ARC Council Meeting

MEET THE SPEAKERS

8 March 2024, Cardiff

Opening Address
Professor Rachael Langford

Vice-Chancellor, Cardiff Metropolitan University

Professor Rachael Langford has been President and Vice-Chancellor of Cardiff Metropolitan University since February 2024, having been the University's Deputy Vice-Chancellor since 2021.

Rachael is a modern linguist by academic background and holds a BA and MA in French (Oxford University) and a PhD in French Cultural Studies from Cambridge University. She has researched and taught widely on nineteenth-century French cultural studies and on postcolonial and colonial French-speaking cultures, particularly film and photography.

As Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Rachael was the executive lead for international engagement and for marketing, communications and student recruitment, as well as for the strategic planning, resourcing and oversight of the academic mission of the 5 academic Schools. Prior to being appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor in 2021, Rachael was Executive Dean (International Recruitment) of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at Oxford Brookes University. Prior to that, Rachael was Head of the School of Modern Languages at Cardiff University for a number of years, having previously been Director of Research and Director of Postgraduate Research Students for Modern Languages, including leading on key aspects of REF2014 submission. A native-level speaker of French and fluent Welsh speaker, Rachael is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and continues to research and publish in her areas of expertise, as far as her leadership responsibilities permit.

''Data Next'
Rob Phillpotts
CEO, HESA

This session will explore early thoughts on lessons from data futures, what the challenges are for data over the next 2 years, and where we go next.

I joined the business in October 2022 when Jisc and HESA (Higher Education and Statistics Agency) merged to form a single, combined data and digital entity for the sector.

As part of my role, I am working in the executive team to ensure the delivery of the data aspects of the Jisc strategy and to support the sector's world-class use of data. I ensure the data collection and statistical analysis we provide continues to be trusted, credible and accurate.

I also have responsibility for the Designated Data Body services in England and the comparable role as the collection agency for the devolved administrations.

I've held a range of challenging technology and data leadership roles in organisations across both the public and private sectors. I am passionate about the people aspects of the leadership role, and I work as part of the senior leadership team at Jisc bringing established relationships and the technical know-how to help drive forward what we do for the sector.

Student Finance
This year and the next

Paul Smith
Head of Partner Services, SLC

Paul has been with the Student Loans Company for many years. He is currently responsible for business services and partnerships with Education Providers, Information, Advice and Guidance partners and sector organisations and reports to the Dep CEO, He sits SLC's LLE Programme Management Board, where he is accountable for Provider Readiness and Stakeholder Engagement. Previously at SLC, Paul has managed Business Development, Programme and Project Management and Business Design. Prior employments include roles in Life, Pensions and General Insurance and accountancy.

Update on AHEP Consulting Project
Mapping the UK Higher Education Student Regulatory Framework

Tim Cobett
Lead Consultant, AHEP Consulting

Tim has worked in registry and/or planning roles across six HEIs, along with a 3-year spell working as a UUK Policy Adviser. He went freelance as an interim manager and consultant in 2015, focussing on consulting from 2017. His consultancy work has covered a range of specialist areas including: student systems and databases; administrative processes; data management; admissions; metrics and reporting; student dispute management; and academic governance. Tim was an ARC member from 2007-2016.

Navigating the future: an intro to AI for Academic Registrars

Matt Searles
Vice President, Europe & Asia Pacific, Ellucian

Matt Searles is a Vice President for Ellucian and responsible for Ellucian's business in Europe and Asia Pacific regions. Matt has worked in the software industry for almost 25 years, primarily in the Higher Education sector but also enjoying stints in healthcare and central government. Matt is passionate about enabling digital transformation and student success.

Pete Moss
Business Development Director, Ellucian

Peter is a Business Development Director in Ellucian's European team. Peter has spent over 20 years working around Higher Education, with half of that working in a university, followed by positions in a range of technical providers focussed on the sector. Peter is passionate about the Higher Education sector and its mission and enjoys finding ways to support that though the use of technology.

This session will explore:

- The background to generative AI, just what is it and where did it come from?
- Discuss some of the emerging use cases for HE, including a look at the research conducted by Ellucian
- Introduce the ethical considerations that you need to think about
- Think about what you need to do to get your registry function "AI ready"
- Hear from James Hutchinson how Exeter University have started on their journey to make practical steps to use this new technology

James Hutchinson
Director of Education Services and Student Experience, University of Exeter

James Hutchinson is the Director of Education Services and Student Experience at the Univerity of Exeter, overseeing key student services such as library, employability, welfare and registry services. His background includes establishing the University's Strategic Delivery Unit, managing professional services at the University of Exeter Business School and several CEO roles within students' unions. James has held several external trustee roles with EDP Drug and Alcohol Services and the Ventrus Multi Academy Trust. Outside of work, James enjoys rugby coaching and supporting his family's sporting activities.