Session 3.3

Students as Partners – What is it? Does it exist within your institution? How can the relationship be strengthened

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Abstract

Students as Partners is a relatively new concept, but one that is growing in size and stature. This session will aim to define what students as partners means and how this relates to theoretical models and practically within institutions. There are a number of issues that both staff and students face when entering into partnerships of all different types and these need to be addressed if there is to be a successful outcome to the relationship. There are a number of key stakeholders who are essential to the support and growth of the partnership to occur. Previous experiences of a number of projects will be shared to highlight these issues and stakeholders and possible solutions discussed.

Presenter details

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Nicola Poole has worked at Cardiff Metropolitan (formerly UWIC) since 2000. She is a student retention officer based in the centrally based Learning and Teaching Development Unit. She is responsible for the development of retention strategies and initiatives including peer mentoring, online peer learning networks and the analysis of the National Student Survey results for the institution. She is a member of the Students as Partners HEA Wales strand. Her research interests include students as partners, peer support, first year experience and the student voice. nipoole@cardiffmet.ac.uk

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Sarah Ingram works at Cardiff University. After a term as a sabbatical officer in the Students’ Union, she now works in Registry. She has worked in areas related to student reps, NSS, student feedback, student communications and the website, and now works in Student Cases. She is the workstrand leader of the HEA Wales Students as Partners workstrand, part of the Future Directions enhancement theme. IngramS1@cardiff.ac.uk