

STUDY HIGHER TWILIGHTS



30th June 2021 | 4-5pm

Tackling the Covid-19 attainment gap.

PANEL



DR SIMON LEE-PRICE

Dr Simon Lee-Price is a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and leads BNU's Student Learning and Achievement Team, dedicated to helping students develop their academic and study skills at all stages of their university journey. He is a member of BNU's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion working group, whose remit includes reducing the attainment/awarding gap, and he is currently collaborating in an initiative to decolonise the curriculum.



JON RAINFORD

Jon has worked in education for over 12 years. Beginning his career in secondary schools before moving into widening participation and higher education lecturing, he has extensive experience in secondary and higher education settings. He is a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and an Associate Lecturer at The Open University teaching on a number of courses related to the Social Sciences and Childhood. His academic research focuses on the gaps between policy and practice that often occur around access to higher education and he is currently co-authoring a book entitled "The Business of Widening Participation" due out with Emerald in 2022. He also continues to work within widening participation spaces as a consultant.



SOPHIA JAMES

Sophia James is the Head of UK student Recruitment and Widening Participation at Buckinghamshire New University. She has five years' experience in the HE sector, previously working at three other universities in a variety of roles but always with a focus on evaluation and how it informs activity and strategy. Sophia has carried out research and analysis as part of these roles and cares about the attainment gap and providing an equal playing field for all students.



ORE AIYESIMOJU

Graduate Ambassador, UK Recruitment and Partnerships, Oxford Brookes University.

Oreoluwa (Ore) Aiyesimoju is a recent Law Graduate from Oxford Brookes who graduated in June 2019 with a 2:1.

Now Ore works for Oxford Brookes as a Graduate Ambassador in UK Recruitment, recruiting students through Careers/HE Fairs and talks. Her hobbies include content creation and reading amongst other things.

She is passionate about diversity and representation in all sectors of life, whether that be within HE or the Film and Television Industry.

CHAIR



RACHEL CRAGG

Rachel is the Pro Vice-Chancellor Education and Digital at Buckinghamshire New University (BNU). Before joining BNU in 2020, she was Pro Vice-Chancellor, Academic Development at the University of Central Lancashire. She previously held director level responsibilities at the Open University and taught at King's College London and London South Bank University. Rachel studied for her PhD at Durham University, where her specialist interest was urban regeneration; she went on to teach human geography. Prior to her senior academic roles, she spent a decade working in policing. She has published on culture, change and community in higher education and she has a keen interest in the higher education sector's role in providing technical and vocational education.