



UNIVERSITY of York

Register for free here

FRIDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

9.30 - 13.30 | Derwent

[yusu.org/what-is-excellence](https://yusu.org/what-is-excellence)

# What is EXCELLENCE Agenda

10 00

## Experimenting with Engagement

Professor Andy Parsons with James Titterington & Katie Martinelli from Chemistry

Tried and tested ideas on making lectures more dynamic to ensure students remain engaged. This session will describe easy to implement course initiatives that not only improve lectures but also help to ease student transition into employment after graduation. It will also touch upon attracting a worldwide audience and the recent MOOC project.

10 30

## Technology for Better Engagement

Emma Rand from Biology

This session shows how the use of technology can keep students engaged in lectures through a demonstration of ResponseWare and how this is applied in Biology lectures.

## What Helps Students Engage

Cathy Dantec from Language and Linguistic Science

This session gives examples of tasks and activities that help foster participation and collaboration in small group seminars.

11 00

## Pyramid of Success: The foundation of successful learning groups

Bill Laughey with Megan Whitwell, Shiv Patel & Evie Hadley from HYMS

An insight into how a 4-layer approach to learning groups can create successful, engaging learning environments. This session will give a quick introduction to the format used at HYMS, some thoughts on how distributed leadership theory can be key to collaborative learning and the student experience of these types of learning groups.

11 30

## Choice of sessions - see overleaf

12 30

## What Helps Students Engage?

Sam Hellmuth from Language & Linguistic Science, Chloe Brook from Biology, Tamaki Laycock from Politics & Jay Edevane from TFTV

Four mini-talks on how to engage students with their studies. The first talk focuses on large group lectures and will discuss the "Make it Stick" model that helps students learn how to learn and how to create opportunities for personalisation. Secondly, a biochemistry student talks about how they find the newly implemented 'flipped lecture' style of teaching. Finally, two students tell us what helps them to engage, and what stops them including their thoughts on the importance of liberation and inclusivity.



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11 30

## **Session A: Addressing Real World Issues in a Research Methods Modules**

Claire Hughes with Sally Derrett & Harriet Lowery from Environment

A look into a research methods module that addresses key environmental issues on campus. This session will focus on an Environment Department module that works collaboratively with Estates Services to address real-world issues. There will also be a discussion on why it works, student feedback and how it could be developed even further.

## **Session B: Digital Jamming: Creativity, collaboration and skill-building through easy engagements with media technologies**

Sara Perry from Archaeology

An interactive introduction to a variety of simple digital media technologies in building intellectual independence, critical thinking and confidence amongst their users. Alongside considering their problematic implications, the session demonstrates how they narrow the gap between theory and practice, and empower emerging professionals.

**Please bring your own device and come ready to invent, experiment, and discuss your experiences.**

12 00

## **Session A: Engaging Students with Employability**

Chris Wilkinson with Jake Smith from York Law School

This session will start with an example of how the York Law School engages its students with employability and what staff do to achieve this. There will then be a group discussion on what works in other departments or institutions and what could be considered as best practice in making employability more relevant and accessible for students.

## **Session B: Practice Makes Perfect: Communication workshops**

Rachel Lavelle from Health Sciences

A practical demonstration of how a Communication Workshop runs on the Midwifery Programme at York. This session will describe the purpose and process of the workshop (including a short demonstration) and centre on the feedback students receive, why this method of feedback is helpful and how this approach could be used on other courses.



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## What is EXCELLENCE Speakers

10 00

### Experimenting with Engagement

**Professor Andy Parsons** - Highly Commended in the 'Most Enthusiastic' Category, 2016  
Andy's teaching has been recognised in the Royal Society of Chemistry HE Teaching Awards and the Vice-Chancellor's Teaching Awards. He specialises in Organic Chemistry and delivered one of the first University of York MOOC - 'Exploring Everyday Chemistry'.

**James Titterington** - Undergraduate Chemistry Student

James is a second-year Chemistry undergraduate, his optional modules mainly revolve around organic and medicinal chemistry, the pathways he finds most interesting. James hopes to gain an industrial or research placement in his fourth year of study.

**Katie Martinelli** - Undergraduate Chemistry Student

Katie is currently completing her final year of an undergraduate Chemistry. She has particularly enjoyed completing her Masters project, studying blended and distance learning in the chemistry department and studying Green Chemistry.

10 30

### Technology for Better Engagement

**Emma Rand** - Winner in the 'Teacher of the Year' Category, 2016

Emma is a Lecturer in quantitative and computational skills. She did a BSc in Animal and Plant Biology and a Masters in Biological. Emma teaches undergraduates as well as both Taught and Research postgraduate students. She also participates in outreach activities.

**Cathy Dantec** - Winner in the 'Teacher of the Year' Category, 2014

A qualified and highly experienced French language teacher, Cathy has taught a variety of courses and a wide ability range of students. Through her experience as an open learning adviser, she has a sound understanding of the learning process.

11 00

### Pyramid of Success: The foundation of successful learning groups

**Dr Bill Laughey** - Highly Commended in the 'Most Inspiring' Category, 2016

Bill graduated from Sheffield in 1989 and gained his MRCP in 1995. Working as a GP in York, Bill is also a GP trainer and GP appraiser. He has research experience, especially in the area of headache and migraine and is research lead for his practice.

**Megan Whitwell & Shiv Patel** - Undergraduate HYMS Students

**Evie Hadley** - Undergraduate HYMS Student

Evie is in her second year of studying medicine and is enjoying learning about the many aspects of diseases and treatments, alongside the impacts they have on people's lives. Since embarking on the course, she has vastly broadened her interests within medicine.



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## What is EXCELLENCE Speakers

11 30

### **Addressing Real World Issues in a Research Methods Modules**

**Dr Claire Hughes** - Winner of Vice-Chancellor's Teaching Awards, 2016

Claire is a marine biogeochemist specialising in understanding the processes that control the emission of environmentally-significant trace gases from the marine biosphere to the atmosphere.

**Sally Derrett** - Undergraduate Environment Student

Sally is a second year Environmental Geography student. She has very much enjoyed the practical side of the course, particularly the modules relating to environment management. Sally hopes to do a Masters degree in Environmental Water Consultancy.

**Harriet Lowery** - Undergraduate Environment Student

### **Digital Jamming: Creativity, collaboration and skill-building through easy engagements with media technologies**

**Dr Sara Perry** - Winner in the 'Innovative Use of Technology' Category, 2014

Sara has a BA and an MA in Anthropology, specialising in prehistoric archaeology and visual anthropology. Her research focuses on how archaeologists present the past to various audiences and her teaching has garnered both local and national teaching awards.

12 00

### **Engaging Students with Employability**

**Chris Wilkinson** - Highly Commended in the 'Promoting Employability' Category, 2015

Chris is the Employability Teaching Fellow, co-ordinating the Law School Careers & Development Programme. Previously, he was Head of Careers at the College of Law York Centre, having also worked as a freelance Careers Adviser for BPP Law School.

**Jake Smith** - Undergraduate Law Student

The unique teaching approach, using problem-based learning, initially attracted Jake to York as much of his learning will be directly applicable in practice. Following graduation he will be completing the LPC, before commencing employment as a trainee solicitor.

### **Practice Makes Perfect: Communication workshops**

**Rachel Lavelle** - Highly Commended in the 'Inspirational Lecturer' Category, 2014

Rachel has worked in all areas of midwifery practice. She is a Neonatal Life Support Instructor with the Resuscitation Council and an Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics Instructor with ALSO (UK) and has taught on courses both nationally and internationally.





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## What is EXCELLENCE Speakers

12

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### What Helps Students Engage?

**Dr Sam Hellmuth** - Departmental Award in the 'Teaching Award' Category, 2014

Sam Hellmuth works in phonology, focussing on suprasegmental phenomena such as stress and intonation, and the syntax-phonology interface, with a special interest in the prosodic properties of spoken Arabic dialects and L2 learners' English.

**Chloe Brook** - Undergraduate biochemistry student

**Tamaki Laycock** - YUSU Academic Officer

Tamaki completed a BA in Politics and has been Academic Officer for the 2016/17 academic year. She has focussed on improving accessibility for all students, widening the curriculum and promoting the Athena SWAN Charter.

**Jay Edevane** - 2016/17 TFTV Department Rep

Jay is a third year TFTV student and has been an extremely active rep throughout her time at University. She is passionate about getting the student voice heard and for making positive changes to create the best environment for students to learn in.