

**Event Invitations and Call for Contributions**

**Practical Solutions to Educational Inequality. Reducing the symptoms of Early School Leaving, Drop Out, NEET, Exclusion, Absence, Truancy and ‘Failure’.**

University of Cumbria, Sentamu Building, Lancaster Campus, Lancaster, England, LA1 3JD

4th and 5th June 2020.

We are pleased to offer two consecutive opportunities for engaging in this conversation:

National Practitioners Conference: Thursday 4th June 2020

International Research Conference (for academics, researchers, leaders, managers, commissioners and practitioners): 5th June 2020

The Educational Inequality conferences are focused on cutting edge research and innovation in the pedagogy of youth work, social work, education, further education and higher education in statutory, private and charitable sectors. The conferences are grounded in a shared passion and commitment to provide an equitable education for everyone ensuring all children, young people, pupils and students thrive and an intolerance for ‘dropout’, ‘NEET’, bullying, exclusion, educational failure and other such phenomenon. As such they adopt a critical pedagogical stance towards education and are focussed on understanding the issues and moving to action to resolve them.

The events provide a professional development and research capacity building opportunity for teachers, social workers, youth workers, lecturers and leaders and managers. The first conference is focussed exclusively at practitioners, hoping to enable changes at the front lie of education, youth work and social work practice. The second conferences is an open academic conference bringing together expert audiences who are committed to developing research-informed practice to tackle educational inequality. In addition to two provocative keynotes there is a choice of sessions on a wide range of research-informed practice in education as well as workshops to support wider discussion and dialogue. The conferences are part funded by Erasmus+ and are part of the three year Marginalisation and Co-created Education (MaCE) project. For more information on the MaCE project please visit: <https://www.usn.no/english/research/projects/marginalisation-and-co-created-education-mace/>

\*\*Places are limited\*\*

There are 35 free places for each day, and a further 35 fee paid places for each day (£50 per day).

Places allocated on a ‘first come first served’ basis.

**National Conference Agenda**

0930 Welcome and networking

0945 Welcome to the conference and to the University of Cumbria (Vice Chancellor Julie Mennell or Pro-Vice Chancellor Brian Webster-Henderson) (To be confirmed)

1000 Overview of the MaCE Project – MaCE-Coordinator Professor Mette Bunting, USN

1015 Equalities Literacy Framework- Professor Kaz Stuart, UoC.

1040 Social Reproduction and Social Inclusion in Education – Associate Professor David Thore Gravesen, VIA

1100 The Indirect Approach in Research and Learning – Associate Professor Geir H. Moshuus, USN and Peter Hornbæk Frostholm

1120 Coffee

1145 What we learned from these youth voices for education and social services – Assistant Professor Kathrine Bordevich, USN and Steve Walker, UoC.

1215 What we learned from co-researching with students for higher education – Sidse Hølvig Mikkelse, VIA and Dr Paul Cammack, UoC.

1245 Buffet lunch and networking

1345 Student voices – how our co-researchers found the project - Debbie Terras (UK), Marie Møller Skau (N) and Josefine Raunkjær (DK) (To be confirmed)

1415 Keynote Professor Carolyn Jackson – Title TBC.

1500 Drawing out learning and pledges to change – world café

1545 Close

You are welcome to attend this event if you are a practitioner, leader, manager or commissioner in any sector supporting children and young people.

To register book here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/practical-solutions-to-educational-inequality-practitioner-day-tickets-74928572377>

**International Conference Agenda**

0830 Coffee and networking

0900 Opening and Welcome to the University of Cumbria (Vice Chancellor Julie Mennell or Pro-Vice Chancellor Brian Webster-Henderson).

0910 Welcome and overview of MaCE, key findings, and learning from the National Practitioner Conference – Professor Kaz Stuart, UoC, Professor Mette Bunting, USN, Associate Professor David Thore Gravesen, VIA

0940 Keynote: Professor Diane Reay – Miseducation

1010 Coffee

1045 Parallel session one

1215 Lunch

1245 Poster session

1315 Parallel session two

1445 Coffee

1515 Parallel session three

1645 Bringing it together – closing comments.

You are welcome to attend this event if you are a practitioner, leader, manager, commissioner, student, researcher or academic.

To register book here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/practical-solutions-to-educational-inequality-research-conference-tickets-74930125021>

You are also welcome to present at the conference – to do so, please read the call for contributions and submission guidelines below. We welcome a wide range of voices at the event no matter how experienced you are.

**Call for International Conference Contributions**

Your proposed contribution should relate to the overall conference theme **Practical Solutions to Educational Inequality. Reducing the symptoms of Early School Leaving, Drop Out, NEET, Exclusion, Absence, Truancy and ‘Failure’,** and should address one or more of these aims:

* Developing critical understandings of the structures and contexts that create inequality
* Understanding the lived experience of educational inequality for young people and practitioners
* Developing solutions that support young people, practitioners, organisations and policy towards equity
* Developing equitable pedagogy in higher education
* Empowering and innovative research methods
* Practitioner, student and scholar activism – achieving social change through research.

In submitting your proposed contribution you will need to provide a concise title (140 characters maximum) and a 250 word abstract. All proposals must consist of innovative practice or research to understand or address educational inequality and include up to six key references to signal delegates to the underpinning theory and research. There are four different formats to choose from. Proposed contributions are peer-reviewed by at least two committee members. In some cases you may be given an opportunity to amend your proposal and you may be asked to switch formats depending on the programme requirements.

Submission guidelines

There are four different formats available for the Educational Inequality conference, each with particular advantages. All sessions at conference are chaired and we keep everyone to time to enable maximum opportunities for dialogue. In making your submission you should choose one of the following.

‘*Research or practice exchange presentations*’ are particularly suitable if you are reporting on a current well-developed research or innovative practice project in educational inequality and action research. Up to 15 minutes presentation with 15 minutes minimum of discussion.

*‘Poster & Pitch presentations*’ are great for networking because you will be in a group based on a specific theme with a five minute presentation to accompany your portrait style A0 poster and if you wish you may provide a hard copy handout. You will then have around twenty minutes discussion with members of the audience interested in your poster. Poster and pitch contributions may be on innovative practice or research.

‘*Round table presentations’* again are great for networking because placed in a themed group you will be sharing your project with interested colleagues through a five minute informal presentation which you may support with a hand copy handout. The themed discussion goes around the table picking up on relevant aspects of your project.

*‘Micro presentations’* are tightly timed with just five minutes then five minutes for discussion but in effect it is a ‘micro keynote’ because you get the full attention of the whole conference audience. Delegates will know who you are and will want to discuss further during networking opportunities built into the programme. Micro presentation proposed contributions may be on innovative practice or research.

For all formats we welcome work within particular educational contexts, programmes and curriculum subject areas but it is important that you identify points of interest and implications for a wider range of practitioners and educators.

The proposed contributions are evaluated against the following criteria:

• Relevance to the conference audience in terms of findings and implications

• The quality of the approach to evaluation or research

• The extent to which it critically engages with and builds on existing theory, research, policy and innovative practice in educational inequality.

The conference is linked to an open access journal – “The Journal of Youth Voices in Education: Methods, Theory, Practice” to which you are cordially invited to submit a paper. All papers will be peer reviewed by the editorial team.

The purposes of ‘The journal of Youth Voices in Education: Methods, Theory, Practice’ are:

         To publish articles from students, researchers and practitioners related to the research project Marginalisation and Co-created Education (MaCE), and

         To inspire other students, teachers and researchers to conduct similar educational programs and research projects, and thereby

         To enhance the quality of schooling and education in Europe and thereby ultimately encourage inclusion among students who experience marginalization and disadvantage, students who are early school leavers (ESL) or students who experience periods Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET).

If you would like to publish in this journal please contact David Thore Gravesen at: dtg@via.

**Contacts**:

To register for the National Practitioner Conference click here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/practical-solutions-to-educational-inequality-practitioner-day-tickets-74928572377>

To register for the International Research Conference click here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/practical-solutions-to-educational-inequality-research-conference-tickets-74930125021>

For general enquiries and an abstract form please contact: [kaz.stuart@cumbria.ac.uk](mailto:kaz.stuart@cumbria.ac.uk)

If you would like to informally discuss your proposed contribution to conference then contact the conference chair Kaz Stuart at [kaz.stuart@cumbria.ac.uk](mailto:kaz.stuart@cumbria.ac.uk)

