

Event Programme:

Date: Wednesday 18th April 2018

Time: 10:30 – 16:30

Location: St George's Hall, North Entrance, St George's Place, Liverpool, L1 1JJ

LJMU | Let's Talk Disability and Mental Health: Small Details Undermining Big Diversity Policies

With the recent developments around disability equality, discrimination, and intersectionality, this conference aims to bring together experts in the field of disability equality, mental health and wellbeing to debate the key issues. Participants are expected to leave with tangible solutions and ideas for change in their various organisations as they work to promote inclusivity and respect for all.

With increasing number of calendar days lost to sickness absence and stress, as part of the day, the speakers and audience will explore / debate how managers, lecturers and organisations can better support staff and students to ensure they have a sense of belonging, enjoy work or studies and contribute their part. The debate will also consider whether or not the Equality Act 2010 has delivered on Disability Equality and Mental Health.

Given their wealth of experience and knowledge in the area of disability equality and mental health, the speakers will share best practice from various sectors, providing practical, concrete and workable solutions for public, private, education, health, and voluntary sector organisations.

Confirmed Speakers:-

- ❖ Conference Chair: **Gary Graham** (Deputy Chief Executive, Organisational Enhancement, LJMU)
- ❖ Opening Speech: **Professor Nigel Weatherill** (Vice Chancellor and Chief Executive, LJMU)
- ❖ Closing Words: **Julie Lloyd** (Director, People and Organisational Development, Liverpool John Moores University)

- ❖ **Gregor Henderson** (National Lead for Mental Health and Wellbeing for Public Health)
- ❖ **Professor Val Williams** (Professor of Disability Studies at University of Bristol)
- ❖ **Francesca Martinez** (Comedian, Speaker, Actress, Writer)
- ❖ **Professor Geoff Layer** (Vice Chancellor - University of Wolverhampton and Chair, Disabled Student Sector Leadership Group)
- ❖ **Rosie Tressler** (CEO Studentminds)
- ❖ **Ruth Gould** (MBE, Director of DaDaFest, Canon of Liverpool's Anglican Cathedral & Fellow of LJMU)



Event Programme*:

10:30 - 11:10	Arrival/Registration & Refreshments
11:10 – 11:15	Welcome – Gary Graham (LJMU Deputy Chief Executive, Organisational Enhancement)
11:15 – 11:25	A word from LJMU Vice Chancellor and Chief Executive Professor Nigel Weatherill
11:25 – 11:55	<p>Keynote Speech</p> <p>Gregor Henderson (National Lead, Wellbeing and Mental Health, Public Health England)</p> <p><i>Talk Title:</i></p> <p>“The Story so far with destigmatising Mental Health in the Workplace: Workplace opportunities for promoting good Mental Health and an inclusive culture (Management and Staff roles in this)”</p>
11:55 – 12:10	Question & Answer Session
12:10 – 13:05	Lunch break
13:05 – 14:05	<p>Panel Speakers (Session 1):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Val Williams (Professor of Disability Studies at University of Bristol) <p><i>Talk Title:</i></p> <p>“Has the Equality Act Delivered for Disabled people – Links between Policy, Practice, Inclusivity and Belongingness for disabled people”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rosie Tressler (Chief Executive Student Minds, UK’s student mental health charity) <p><i>Talk Title:</i></p> <p>“Exploring Preventative Mental Health Interventions for Students in Universities and Colleges: A Strategic Approach”</p>
14:05 – 14:20	Debate on Panel Presentation (Session 1)

14:20 – 14:40	<i>Break & Refreshments</i>
14:40 – 15:30	<p>Panel Speakers (Session 2):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ruth Gould (MBE, Director of DaDaFest, Canon of Liverpool's Anglican Cathedral and a Fellow of LJMU) <p><i>Talk Title:</i></p> <p>“A reflection on the insights from the individual talks and debates so far and the learnings delegates can take back to their organisations”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Francesca Martinez (Comedian, Speaker and Writer) <p><i>Talk title:</i></p> <p>“Developing Resilience in the Limelight: Building confidence and making progress in a chosen career as a disabled person”</p>
15:30 – 15:45	Debate on Panel Presentation (Session 2)
15:45 – 16:10	<p>Professor Geoff Layer (University of Wolverhampton and Chair, Disabled Student Sector Leadership Group)</p> <p><i>Talk Title:</i></p> <p>“How does inclusivity and a more strategic approach to inclusive practice look like in an organisation?”</p>
16:10 – 16:20	Question & Answer Session
16:20 – 16:25	Where do we go from here? – Gary Graham (LJMU Deputy Chief Executive, Organisational Enhancement)
16:25 – 16:30	Closing Words (Giving thanks) – Julie Lloyd (LJMU Director, People and Organisational Development)
16:30	Refreshments / Networking / End of Conference

**This programme is subject to change*

This event has been organised by LJMU’s Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Team.

For any enquiries relating to this event, please contact LJMU’s EDI Team via email:
DisabilityEvent2018@ljmu.ac.uk

Confirmed Speakers & Biographies:

Gregor Henderson (National Lead for Mental Health and Wellbeing for Public Health England)



“**Gregor Henderson** is the National Lead for Mental Health and Wellbeing with Public Health England (PHE), a national agency responsible for protecting and improving the public’s health and reducing health inequalities. Gregor leads a national team on public mental health, a communities programme and oversees work on wellbeing. Previously, he was an adviser to the Department of Health for 2 years, following his leadership of a national public mental health programme for the National Mental Health Development Unit in England from 2008 to 2012. From 2003-2008, Gregor was the Director of the Scottish Government’s innovative and internationally renowned National Programme for Improving Mental Health and Wellbeing. Previously the Director of the Scottish Development Centre for Mental Health, a Senior Fellow at the Institute of Psychiatry, King’s College

London. Gregor has also worked in London and the South East of England managing mental health and community services.

Gregor is on the Board of the Wellbeing What Works Centre, and is the Chair of the Research Advisory Group for the Place2 Be, a national children’s mental health charity providing services in schools. Gregor is also an active member of the International initiative for Mental Health Leadership (IIMHL)

Gregor believes in combining policy, research, practice, communities and people’s lived experiences to help transform the way people and communities think and act about mental health and wellbeing. Gregor writes on mental health and wellbeing and lectures across the UK, Europe and internationally.”

Professor Val Williams (Professor of Disability Studies at University of Bristol)



“**Val Williams** is a Disability Studies researcher with key interests in ways of conceptualising change in policy and practice, on the terms of disabled people themselves. She is privileged to be an executive editor of the international journal *Disability & Society*, a post she has held since 2007. Val has worked for over forty years with people with learning disabilities (intellectual disabilities) in various capacities, always with a view to promoting and facilitating people’s own voices. She also has strong interests in communication,

and the close study of social interaction, and has written about how this type of analysis can be useful to disabled people themselves. She is currently PI of a large co-produced ESRC study about disabling practices and change, which has collected data over six very different life domains for disabled people. One of the strands of that study is called 'Changing the Academy', and will form the basis for Val's talk today.”

Rosie Tressler (CEO Studentminds)



“**Rosie** joined Student Minds in 2013 after working in a range of student facing organisations. Rosie heads up our team at Student Minds, working closely with the trustees on strategy, managing key partnerships and working on funding and business development.”

Ruth Gould (MBE, Director of DaDaFest, Canon of Liverpool's Anglican Cathedral & Fellow of LJMU)



“**Ruth Gould** is the Artistic Director of DaDaFest, and previously was its Chief Executive Officer, since February 2001. In 2001, Ruth established the festival by bringing together cultural organisations and artists to develop a 10 day festival that would bring about social change through direct action, influence and example and place disabled artists into the spotlight.

Ruth is seen as a leader and pioneer in this field and continues to be passionate about empowering disabled artists. In her 30's she became involved with Deaf and Disability Arts. She started out as a volunteer before being invited to work at Full Circle Arts in Manchester.

Ruth is on the Board of Michigan based DisArt, an advisory member for both the Granada Foundation and Liverpool City Council Tourism and Culture Select Committee. She also became a Deputy Lieutenant for Merseyside in April 2015. Previous board involvements have also been Culture Liverpool (and chair of the creative communities sub group), Bluecoat Arts Centre – vice chair, Contact Theatre and co-opted member of National Museums Liverpool.

As a stimulating and enthusiastic public speaker, Ruth is regularly invited to speak about subjects relating to Disability and Deaf arts at conferences and cultural events across the globe. In Early 2014, Ruth became a Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Travel Fellow which has enabled her to visit locations in India, and Malawi, and more to explore how the arts within countries outside the UK can empower and reposition disabled and deaf people in society.”

Francesca Martinez (Comedian, Speaker, Actress, Writer)



“Francesca is a wobbly* comedian, writer, and speaker who has toured internationally with sell-out runs at The Melbourne Comedy Festival, The Edinburgh Festival Fringe, and the Just For Laughs Festival in Montreal. She launched her comedy career in 2000 beating a thousand UK comedians including Mathew Horne, Karl Theobald and Jimmy Carr, to become the only woman to win the Open Mic Award. She has performed in Australia, Ireland, France, South Africa, Canada, Singapore, Malaysia, in Hollywood, on Broadway and at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland alongside actress Emma Thompson.

Since starring in five series of BBC's Grange Hill, Francesca has appeared on ITV's The Frank Skinner Show, BBC2's Extras opposite Kate Winslet, BBC3's Russell Howard's Good News, headlined ITV's The Jonathan Ross Show, guested on ITV's Lorraine, Loose Women and This Morning, as well as Channel 5's The Wright Stuff and two series of Channel 4's Very British Problems. In 2017 she opened Series 11 of BBC2's Live At The Apollo and guested on Sky One's The Russell Howard Hour and on BBC1's Celebrity Pointless - a second appearance airs in March 2018. Francesca co-hosts BBC Radio 4's Loose Ends with Clive Anderson, and is currently working on commissions for plays for BBC Radio 4 and the National Theatre.

A regular commentator on TV and radio, Francesca delivers motivational and after dinner speeches across the globe – in 2005 she was nominated for the 'Motivator of the Year' Award along with Sir Bob Geldof. **Oh yeah, she has mild cerebral palsy but she much prefers the word 'wobbly'.*”

Professor Geoff Layer (Vice Chancellor - University of Wolverhampton and Chair, Disabled Student Sector Leadership Group)



“Geoff Layer has been the Vice Chancellor of the University of Wolverhampton since August 2011. He graduated from Newcastle Polytechnic with a LLB (Hons) and entered a teaching and research career initially in Manchester and then in Luton. He joined the Sheffield Business School in 1983 as a Lecturer in Law. Whilst at Sheffield Hallam University he established a suite of access and student support initiatives leading to the establishment of a national reputation for inclusive learning. He was an adviser to a range of national quality assurance and educational development initiatives and became Professor of Lifelong Learning in 1996.

Between 2000 and 2006 he was the Director of Action on Access, an agency established to advise HEFCE on its Widening Participation Strategy. He has been a consultant to Universities UK, Higher Education Quality Council and many universities in Widening Participation and Learning and Teaching Strategies. He was also Director of the HEFCE Innovations Co-ordination Team from 2000-2002.

He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, a Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, a Fellow of Leeds College of Music and was awarded the OBE for services to Higher Education in 2003.”

To book a place at this conference, please visit the LJMU Online Conference Shop:

<https://buyonline.ljmu.ac.uk/conferences-and-events/ljmu/conferences/lets-talk-disability-and-mental-health-small-details-undermining-big-diversity-policies>

Information for exhibitors:

Please arrive via the North Entrance at St George's Hall between **9.30am - 10am** ready to set up.

Please ensure you bring; your ticket, tablecloth and any literature or pop-up stands with you (a single trestle table and two chairs will be provided per stall).

Please note: As electrical ports are in short supply within this venue, we advise exhibitors to fully charge their equipment beforehand. If electricity is vital to your stall, please email LJMU's Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Team (once you have booked your Exhibitors Ticket) with your request: DisabilityEvent2018@ljmu.ac.uk

Travel / Venue Details:

St George's Hall (St George's Hall, North Entrance, St George's Place, Liverpool, L1 1JJ

Further Venue Details & Accessibility Information:

The venue is wheelchair accessible with elevators on each floor. Lip-speakers will be in attendance at this event.

Important Note(s):

Photography and filming will occur during the day. If you do not wish for your image to be captured, we ask that you alert our media team upon your arrival.

Lunch will be provided for all attendees on the day and the following dietary requirements will be catered for; meat, vegetarian, vegan and gluten free options will be available.

If you have any other dietary, mobility, additional requirements or simply wish to pose a query; please contact LJMU's Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Team via email before Wednesday 11th April 2018: DisabilityEvent2018@ljmu.ac.uk – Please use the subject header "Let's Talk Disability"

