

BLG ANNUAL UK 4 NATIONS & GLOBAL CONFERENCE

TRACKS

Black
Leadership
Group

COURAGEOUS LEADERSHIP
IN A FRACTURED WORLD

TRAILS

AND THREADS

THE CARDIFF PROGRAMME

21ST MARCH 2024

08:00 - 17:00

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OPENING KEYNOTE

Lord Woolley of Woodford CBE

The Principal, Homerton College,
University of Cambridge

CONFERENCE CHAIR

Robin Ghurbhurun

UK Managing Director – Jisc Further
Education, Skills and FE/HE Advice &
Training



CARDIFF HOST

Yusuf Ibrahim

*Black Leadership Group (BLG)



VENUE

**THE SENEDD, PIERHEAD ST,
CARDIFF CF99 1SN**
21 MARCH 2024
08:00-17:00

This unique and high profile hybrid event, on 21 March, coinciding with the UN's International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, will bring together people in-person and on-line, in each nation of the United Kingdom and international participants, to discuss and shape actions for achieving an anti-racist society and ethnic equity for all.

Through a thought-provoking blend of tracks, trails and threads, keynotes, provocations, roundtable conversations, case studies, collaborative research, and calls to action, the conference will:

- Explore the role and imperative of courageous leadership in the fight for an anti-racist world
- Showcase the trailblazers that are challenging the status quo, by pushing boundaries with initiatives on anti-racism that are making a difference
- Learn how system leaders are proactively applying the BLG 10 Point Plan to embed an anti-racist culture
- Discover how educational leaders are invested in co-creation using the anti-racist principles and tools developed to galvanise the energy and talent of teachers, students, and communities
- Provide opportunities to consider the applicability of the anti-racist lens within different global contexts
- Examine the role of artificial intelligence applications in profiling bias and racial prejudice in recruitment, promotion and training.

The Programme

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| 08:00 | Conference Lobby | Arrival and Registration Refreshments |
| 08:45 | Host Welcome | Yusuf Ibrahim CAVC & Co-Chair, *Black Leadership Group (BLG) Wales |
| SESSION 1 // WELCOME, OPENING KEYNOTE & PANEL DISCUSSION | | |
| (This session will be livestreamed from London to all our conference venues – Belfast, Birmingham, Cardiff, Edinburgh and On-line) | | |
| 08:50 | Headline Sponsor Welcome | Kirri Watson Google for Education |
| 09:00 | Welcome | Conference: Chair Robin Ghurbhurun , UK Managing Director – Jisc Further Education, Skills and FE/ HE Advice & Training |
| 09:10 | Conference Opening Keynote Address: Based on Lord Simon Woolley’s inspiring book, SOAR: My Journey from Council Estate to the House of Lords , the Keynote will set the tone for the conference in the context of the theme – Courageous Leadership in a Fractured World. | Lord Simon Woolley; The Principal, Homerton College, University of Cambridge |
| 09:30 | In Conversation with Simon: This fireside chat style conversation will be led by Robin Ghurbhurun. The panel members, who themselves are proven courageous leaders will discuss Simon’s Keynote, SOAR, and the anti-racism imperative, laying down initial tracks, trails, threads for further exploration during the day. | |
| Panellists | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lord Simon Woolley• Robin Ghurbhurun – Conference Chair• Chantelle Haughton – Principal Lecturer, Cardiff Met University• Ann Francke OBE CMgr – Chief Executive , Chartered Management Institute (CMI) | | |
| 10:30 | Refreshment Break | |

SESSION 2 // 11:00-11:20

CARDIFF KEYNOTE: COURAGEOUS LEADERSHIP IN A FRACTURED WORLD

TRAILBLAZER KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Professor Uzo Iwobi, Founder & CEO, Race Council Cymru

SESSION 3 // 11:30-12:30

ROUNDTABLE WORKSHOPS: TRACKS, TRAILS & THREADS (Participants should register for ONE Roundtable Workshop)

Each Roundtable will feature a short presentation or interview, and interactive discussion. Participants will develop a summary and call to action to take forward to the Golden Threads Plenary.

Track 1 System Leadership

Anti-racist Wales 2030 FE Case Study

This Public/Private Sector Roundtable Workshop will be introduced with a message from Jeremy Miles, Minister for Education & Welsh Language. Using case study material to showcase the groundbreaking work of colleges, Marian Jebb will present an overview of the FE journey, the critical success factors and challenges and lead a discussion focusing on transferability and shared learning across sectors.

Marian Jebb,
Post-16 Quality,
Welsh Government

Track 2 Educational Leadership

Listening to *Black Student and Staff Voices: Findings & Recommendations from Commissioned Action Research Studies in 10 FE Colleges

Over the past three years, BLG has been commissioned to undertake quantitative and qualitative research on the lived experiences of *Black students and staff, by a number of FE colleges. This session provides an Overview Study of our Research Findings incorporating key themes and messages for system leaders and their organisations.

Janak Patel,
Black Leadership
Group

Track 3 Trailblazers

Trailblazing Anti-racism in educational leadership

The National Academy for Educational Leadership is taking positive action to become anti racist. Join CEO, Tegwen Ellis as she discusses the challenges and opportunities in leading anti-racism across a complex educational system.

Tegwen Ellis,
Chief Executive
and
Richard Edwards,
Head of Leadership
Development,
National Academy
for Educational
Leadership, Wales

**Track 4
Research &
Innovation**

The Making of an Anti-racist Virtual World

Join Yusuf Ibrahim, the architect of the very first Anti-racist virtual world. He will take you on the journey of how a team of diverse and talented people came together to create an inspirational learning tool which is being accessed across the world.

Yusuf Ibrahim,
CAVC &
Co-Chair, Black
Leadership Group
Wales

12:30 -13:15

Lunch and Networking

SESSION 4 // 13:30-13:50 AI PROVOCATION KEYNOTE:

Can Artificial Intelligence help to combat systemic racism?

This session will be livestreamed from London to all our conference venues – Belfast, Birmingham, Cardiff, Edinburgh and On-line

PROVOCATEUR, TRAILBLAZER & KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

PROFESSOR S. CRAIG WATKINS

Director of Media Innovation, University of Austin, Texas

SESSION 5 // 14:00-15:00

ROUNDTABLE WORKSHOPS: TRACKS, TRAILS & THREADS (Participants should register for ONE Roundtable Workshop)

Each Roundtable will feature a short presentation and interactive discussion. Participants will develop a summary and call to action to take forward to the Golden Threads Plenary.

**Track 1
System
Leadership**

Making you feel 'at home' in Glamorgan Cricket

Cricket has been in the spotlight when it comes to racism. Glamorgan Cricket has taken a number of steps to listen, reflect and learn. Join Mark Frost, interim CEO Cricket Wales as he takes you on the Glamorgan Track to Anti-racism.

Mark Frost
Interim CEO,
Cricket Wales

**Track 2
Educational
Leadership**

Supporting Anti-racist Wales 2030

Initially developed as a gift to the FE system, the BLG 10 Point Plan Diagnostic Toolkit has been adapted by experts to enable different educational institutions and business organisations to undertake a comprehensive audit of their anti-racist practice:

- BLG 10 Point Plan 1.0
- BLG 10 Point Plan for Early Years, Primary and Secondary
- BLG 10 Point Plan Diagnostic Toolkit for Business
- The Higher Education Anti-racist Toolkit (HEART)

Hear from practitioners and find out how the 10 Point Plan is being used across the UK and how your organisation can join a vibrant, UK-wide learning community of anti-racist practice.

Yusuf Ibrahim,
Assistant Principal,
CAVC &
Co-Chair, Black
Leadership Group
Wales

**Track 3
Trailblazers**

Global Prosperity Roots: Nurturing Business for the Majority

In this enlightening session, we explore the challenges and successes experienced by minority businesses, uncovering the stories that shape their entrepreneurial endeavours;

Dive deep into the complexities faced by minority entrepreneurs as they navigate through economic landscapes, overcoming hurdles that often hinder their growth. From systemic challenges to market dynamics, we shed light on the multifaceted obstacles that, despite their resilience, minority businesses confront daily.

Yet, amidst these challenges, we unveil the inspiring narratives of triumph and resilience; Discover the innovative strategies and unique approaches embraced by minority entrepreneurs that have propelled their businesses to success; Explore how cultivating a global mindset, fostering collaboration, and harnessing diverse perspectives contribute to the prosperity of businesses rooted in the global majority.

Donna Ali,
Director,
BE.Xcellence CIC,
Co-Founder CoLab
Work Spaces,

**Track 4
Research &
Innovation**

Response to AI Provocation

A short showcase presentation by the Roundtable leader will be followed by an interactive discussion in response to the provocation keynote.

Michael Webb, Jisc
Director of
technology and
analytics & lead
National Centre
for AI in Tertiary
Education

15:00-15:15

Break

SESSION 6 // 15:30-16:30 GOLDEN THREADS PLENARY & CALL TO ACTION

This not-to-be-missed session will be livestreamed from London to all our conference venues – Belfast, Birmingham, Cardiff, Edinburgh and On-line.

Robin Ghurbhurun, Conference Chair, will be joined by the Conference Hosts to:

- Synthesize the learning, information and reactions to the provocative and optimistic insights from our inspiring speakers across the day
- Extract the 'golden threads' that align with the conference themes of courageous, decent, and competent leadership
- Reprise the conference narrative to explore how we use collective wisdom to innovate and deliver change

Conference Hosts

Belfast – Naomi Shaw

Birmingham – Robin Landman OBE

Cardiff – Yusuf Ibrahim

Edinburgh – Dr Maxine Room CBE

London – Amarjit Basi

On-line – Stella Mbubaegbu CBE

16:30 -16:45 Call to Action

Conference Chair
Robin Ghurbhurun

CARDIFF CONFERENCE CLOSE

16:45 -17:00 Announcements, Appreciation & Close

Cardiff Host
Yusuf Ibrahim
Black Leadership
Group

