

## Joint seminar series

SRHE Access and Widening Participation Network  
UALL Widening Participation and Access Network

# Researching and Evaluating Widening Participation

Universities with Access Agreements are developing a range of initiatives to attract and retain students from social groups currently under-represented in higher education. As a result there is an increased emphasis at both national and institutional level on assessing the longer term impact of widening participation strategies.

This seminar series is designed to broaden the scope of current work in the area, drawing on the growing body of academic research to inform and develop approaches to evaluation and impact assessment.

The seminars are grouped into seven areas of current interest and will demonstrate a range of methodological approaches through concrete examples related to the theme of the session, linked to case studies undertaken by universities.

The seventh and final session will draw together the insights gathered over the course of the series and focus on future developments in research and evaluation that will inform strategies to widen participation higher education.

To book your place go to the SRHE website at <http://www.srhe.ac.uk/events/>

### **22 January 2015 Seminar 1. Schooling, attainment and admission to higher education**

- **Dr Vikki Boliver**, *Durham University*  
Why are British ethnic minorities less likely to be offered places at highly selective universities?
- **Professor David James**, *Cardiff University*  
White middle class identities and progression to higher education
- **Case Study: Dr Alison Jones**, *Goldsmiths, University of London*  
Broadening access to the BA Fine Art Degree at Goldsmiths

### **9 February 2015 Seminar 2. University outreach activities and progression to higher education**

- **Dr Colin McCaig** and **Sean Demack**, *Sheffield Hallam University*  
'Dreams' and 'Realities' in university access: Mapping social differences in higher education aspirations and participation in England

- **Professor Carole Leathwood**, *Institute for Policy Studies in Education, London Metropolitan University*  
Researching school and college strategies to 'raise aspirations': Issues in a DfE funded study
- **Case Study: Annette Hayton and Dr Andrew Bengry-Howell**, *University of Bath*  
The activities matter: Exploring a framework to evaluate the impact of university-led outreach activities

### **23 March 2015 Seminar 3. Learning, teaching and curriculum in higher education**

- **Professor Penny-Jane Burke**, *University of Roehampton*  
Equity and social justice in the field of higher education studies
- **Dr Debra Cureton**, *University of Wolverhampton*  
The Power of the Teacher-Student Relationship
- **Case Study: Dr Steve Kendall**, *University of Bedfordshire*  
Students as Researchers

### **13 April 2015 Seminar 4. Mature and part-time students: Accessing and succeeding in HE**

- **Professor Alison Fuller** and **Professor Lorna Unwin**, *Institute of Education University of London*  
Progression to higher education from the vocational route
- **Professor Claire Callender** and **Dr Kerry Harman**, *Birkbeck, University of London*  
Involving student mothers in Higher Education
- **Case Study: Dr John Butcher and Wendy Fowle**, *Open University*  
Experiences of part-time students across the UK

### **11 May 2015 Seminar 5. The culture of higher education and the student experience**

- **Professor John Richardson** *Open University*  
Under-attainment of BAME students in UK higher education: what we know/don't know
- **Professor Heidi Safia Mirza**, *Goldsmiths, University of London*  
Respecting Difference: Race, faith and culture for teacher educators in HE
- **Case Study: Carlton Howson**, *De Montfort University*  
Experience of ethnically minoritised students in higher education?

## **8 June 2015 Seminar 6. Employability and graduate Destinations**

- **Dr Nicola Ingram**, *University of Bath*  
Paired Peers: classed and gendered graduate transitions
- **Professor Kate Purcell**, *University of Warwick*  
Futuretrack: the diversity of experiences in the transition from education to employment and the implications for researchers and policy-makers
- Case study: **Stephane Farenga**

## **6 July 2015 Seminar 7. Next Steps**

- **Professor Jacqueline Stevenson**, *Sheffield Institute of Education*  
Making the links between evaluation, evidence and impact" This session will explore how evaluation can inform evidence and how evidence can be used to think, and make claims, about impact"
- **Dr Neil Harrison**, *University of West of England*  
'Assessing Impact and Measuring Success in widening participation' or AIMS
- **Sharon Smith** and **Rachael Edgar**, *HEAT Access Tracker University of Kent*  
HEAT Access Tracker