



Universities
Association
for Lifelong
Learning

JOINT NETWORKS CONFERENCE

Recruiting mature students to Higher Education: Who, Why and How?

Thursday 31 October 2013

Friends Meeting House, London

In the last two years there has been a 40% decrease in the number of mature students participating in university study. This has serious implications for widening participation - and for the economy. Social groups under-represented in higher education often choose to take up their studies later in life rather than at 18 so it is important that the HE sector continues to provide that opportunity. The need for a highly skilled workforce is a national priority at this time of economic uncertainty and to achieve this we cannot rely solely on education and training for younger age groups but need to develop the skills of the existing adult workforce. This conference will give participants the opportunity to:

- ◆ review the application and progression patterns over the last few years
- ◆ explore the reasons for the decline in mature student applications
- ◆ develop practical strategies for recruiting and supporting mature students

Keynote Speakers

Tricia King, Pro-Vice-Master for Student Experience and Director of External Relations Birkbeck, University of London – *on attracting and retaining older learners*

Fiona Hoban, Policy Adviser, UUK – *reporting on UUK review of Part-time and Mature HE*

Katy Morris, Head of Policy and Research, Million+ *joint author of 'Never too Late to Learn'*

Presentation Workshops

- ◆ Integrating Full and Part- time Degree Provision, **Stella Cottrell**, University of Leeds
- ◆ Foundation Year Provision for Mature Students **Willy Kitchen**, University of Sheffield
- ◆ Recruiting and Supporting Local Adults into University, **Nadira Mirza**, University of Bradford
- ◆ Supporting Transition for Access to HE Students **Sally Griffin**, Bath Spa University and **Liz Simmons**, University of Bath
- ◆ 2 + 2 Degrees for Adult Students **Pauline McManus**, University of Warwick, FE Partner
- ◆ Combining Work and Study through Work-based Learning **Jonathan Garnett**, Middlesex University

Booking and Conference Fee

To reserve a place please email Michelle Smith at m.j.smith2@bath.ac.uk

Fee: £90 UALL members: £120 non-members

Recruiting Mature Students: Who, Why and How?

Conference Programme

9.00 Registration

9.45 Welcome

10.00 The UUK Review of Part-time and Mature Higher Education

Fiona Hoban, Policy Adviser, UUK

10.30 Mature Student Experience

Katy Morris, Head of Policy and Research, Million+ *joint author of 'Never too Late to Learn'*

11.00 Coffee

11.30 Presentation Workshops

These sessions will explore some of the key areas of provision designed to encourage participation and meet the needs of mature students in higher education. Each workshop will begin with a presentation followed by a discussion. Participants will have the opportunity to attend two workshops.

◆ **Integrating Full and Part-time Degree Provision**

Dr Stella Cottrell, Director for Lifelong Learning, University of Leeds

◆ **Foundation Year Provision for Mature Students**

Dr Willy Kitchen, Foundation Programme Director, University of Sheffield

◆ **Recruiting and Supporting Local Adults into University**

Nadira Mirza, Director of Student Success, University of Bradford

◆ **Combining Work and Study through Work-based Learning**

Jonathan Garnett, Dean and Director, Institute of Work-based Learning, Middlesex University

◆ **Supporting Transition for Access to HE Students**

Dr Sally Griffin, WP Manager Bath Spa University and Liz Simmons Admissions Progression Officer, University of Bath

◆ **2 + 2 Degrees for Adult Students**

University of Warwick, FE Partner

12.30 Lunch

1.15 Attracting and Retaining Older Learners

Tricia King, Pro-Vice-Master for Student Experience and Director of External Relations Birkbeck, University of London

2.00 Presentation Workshops - repeated from morning

3.00 Plenary

3.30 Close