



Amplifying Voices. Inspiring Progress.

Elevating Student Success through
Innovation in Higher Education

📅 November 19-21, 2025

📍 Edinburgh, Scotland

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13:00

13:00 to 13:20

Registration

13:20

13:20 to 14:20

Workshop 1: Blue+MLY Report Building

This session will provide a comprehensive overview of the integration between Blue and MLY, with the objective of creating a unified report combining quantitative data from Blue and qualitative insights from MLY. Key topics covers will include:

- Understanding the relationship and data flow between Blue and MLY
- Analysis settings: model selection, redaction use, and multi-lingual options
- Building a report live, including comparisons between qualitative and quantitative data
- Using Blue's demographic and characteristic data for advanced cross-tabulation reporting
- Essential integration details: automatic comment transfer, comment quotas, and other best practices
- Participants left with a clear understanding of how to leverage both platforms for deeper, more actionable insights.

14:20

14:20 to 14:40

Networking Break

14:40

14:40 to 15:40

Workshop 2: How to create multirater Projects

This session will explore the growing use of multi-rater surveys in higher education, particularly for initiatives such as student 360 feedback, skills and competency assessments in fields like Business and Medicine, and evaluations aligned with Educational Gains or Workplace Readiness (including TEF considerations for UK institutions).

Participants will learn how to set up multi-rater Projects in Blue, which differ from simplified surveys or standard course evaluations in structure and setup. Key areas covered included:

- Creating new project definitions and integrating non-traditional data sources
- Task options unique to multi-rater surveys, including rater selection workflows
- Managing approvals and sign-off processes
- Personalising questions for different respondent groups
- Reviewing examples of completed reports to understand output and impact
- Attendees left equipped to build and launch their own multi-rater surveys using existing Blue functionality.

15:40

15:40 to 16:00

Networking Break

16:00

16:00 to 17:00

Workshop 3: Exploring MLY new features

MLY continues to evolve, with each release adding new capabilities that can enhance the way users analyse and share feedback. This session explores both foundational and advanced features, many of which remain underutilised. Attendees will gain practical insights into how these tools can streamline workflows, improve data quality, and support more meaningful analysis.

Key features covered include:

- Glossaries and Customised Analysis – creating, editing, and applying them
- Comment exclusion during upload to remove irrelevant feedback
- Manual categorisation and tag-based search/filtering
- Discussion threads, summary page navigation, and alert categorisation
- Widget best practices, including time-based filtering
- Redaction workflows (manual vs. automated) and approval processes
- Multilingual support for comment upload
- Use of question text for sentiment context
- Advanced sharing options – group sharing and personalised guest experiences

17:00

17:00 to 21:00

Social - Flight Club

21:00



10:00	10:00 to 10:45 Registration
10:45	10:45 to 11:00 Conference Welcome
11:00	11:00 to 11:20 A short history of The National Robotarium Stewart Miller, CEO, The National Robotarium
11:20	11:20 to 12:00 Keynote The Boring Revolution: How AI is Changing Higher Education in Ways You Might Not Even Notice Rob Nelson, Educator & Writer What if the real potential for generative AI is not about revolutionizing our work as individuals, but changing how universities and colleges are managed? The AI revolution promises each of us a personal assistant—a companion, a tutor, a co-intelligence—to help us think better and achieve more as individuals. We marvel at the human-like qualities of large language models (LLMs) and ask how soon they will achieve human or superhuman intelligence. This initial understanding limits how we think about what these tools can help us accomplish. In this keynote, educator and writer Rob Nelson explores how an LLM's ability to search, summarize, and organize vast amounts of information will transform management practices similar to past innovations like double-entry bookkeeping, the filing cabinet, and the mainframe computer. Those technologies seem boring today, but when each of them was introduced, it changed everything about how organizations were managed. LLMs are like a combination of those information technologies with one crucial addition: the ability to have a conversation. Drawing on his teaching and management experience at Rutgers University and the University of Pennsylvania, Rob invites us to think of LLMs as learning tools harnessed to your institution's structured and unstructured data, a talking filing cabinet or an account book that can gather its own numbers. This technology can guide staff, faculty, and students toward achieving shared goals.
12:00	12:00 to 13:00 Lunch
13:00	13:00 to 13:30 Structured Networking Roundtable Discussion
13:30	13:30 to 14:00 MLY and Beyond: Unifying the Feedback Experience Kirsty Scanlan, Rosemary Thornhill, Richard Cooper & Ellie Henderson-Cameron, Heriot-Watt University
14:00	14:00 to 14:45 Panel
14:45	14:45 to 15:15 Break
15:15	15:15 to 15:45 Empowering Student Voice: Ulster University's Journey with Explorance Blue and MLY Ursula McTaggart, Ulster University Ulster University has embraced a holistic approach to feedback by combining Explorance Blue and MLY to elevate student voice across campus. In this session, they'll share their journey—from initial adoption to integrated deployment—focusing on innovations in survey strategy, results transparency, and feedback loop closure. You'll hear how Ulster uses Blue and MLY synergy to strengthen engagement, drive continuous improvement, and foster a culture where student voices actively shape teaching, programmes, and institutional decisions.
15:45	15:45 to 16:15 Using Blue to Develop Leaders Oluwaseun Olofin, Technology Manager, London Business School Seun will share how London Business School leverages Blue to design and implement assessment tools that support leadership development at both individual and organizational levels. Drawing from his experience managing Blue daily, he will discuss the creation of tailored assessments, the client experience, and the overall impact on LBS programmes.
16:15	16:15 to 16:45 Reimagining Feedback in Higher Education: Introducing Explorance BlueX Explorance The Survey Software That's Built for Everyone Join this session for an exclusive look at BlueX a new survey platform redefining how higher education collects and acts on insights. Built to go beyond traditional form builders, BlueX enables academic teams to create expressive, intuitive, and actionable surveys with ease. From research projects to administrative surveys, BlueX delivers unmatched customization, seamless collaboration, and advanced analytics—so every voice can be heard and every decision can be data-informed. In this session, you'll learn how BlueX enables institutions to: - Empower campus-wide surveying across schools, faculties, and people while maintaining oversight through role-based sharing and approval workflows - Deliver survey analytics and insightful reports within the same platform - Adapt on the fly with live survey versioning, templates, and real-time respondent tracking - Do more than surveys, including forms, newsletters, non-graded quizzes, and interactive content with a single intuitive survey editor
16:45	16:45 to 17:00 Day 1 Closing Remarks
17:00	17:00 to 18:30 Downtime/Hotel check-in
18:30	18:30 to 22:00 Social
22:00	

9:30	9:30 to 9:50 Registration
9:50	9:50 to 10:00 Day 2 Welcome
10:00	10:00 to 10:30 Keynote Portfolio reviews, Resource Modelling, Curriculum Design - Tools for a Sustainable Future? Prof. Steve McLaughlin, Vice-Principal and Provost, Heriot-Watt University
10:30	10:30 to 11:30 Explorance Product Vision and Roadmap Explorance
11:30	11:30 to 12:00 Break
12:00	12:00 to 12:30 From Data to Dialogue: University Approaches to Student Voice Dashboards Rebecca Hampstead, Kingston University, Rachel Garman, Bath Spa University & Carolyn Moir, University of Worcester Join Bath Spa University, Kingston University, the University of Sheffield, and Worcester University as they share their unique strategies for using dashboards to interpret and act on student voice data. This collaborative session will highlight different approaches to visualising feedback, uncovering insights, and driving change – showcasing how varied methodologies can all lead to a deeper understanding of the student experience.
12:30	12:30 to 13:00 Survey-Driven Support: Using 360 Reporting to Enhance Student Transitions Natalie Holland & Emma Smith, Liverpool John Moores University Students are entering higher education with increasingly diverse skill sets, varying levels of confidence, complex personal responsibilities, and a heightened risk of facing inequality of opportunity. Pre-arrival surveys are powerful tools for understanding the experience and needs of incoming students. They allow teaching teams to access vital cohort information before students arrive, helping to shape induction activities and guide skills development. LJMU have been using Blue since 2014 for Module Evaluation and since 2023 for Course Level surveys. The 360-survey design function within Blue was a natural progression and choice for the Pre-Arrival survey. The 360 functionality allows bespoke reporting to multiple stakeholders, including aggregated reports for programme leaders and individualised reports for students. The aggregated cohort-level reports provide teaching teams with useful insights into student demographics, prior learning experiences and skills confidence levels. Individualised reports provide students with personalised skills reports, summarising their responses, identifying strengths and development areas, and signposting relevant LJMU support services. The goal is to encourage students to share their voice, foster early engagement with university support services, and encourage students to use their reports as springboards for personal tutoring conversations. Our presentation will reflect on the design and implementation of this project. We will explore the unique report formats that the 360-survey design provides, share details on initial outcomes, offer reflections on the challenges, and share recommendations for others considering a similar survey development.
13:00	13:00 to 14:00 Lunch
14:00	14:00 to 14:15 Excellence Awards
14:15	14:15 to 14:45 University Presentation
14:45	14:45 to 15:15 Explorance 3 Level Relationship Presentation
15:15	15:15 to 15:30 Conference Close
15:30	