

## **NEON Addressing Differential Outcomes for BME Learners Working Group**

### Working Group Annual Workshop, 2018: Reflecting on Strategies for Addressing Differential Outcomes for BME Learners

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018, 12.00pm – 16.15pm, Sheffield Hallam University, Sheffield

## **Minutes**

### **Objectives of BME working group session**

- To celebrate and recognise the first anniversary of BME Learners Working Group
- To provide additional opportunities for networking and enhance cross-institutional links
- To give representative working group members from different HEIs the opportunity to showcase an example of good practice, not considered already in 2017-18 meetings, and to demonstrate how and why it has been an effective strategy for addressing differential outcomes for BME learners at their institution.
- To give working group members the opportunity to reflect on and discuss the efficacy of these strategies in different institutions, as well as their impact on students, staff and university culture.
- To agree the overall aims and objectives of the working group, in 2019
- To agree the aims and outcomes of the forthcoming working group meetings, in 2019, as well as the host institution.

### **Meeting Outcomes**

1) 26 members attended the meeting and there was a total of 6 'lightening' presentation. These were as follows:

- 1)) 'Exploring Critical Whiteness', Dr Liz Austen and Stella Jones-Devitt, Sheffield Hallam University
- 2) 'There is no magic Bullet so...', Dr Joanna McDonald, Brighton University.
- 3) 'Decolonizing the Curriculum and student attainment', Patricia Gilbert, Birkbeck University of London.
- 4) 'Student-led initiatives for addressing the BAME attainment gap', Hassan Mobarak and Olubunmi Oladipo, Manchester Met (Diversity & Inclusion Ambassadors)
- 5) 'Curriculum 2025', Kate Howell, Coventry University
- 6) *Title tbc*, Eleanor Dove, Outreach Officer and Talib Sayjda, Academic Widening Participation Advisor, Lancaster University

*If presenters would like and are happy to share their presentation handouts among working group members, please can they send them to Karen Lipsedge ([K.Lipsedge@Kingston.ac.uk](mailto:K.Lipsedge@Kingston.ac.uk)) by the 30<sup>th</sup> January 2019, for circulation. Thank you*

### **Workshopping and Feeding Back: What would it look like at my University?**

Members divided into 4 small groups, focusing on one of the presentation proposals/ themes, and discussed how it could be developed as part of their institution's strategy for addressing differential outcomes for BME Learners. The specific areas considered by each small group included; the institution's BME student population, strategic and business plan post 2020, role of academic and professional staff challenges and strategies for embedding the selected theme.

The following presentation topics were selected for further discussion (*the notes from each small group to be circulated*):

- 1) 'Exploring Critical Whiteness', Dr Liz Austen and Stella Jones-Devitt, Sheffield Hallam University
- 2) 'There is no magic Bullet so...', Dr Joanna McDonald, Brighton University.
- 3) 'Decolonizing the Curriculum and student attainment', Patricia Gilbert, Birkbeck University of London.
- 4) 'Student-led initiatives for addressing the BAME attainment gap', Hassan Mobarak and Olubunmi Oladipo, Manchester Met (Diversity & Inclusion Ambassadors)

### **Agreed Aims and Outcomes and Chair for working group meetings in 2019**

- The aims and objectives of each meeting will remain as in 2017-18; that is to offer working group members the opportunity to:
  - A have a platform to share good practice
  - Share good practice in a supportive, non-competitive and safe environment
  - Have input and participation from a diverse range of organisations
  - To network and enhance cross-institutional links
  - For representatives from each institution to give their students an opportunity to participate in the working group meetings
- Karen Lipsedge will continue as Chair in 2019

### **Topics and Host Institutions for working group meetings, in 2019**

There will be a total of 4 meetings, in 2019. These meetings will be held on the following dates (tbc) and hosted by the institutions listed below:

#### **Future Meetings**

**25<sup>th</sup> April (tbc) Meeting (1-4.30, tbc)** – Hosted by Beth Bradshaw and Matt Williams, at MU and MMU (*location tbc*)

**Topic/Theme:** *tbc*

**13/14 June Meeting (1-4.30, tbc)**– Hosted at and by Lancaster University

**Topic/Theme:** *Tbc*

*This working group meeting will also offer the working group the opportunity to attend the NEON Symposium, which will be taking place at the same time, at Lancaster University*

**October Meeting (1-4.30, tbc)**– Hosted at and by Sheffield University

**Topic/Theme:** *Tbc*

**December Meeting (1-4.30, tbc)**– Hosted at Brighton University, by Joanna MacDonald and Karen Lipsedge (KU)

**Topic/Theme:** ‘You have got an RECM Award. So what? Now what?’