

2020 Teachers' and Advisers' Conference Friday 24 January | Newport City Campus

Welcome: Ben Calvert

Plenary Session: The changing work of work, training and careers

Carolyn Parry – Careers Development Institute & Career Alchemy

Workshops: Session One – Delegates should choose one of the following:

A: The Dreaded Personal Statement

Year-on-year voted the aspect of the application process that students find the most difficult, how can delegates make it easier for students to create a good personal statement (without writing it for them!)?

B: Welsh in the Workplace

With a Welsh Government initiative to reach a million Welsh speakers by 2050, the requirement for Welsh language skills in the workplace will be more in demand than ever for your learners. This session will guide you on how to ensure your students come out of the education system ready and proud to use the language in all contexts.

****This session will be delivered in Welsh.**

C: Supporting under-represented groups

University of South Wales and First Campus are committed to ensuring that HE is an option for everyone. The impact of widening participation and raising aspirations amongst under-represented groups, such as those from lower socio-economic backgrounds, is life changing. This session will support you to break down barriers to higher education faced by these groups of students.

Workshops: Session Two – Delegates should choose one of the following:

A: Student Finance Update: Wales and England

Separated into two groups – Wales and England, delegates will receive the most up-to-date information about higher education funding, and the student finance application process.

B: High fliers: Applying for competitive courses

With insight from Oxbridge and Russell Group institutions, and advice on admission to Medicine, delegates will learn more about supporting students interested in pursuing competitive routes at selecting universities.

C: State of the sector

To ensure you feel confident in providing the most up-to-date information to your students and their parents, Sêra Evans, Head of UK Student Recruitment at the University of South Wales, will highlight the key points concerning the current state of the HE sector.

Workshops: Session Three - Delegates should choose one of the following:

A: Writing References and getting References right

No matter how big or small the cohort, crafting positive, persuasive references for every student can be difficult. With real-life examples, and plenty of dos and don'ts, this session promises to suitably prepare delegates for the challenge!

B: Speed-dating

In a quick, speed-dating style, you'll get a chance to chat with our academic staff. From learning more about their subject areas to seeking advice on entry requirements. Staff will represent each of USW's faculties – Business and Society, Creative Industries, Computing, Engineering and Maths and Life Sciences and Education.

C: Student Panel

An opportunity to ask a panel of USW students about their university experiences. From how to cope with stress to the cost of living, our students are happy to give their honest answers, based on first-hand experiences. This session will support you in confidently delivering the key messages around HE and student life to your learners.

Plenary Session: UCAS Update

UCAS Director of Operations, Fiona Johnston, will reflect on patterns and trends from the 2019 End of Cycle Report, before looking forward to the latest developments for teachers and advisers preparing to support students with Apply 2021.