “Sustainable” ambition, the University of Aberdeen states, “We understand and nurture our environment, and take care of our resources, including our people and finances. We work responsibly” an commits (Commitment 17) to: “We will educate all our students and staff to be leaders in protecting the environment.” In this session we examine how we will meet this commitment, so that sustainability is mainstreamed into the everyday life of all University staff and students.

CHAIR: PROFESSOR PETE SMITH Professor of Soils & Global Change
DR PAULA DUFFY Lecturer, School of Geosciences
PROFESSOR DONALD GRAY School of Education
TRISTAN WOLFE Energy Manager, Estates & Facilities
SHAZIA NUSKY 4th Year Medical Student
School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition

ROOM: KQG5 Auditorium, King’s College Centre, MS Teams Room E
14:30-14:45 BREAK AND POSTERS (VOTING CLOSES AT 14:45)
James McKay Hall, King’s College Centre
MS Teams Café/Social Area and Poster Room

14:45-15:30

ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS SHOWCASE

CHAIR: PROFESSOR STEVE TUCKER Institutional Resilient Learning Communities Enhancement Theme Lead

ROOM: KQG5 Auditorium, King’s College Centre, MS Teams Room F

This interactive session will explore the exciting and innovative Enhancement Theme Projects with short presentations from the project teams followed by a Q&A session. The specific projects were funded as part of 1st year of the Theme 1, and so have reached the final stages – this means the Teams can share their findings and outputs during the session providing an excellent opportunity to swap and share effective practice!

1. TRACEY INNES Head of Careers and Employability Service: UNDERSTANDING, DEVELOPING AND DEMONSTRATING RESILIENCE IN THE CONTEXT OF EMPLOYABILITY

2. Nir Oren, Matthew Collinson, Ben Martin, Murilo Da Silva Baptista School of Natural and Computing Sciences and MORGIANE RICHARD Centre for Academic Development: INVESTIGATING SOLUTIONS TO MAKE MATHEMATICAL TEACHING CONTENT ACCESSIBLE

3. JACQUI HUTCHISON and Heather Branigan, School of Psychology: EXPLORING THE EXPERIENCES OF ARTICULATION STUDENTS’ TRANSITION TO UNIVERSITY

4. AMY IRWIN, Ceri Trevethan, Heather Branigan, School of Psychology and Joy Perkins, Centre for Academic Development: BUILDING STUDENT RESILIENCE THROUGH COURSE DEVELOPMENT – MOVING FROM SURVIVING TO THRIVING

5. LYN BATCHelor and Fiona Robson, Qatar Campus, University of Aberdeen: THE BRIDGE BETWEEN: ARAB VOICES AND STORIES OF COPING
15:30-15:45 BREAK AND POSTERS
James McKay Hall, King’s College Centre, MS Teams Social Area

15:45-16:05

TRANSFORMING LEARNING THROUGH COLLABORATION: REFLECTIONS FROM THE TQFE/BAPD CATE-WINNING TEAM

Dr Aileen Ackland, Chris Aldred, Professor Yvonne Bain, Sarah Cornelius, Dr Rachel Shanks, Mary Stephen, Dr STEPHANIE THOMSON, School of Education and CHRISTINE CALDER, Dundee and Angus College

This session will explore the work of the Teaching Qualification in Further Education (TQFE) and BA Professional Development (BAPD) team, based in the School of Education, who were recently awarded the Collaborative Award in Teaching Excellence (CATE) - a national award from Advance HE. The team will explain their own context, what the award is looking for and how they were able to demonstrate the impact, value and reach of their work together.

ROOM: KQG5 Auditorium, King’s College Centre, MS Teams Room G

TOP (L/R) Dr Rachel Shanks, Dr Aileen Ackland, Dr Stephanie Thomson, Christine Calder

BOTTOM (L/R) Sarah Cornelius, Chris Aldred, Mary Stephen, Professor Yvonne Bain
16:05-16:15

**PRINCIPAL’S TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD 2021/22**

**SYMPOSIUM POSTER COMPETITION AWARDS**

Presented by **PROFESSOR RUTH TAYLOR** Vice-Principal (Education)

**ROOM:** KQG5 Auditorium, King’s College Centre, MS Teams Room G
The Centre for Academic Development supports staff and students from across the University in teaching, learning, research and professional development.

For general enquiries, please contact the Centre at cad@abdn.ac.uk or +44 (0)1224 27 3030