



ARC Council Meeting

MEET THE SPEAKERS

9 June 2023, Edinburgh

Professor John McKendrick

Glasgow Caledonian University,
& Commissioner for Fair Access (Scotland)

About John

John H McKendrick was appointed Commissioner for Fair Access (to higher education) by the Scottish Government in January 2023. He is also co-Director of the Scottish Poverty and Inequality Research Unit in the Glasgow School for Business and Society at Glasgow Caledonian University. He is primarily concerned to inform the work of practitioners and campaigners beyond the academy who seek to tackle poverty in Scotland. He was co-editor of *Poverty in Scotland 2021: Towards a 2030 Without Poverty?* (CPAG) and writes a column in the *Scottish Anti Poverty Review* (Poverty Alliance's quarterly journal). He has published many reports, briefings papers and addressed a wide range of Third sector and local government events on issues pertaining to the eradication and amelioration of poverty in Scotland. He sits on the group of National Partners offering advice and support to local authorities and local health boards in relation to the preparation of their Local Child Poverty Action Reports. He is an external member of the Scottish Government's Child Poverty Programme Board and Education Scotland's Scottish Attainment Challenge Programme Board.



**FAIR ACCESS TO
HIGHER EDUCATION:
WHOSE CHALLENGE AND
WHAT IS THE ROLE OF
THE ACADEMIC
REGISTRAR?**

In this presentation, John will summarise the policy landscape and current state of affairs (across the UK) and then hone in on why the role of the Registrar matters in efforts to promote fair access/widen access to higher education.

James Dunphy

Scottish Funding Council

About James

James Dunphy is the Scottish Funding Council's Director of Access, Learning and Outcomes. He is responsible for SFC's work on all aspects of learning provision, including widening access and inclusion; equality and diversity; skills and learning quality; and student experience.

James joined the Scottish Funding Council from Robert Gordon University (RGU) in November 2020. He held a number of roles at RGU and was its Director of Enhancement of Learning, Teaching before leaving.

From 2017 to 2020, James was a member of the board at Scotland's national Centre for Work Based Learning. He has also served as a member of the Policy Council of Aberdeen's Chamber of Commerce and also served on SFC's Access and Inclusion Committee.



IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SFC REVIEW

James will speak about the SFC's work following its national review of coherence and sustainability in the tertiary sector across Scotland, touching on key agendas, challenges and opportunities for the future.

About Monika

Monika is a highly experienced and trusted senior leader with over 25+ years of experience in higher education management. She has a proven track record in delivering transformational change through clear direction and strategic leadership. Over the years, She has managed large teams, budgets, and workstreams in complex organisations.

Monika has designed and developed innovative techniques in improving the student experience in universities. She has prepared institutions for Degree Awarding Powers (DAPs), Research Excellence Framework (REF), and Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) submissions and authored Academic Regulations and policies to support student journey and outcomes. She supports Universities in managing and developing successful academic portfolios and partnerships that enhance strategic growth and reputation for the institution and improve student learning, participation, and success. With Board level experience, she manages institutional relationships with the government departments and regulatory bodies, as well as demonstrate adherence to data protection, and consumer protection law. Her leadership style is inspirational, motivational, and empathetic, coupled with a zeal to drive vision into reality.

Monika has successfully led and delivered significant policy developments and cultural change programmes within an organisation. Most recently, she launched an institution-wide Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy, endorsed by the Universities UK and notable non-profit organisations. She is deeply committed to the social justice mandate and exploring the role of higher education in reducing inequalities and recognising diversity. She is a passionate promoter of the role of women as leaders in higher education and champion the need for increased representation of people from BAME communities in leadership positions. She has a track record of volunteering to support the community, nurturing young minds, supporting the elderly and the disabled, and mentoring women in leadership roles to make sound career choices.



Monika Nangia

Durham University

INCREASING
DIVERSITY
IN THE
LEADERSHIP
OF
ACADEMIC &
STUDENT
SERVICES

Ailsa Crum

QAA

About Ailsa

Dr Ailsa Crum is Director of Membership, Quality Enhancement & Standards at QAA. Her team is responsible for developing and managing key sector reference points such as the UK Quality Code, qualifications frameworks and subject benchmark statements. She also leads QAA's quality enhancement offer on topics including future approaches to learning, teaching & assessment, flexible & modular delivery, academic integrity, evaluation & innovative quality approaches and employability. She previously worked in the Scottish sector and was one of the architects of the Quality Enhancement Framework.

Ailsa is a non-executive director with Edinburgh Napier Students' Association where she chairs the Finance & Risk Committee. Her other external engagements include sitting on the international reference group for the Norwegian agency, NOKUT, and acting as a review panel chair with the University of Limerick, Ireland.

Outside work, she has a research interest in literary memoir and all forms of storytelling.



QUALITY AROUND
THE UK

This session will identify how the quality context has adjusted and is adjusting across the UK. Participants will be invited to share thinking on some of the big challenges and opportunities facing the four nations.



Sunday Blake

Wonkhe

AFTER
#METOO

TACKLING
SEXUAL
MISCONDUCT
IN
UNIVERSITIES

About Sunday

Sunday Blake is associate editor at Wonkhe and previously worked within the University of Exeter Strategic Delivery Unit. Before this role she was President of the University of Exeter Students' Guild. Sunday has carried out policy change work both locally and nationally in areas such as sexual misconduct, drug and alcohol use, student sex work, freedom of speech and no-detriment policies. She has worked alongside a diverse range of partners, from AdvanceHE to the Department for Education, and is interested in widening participation, access and retention, and graduate outcomes.