

 **Student Voices**  
in Higher Education

 11-12 February 2026

 BMA House | London, UK

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 explorance

[Free to attend](#)

## About Explorance

Explorance empowers higher education institutions with next-generation feedback analytics to accelerate the insight-to-action cycle. As a collaborative partner, Explorance aligns with institutions that embrace a feedback culture, where open and courageous conversations are encouraged to drive purpose, impact, and growth.

## Student Voices in Higher Education Conference

Explorance is excited to host the Student Voices in Higher Education conference, now in its fourth year, which provides a unique space for academic, professional, and administrative teams to share best practice, insights, and lessons learned from student voice initiatives, and ensure we all take active responsibility to gather and truly listen to student voices.

This conference brings together contributors and delegates with responsibility for strategic planning, teaching and learning, student experience, satisfaction and voice, quality assurance and enhancement, as well as course and module evaluation.

## To learn more

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10:00	<p>10:00 to 10:45 <b>Registration &amp; Refreshments</b> 🍷</p> <p style="text-align: right;">📍 Snow</p>		
10:45	<p>10:45 to 11:00 <b>Conference Welcome</b> John Atherton, Explorance</p> <p style="text-align: right;">📍 Paget</p>		
11:00	<p>11:00 to 11:30 <b>Keynote</b> Prof. Osama Khan, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Aston University</p> <p style="text-align: right;">📍 Paget</p>		
11:30	<p>11:30 to 12:15 <b>Empowering Student Voice: Ulster University's Journey with Explorance Blue and MLY</b> • Ursula McTaggart, Ulster University • Chris Slack, Explorance</p> <p style="text-align: right;">📍 Paget</p>		
12:15	<p>12:15 to 13:15 <b>Networking Lunch</b> 🍷</p> <p style="text-align: right;">📍 Snow</p>		
13:15	<p>13:15 to 13:45 <b>Workshop</b> <b>Belonging Theory Into Practice: A Framework to Enhance Student Success in Higher Education</b> • Tom Lowe, University of Westminster • Caroline Cooke, Royal Holloway, University of London</p> <p style="text-align: right;">📍 Paget</p>	<p>13:15 to 13:45 <b>Student Voice, within the Student Voice</b> • Mark Warner, Nescot College • Jackie O'Connor, GESH: St George's, Epsom and St Helier Hospitals and Health Group</p> <p style="text-align: right;">📍 Anderson Barnes</p>	<p>13:15 to 13:45 <b>Co-Creating Climate Narratives: International Students as Partners in Environmental Education</b> • Michelle Lin Braby, University of the Arts London, School of Pre-Degree Studies</p> <p style="text-align: right;">📍 Murrell</p>
13:50	<p>13:50 to 14:20 <b>Workshop</b> <b>The Student Engagement Maze: Turning the Physical into the Digital</b> • Rosie Jones, University of Sussex • Helen McGlead, University of Sussex</p> <p style="text-align: right;">📍 Paget</p>	<p>13:50 to 14:20 <b>Embedding Student Voices in the Design and Evaluation of a New Masters Unit: Fashion Practices for Social Change</b> • Dr Rose Thompson, University of the Arts London • Dr Francesco Mazzarella, University of the Arts London • Jiaqi Zheng, University of the Arts London</p> <p style="text-align: right;">📍 Anderson Barnes</p>	<p>13:50 to 14:20 <b>How Can Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Evolve to Meet Future Employers' Skill Expectations</b> • Leia Gifford, Chichester College Group</p> <p style="text-align: right;">📍 Murrell</p>
14:20	<p>14:20 to 14:45 <b>Networking Break</b> 🍷</p> <p style="text-align: right;">📍 Snow</p>		
14:45	<p>14:45 to 15:15 <b>Plenary</b> <b>Findings of a Sector Audit of Student Voice Practices in UK Higher Education</b> • Tom Lowe, Kirsty Bryant &amp; Jill LeBihan, University of Westminster • Ashley Storer-Smith, University College London • Dr Nathaniel Pickering, University of Greenwich</p> <p style="text-align: right;">📍 Paget</p>		
15:15	<p>15:15 to 16:00 <b>Panel Discussion</b> <b>Leading with Listening: The Transformative Power of Student Voices</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">📍 Paget</p>		
16:00	<p>16:00 to 16:15 <b>Day 1 Closing Remarks</b> John Atherton, Explorance</p> <p style="text-align: right;">📍 Paget</p>		
16:15	<p>16:15 to 18:00 <b>Networking Reception</b> 🍷 Drinks &amp; Nibbles</p> <p style="text-align: right;">📍 Snow</p>		
18:00	<p>18:00 to 21:00 <b>Social Networking</b> 🍷 For those who wish to continue, an optional social gathering will follow at a reserved local venue</p> <p style="text-align: right;">📍 TBC</p>		
21:00			

9:30	09:30 to 10:00 <b>Registration &amp; Refreshments</b> 🍷 Snow		
10:00	10:00 to 10:15 <b>Day 2 Welcome</b> John Atherton, Explorance Paget		
10:15	10:15 to 10:45 <b>Keynote</b> Amira Campbell, President, National Union of Students (NUS) Paget		
10:45	10:45 to 11:30 <b>Building a Culture of Listening: Strengthening Student Voices with Explorance BlueX</b> Chris Slack, Explorance Paget		
11:30	11:30 to 12:00 <b>Plenary</b> <b>Amplify Your Voice: Reimagining Student Feedback at Bath Spa University</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rachel Garman, Bath Spa University</li> <li>Emilia Dunmore, Bath Spa University</li> </ul> Paget		
12:00	12:00 to 13:00 <b>Networking Lunch</b> 🥗 Snow		
13:00	13:00 to 13:30 <b>From End-of-Module Evaluation Towards 'Continuous Module Dialogue'</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fiona Wilkie, University College London</li> <li>Jesper Hansen, University College London</li> </ul> Paget	13:00 to 13:30 <b>Redefining Student Voice as a Driver of Value in Higher Education</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tanya Dunne, University of Sunderland in London</li> <li>Marine Andre, University of Sunderland in London</li> </ul> Anderson Barnes	13:00 to 13:30 <b>Belonging by Design: Student-Led Approaches to Shaping Belonging in Higher Education through Co-Creation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tanisha Douglas, Birmingham City University</li> </ul> Murrell
13:35	13:35 to 14:05 <b>Workshop</b> <b>From Consultation to Co-Creation: Reimagining Student Voice Through Action, Insight, and Inclusion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shannon Precilla, City St George's University of London</li> </ul> Paget	13:35 to 14:05 <b>International Student Voices: Exclusion and Inclusion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chi-Wang Edgar Lee, University of Westminster</li> <li>Rajat Shah, University of Westminster</li> </ul> Anderson Barnes	13:35 to 14:05 <b>PhD Tea and Chat: Fostering a Peer-led Support Community to Shape PGR Student Voices at HE Institutions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crystal Lezhi Zhang, University of the Arts London</li> <li>Meher Shiblee, University of the Arts London</li> </ul> Murrell
14:05	14:05 to 14:30 <b>Networking Break</b> 🍷 Snow		
14:30	14:30 to 15:00 <b>Plenary</b> <b>Pre Arrival Questionnaire (PAQ) – Headline Findings from the First National Pilot in England</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jonathan Neves, Advance HE</li> <li>Dr Michelle Morgan, University of East London</li> </ul> Paget		
15:00	15:00 to 15:45 <b>Panel Discussion</b> <b>Student Voice in Practice: Turning Feedback into Meaningful Action</b> Paget		
15:45	15:45 to 16:00 <b>Conference Close</b> John Atherton, Explorance Paget		
16:00			