



Student Voices in Higher Education

📅 11-12 February 2026

📍 BMA House | London, UK

Register Now



 **explorance**



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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Day 1

10:00	10:00 to 10:45 Registration & Refreshments ☕	Snow
10:45	10:45 to 11:00 Conference Welcome John Atherton, Explorance	Paget
11:00	11:00 to 11:30 Keynote Prof. Osama Khan, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Aston University	Paget
11:30	11:30 to 12:15 Empowering Student Voice: Ulster University's Journey with Explorance Blue and MLY • Ursula McTaggart, Ulster University • Chris Slack, Explorance	Paget
12:15	12:15 to 13:15 Networking Lunch 🍽	Snow
13:15	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="width: 33%;"> <p>13:15 to 13:45 Workshop Belonging Theory Into Practice: A Framework to Enhance Student Success in Higher Education • Tom Lowe, University of Westminster • Caroline Cooke, Royal Holloway, University of London</p> </div> <div style="width: 33%;"> <p>13:15 to 13:45 Student Voice, within the Student Voice • Mark Warner, Nescot College • Jackie O'Connor, GESH: St George's, Epsom and St Helier Hospitals and Health Group</p> </div> <div style="width: 33%;"> <p>13:15 to 13:45 Co-Creating Climate Narratives: International Students as Partners in Environmental Education • Michelle Lin Braby, University of the Arts London, School of Pre-Degree Studies</p> </div> </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="width: 33%;"> <p>Paget</p> </div> <div style="width: 33%;"> <p>Anderson Barnes</p> </div> <div style="width: 33%;"> <p>Murrell</p> </div> </div>
13:50	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="width: 33%;"> <p>13:50 to 14:20 Workshop The Student Engagement Maze: Turning the Physical into the Digital • Rosie Jones, University of Sussex • Helen McGlead, University of Sussex</p> </div> <div style="width: 33%;"> <p>13:50 to 14:20 Embedding Student Voices in the Design and Evaluation of a New Masters Unit: Fashion Practices for Social Change • Dr Rose Thompson, University of the Arts London • Dr Francesco Mazzarella, University of the Arts London • Jiaqi Zheng, University of the Arts London</p> </div> <div style="width: 33%;"> <p>13:50 to 14:20 How Can Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Evolve to Meet Future Employers' Skill Expectations • Leah Gifford, Chichester College Group</p> </div> </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="width: 33%;"> <p>Paget</p> </div> <div style="width: 33%;"> <p>Anderson Barnes</p> </div> <div style="width: 33%;"> <p>Murrell</p> </div> </div>
14:20	14:20 to 14:45 Networking Break 🍽	Snow
14:45	14:45 to 15:15 Plenary Findings of a Sector Audit of Student Voice Practices in UK Higher Education • Tom Lowe & Kirsty Bryant, University of Westminster • Ashley Storer-Smith, University College London • Dr Nathaniel Pickering, University of Greenwich	Paget
15:15	15:15 to 16:00 Panel Discussion Listening in Lean Times: Why Student Voice Matters More Than Ever	Paget
16:00	16:00 to 16:15 Day 1 Closing Remarks John Atherton, Explorance	Paget
16:15	16:15 to 18:00 Networking Reception 🍻 Drinks & Nibbles	Snow
18:00	18:00 to 21:00 Social Networking 🎉 For those who wish to continue, an optional social gathering will follow at a reserved local venue	TBC
21:00		

Day 2

9:30	09:30 to 10:00 Registration & Refreshments ☕	 Snow
10:00	10:00 to 10:15 Day 2 Welcome John Atherton, Explorance	 Paget
10:15	10:15 to 10:45 Keynote Amira Campbell, President, National Union of Students (NUS)	 Paget
10:45	10:45 to 11:30 Building a Culture of Listening: Strengthening Student Voices with Explorance BlueX Chris Slack, Explorance	 Paget
11:30	11:30 to 12:00 Plenary Amplify Your Voice: Reimagining Student Feedback at Bath Spa University • Rachel Garman, Bath Spa University • Emilia Dunmore, Bath Spa University	 Paget
12:00	12:00 to 13:00 Networking Lunch 🍽	 Snow
13:00	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 33%;"> <p>13:00 to 13:30 From End-of-Module Evaluation Towards 'Continuous Module Dialogue'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fiona Wilkie, University College London • Jesper Hansen, University College London  </div> <div style="width: 33%;"> <p>13:00 to 13:30 Redefining Student Voice as a Driver of Value in Higher Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tanya Dunne, University of Sunderland in London • Marine Andre, University of Sunderland in London  </div> <div style="width: 33%;"> <p>13:00 to 13:30 Belonging by Design: Student-Led Approaches to Shaping Belonging in Higher Education through Co-Creation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tanisha Douglas, Birmingham City University  </div> </div>	
13:35	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 33%;"> <p>13:35 to 14:05 Workshop From Consultation to Co-Creation: Reimagining Student Voice Through Action, Insight, and Inclusion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shannon Precilla, City St George's University of London  </div> <div style="width: 33%;"> <p>13:35 to 14:05 International Student Voices: Exclusion and Inclusion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chi-Wang Edgar Lee, University of Westminster • Rajat Shah, University of Westminster  </div> <div style="width: 33%;"> <p>13:35 to 14:05 PhD Tea and Chat: Fostering a Peer-led Support Community to Shape PGR Student Voices at HE Institutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crystal Lezhi Zhang, University of the Arts London • Meher Shiblee, University of the Arts London  </div> </div>	
14:05	14:05 to 14:30 Networking Break ☕	 Snow
14:30	14:30 to 15:00 Plenary Pre Arrival Questionnaire (PAQ) – Headline Findings from the First National Pilot in England	 Paget
15:00	15:00 to 15:45 Panel Discussion Student Voice in Practice: Turning Feedback into Meaningful Action	 Paget
15:45	15:45 to 16:00 Conference Close John Atherton, Explorance	 Paget
16:00		