

OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

Foundation Future Leaders Annual Conference

19 November 2025

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Opportunities and challenges in science, technology & innovation

Foundation Future Leaders Annual Conference

19 November 2025

Location: i3 building ([link](#)) at Liverpool Hope University

Hope Park, Liverpool L16 9JD

Conference Agenda 19 November 2025	
09:00 – 10:00	Registration and coffee
10:00 – 10:15	Opening and welcome <i>Introduction: Gavin Costigan, Chief Executive, Foundation for Science and Technology</i> <i>Welcome from Professor Claire Ozanne, Vice-Chancellor, Liverpool Hope University</i>
10:15 – 11:45	Plenary #1: Regional Science and technology: achievements & challenges Speakers: <i>Mike Wharton, Leader of Halton Council</i> <i>Professor Richard Jones, University of Manchester</i> <i>Liz Shutt, Programme Director, Insights North East</i> <i>Gareth Cross, Deputy Director of Science, Research and Evidence, Welsh Government</i> Panel Chair: <i>Dr Tobias Trawinski, Senior Lecturer in Cognitive Psychology, Liverpool Hope University, and Foundation Future Leader 2025</i>
11:45 – 12:15	Keynote Speaker <i>Professor David Nutt, Chief Scientific Officer, Gaba Labs Research and former Chairman of the Advisory Council of the Misuse of Drugs</i>
12:15 – 13:15	Lunch

13:15 – 14:30	Parallel Breakout Sessions: Preparing for tomorrow's challenges • Health – <i>External presenter: Tiarna Lee, PhD Student King's College London</i> <i>Chair: Dr Helen Coulshed, Senior Lecturer in Chemistry Education, King's College London, and Foundation Future Leader 2025</i> • Energy <i>External presenter: Sue Ferns, Senior Deputy General Secretary, Prospect</i> <i>Chair: Dr Emily Staricoff, Science Systems Lead and Secretary to the Science and Technology Advisory Council, DESNZ, and Foundation Future Leader 2025</i> • AI <i>External presenter: Zoi Roupakia, Policy and AI Research Lead, University of Cambridge</i> <i>Chair: Dr Amina Hamoud, Senior Lecturer in Systems Engineering, University of the West of England, and Foundation Future Leader 2025</i>
14:30 – 15:00	Tea/Coffee break
15:00 – 16:30	Plenary #2: Barriers to Successful Science, Technology & Innovation Speakers: <i>Simon Hepworth, Director of Knowledge Exchange, Research England</i> <i>Shomari Lewis-Wilson, Senior Manager, Research Culture and Communities, Wellcome Trust</i> <i>Natalya Zavina-James – Deputy Head of Exploration, UK Space Agency</i> Panel Chair: <i>Lauren Taylor, NSIP Major Projects Lead, UK Space Agency, and Foundation Future Leader 2025</i>
16:30 – 16:40	Conference close <i>Gavin Costigan, Chief Executive, Foundation for Science and Technology</i>
16:40 – 18:00	Drinks reception
18:00	Close of Conference

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Gavin Costigan – *Chief Executive, Foundation for Science and Technology*

Gavin Costigan is Chief Executive of the Foundation for Science and Technology, a position he's held since March 2019. He is responsible for delivering the Foundation's programme of activities and events and leading the Foundation Future Leaders scheme.

Previous to working at the Foundation, Gavin was at the University of Southampton, most recently as Director of Public Policy - brokering relationships between researchers and policy makers, delivering training to academics on how to interact with policymakers, and increasing the policy impact of research at the University. He was the inaugural chair of the UK's Universities Policy Engagement Network (UPEN).

His first career was as a civil servant in central government, spending just under 17 years in what is now the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, as well as in the Foreign & Commonwealth Office. His roles included leading the network of science attachés in UK embassies, managing the Large Facilities Capital Fund within the Science Budget, and reviewing the governance of Research Council Institutes.



Professor Claire Ozanne, *Vice-Chancellor, Liverpool Hope University*

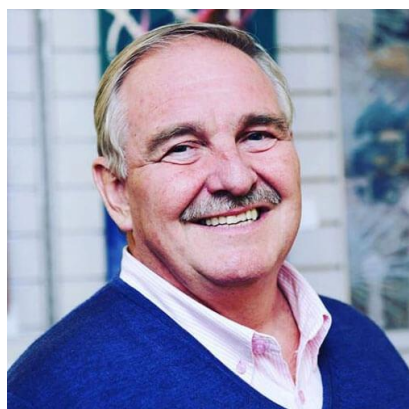
Professor Claire Ozanne joined Liverpool Hope University in March 2023 as the University's Vice-Chancellor & Rector. She is the Chief Academic and Administrative Officer of the University and, amongst many other things, is responsible to University Council for the organisation, direction and management of the University and leadership of the staff. A Professor of Ecology, Claire gained her DPhil from Oxford University. Claire's work focuses on habitats influenced by

human activities and she has led multidisciplinary projects in the UK, Australia, Nigeria, Ethiopia and Guyana.

Claire has widely published in areas including the impact of forest resource use on biodiversity; the effect of seasonality and spatial patterns on canopy insect communities and led the publication of a seminal paper in *Science: Biodiversity Meets the Atmosphere*.

She is a Principal Fellow of the HEA and has served on The British Academy Strategic Committee for Languages in Higher Education, and has experience as a QAA reviewer. In addition, Claire sits on various committees both nationally and internationally.

Claire is an Ecumenical Fellow of the College of Canons of Liverpool Cathedral and more recently, has been appointed the Chair of the Cathedrals Group of Universities.



David Nutt, *Chief Scientific Officer, Gaba Labs Research and former Chairman of the Advisory Council of the Misuse of Drugs*

David Nutt is a neuropsychopharmacologist specialising in the research of drugs that affect the brain and conditions such as addiction, anxiety, and sleep. He is the chairman of Drug Science, a non-profit which he founded in 2010 to provide independent, evidence-based information on drugs. He is also currently the Edmond J Safra chair in Neuropsychopharmacology at Imperial College London and

director of the Neuropsychopharmacology Unit in the Division of Brain Sciences.

His work with policy has included launching evidence-based policy campaigns such as Project Twenty21, the Medical Cannabis Working Group, and the Medical Psychedelics Working Group. He previously worked as an advisor to the Ministry of Defence, Department of Health, and the Home Office, and served on the Committee on Safety of Medicines where he participated in an inquiry into the use of SSRI anti-depressants in 2003. Professor Nutt also hosts the Drug Science Podcast, in which he engages drug policy experts, policy-makers, and scientists on the topics of drugs and drug policy, and continues to campaign for changing UK drug laws to facilitate greater research opportunities.

In 2019 he co-founded the company GABALabs and its subsidiary SENTIA Spirits, which research and market alternatives to alcohol.

Mike Wharton, *Leader of Halton Council*



Cllr Mike Wharton is Halton's representative on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority and is currently the Deputy Mayor for the City Region with the portfolio responsibility for Business, Trade and Investment.

He has lived in the Liverpool City Region all his life and has worked ostensibly as a Management Accountant in the private sector.

He was elected as a Halton Councillor in 2002 and represents the ward of Hale Village, Halebank and Ditton. Whilst serving as a Councillor he has represented the Council on various boards including the Mersey Gateway, Cheshire Pensions, and has spent over 10 years as a school governor.

He is actively involved in supporting young people as the Treasurer of a local youth centre.



Professor Richard Jones, *Emeritus Professor of Materials Physics and Innovation Policy, and former Vice-President for Regional Innovation and Civic Engagement, University of Manchester*

Richard Jones is an experimental soft matter physicist with a long standing interest in innovation policy and regional economic growth. He was, until September 2025, Professor of Materials Physics and Innovation Policy, and Vice-President for Regional Innovation and Civic Engagement at the University of Manchester.

His first degree and PhD in Physics both come from Cambridge University and following postdoctoral work at Cornell University, USA, he was a lecturer at the University of Cambridge's Cavendish Laboratory. He was a Professor of Physics at the University of Sheffield from 1998, moving to Manchester in 2020.

In 2006 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, in recognition of his work in the field of polymers and biopolymers at surfaces and interfaces and in 2009 he won the Tabor Medal of the UK's Institute of Physics for his contributions to nanoscience.

He is the author of more than 190 research papers, and three books, *Polymers at Surfaces and Interfaces* (with Randal Richards, CUP 1999), *Soft Condensed Matter*, (OUP 2002), and *Soft Machines: Nanotechnology and Life* (OUP 2004).

He was Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research and Innovation at Sheffield from 2009 to 2016, was a member of EPSRC Council from 2013 – 2018, and chaired Research England's Technical Advisory Group for the Knowledge Exchange Framework. He was a member of the Sheffield/Manchester Industrial Strategy Commission and has written extensively about science and innovation policy, for example in the recent reports *"The Missing Four Billion: making research and development work for the whole UK"* (with Tom Forth, NESTA 2020) and *"Science and innovation policy for hard times: an overview of the UK's Research and Development landscape"* (The Productivity Institute, 2022).

In Greater Manchester, he was the Independent Science Advisor to Innovation GM, a public-private partnership bringing together business, the GM Combined Authority and GM's universities with the goal of developing Greater Manchester's innovation ecosystem to help level up communities, generate the solutions needed to achieve net zero, and create the conditions for more businesses in more places to benefit from global exporting and inward investment.



Liz Shutt, *Programme Director, Insights North East*

Liz Shutt is the Director at Insights North East, a policy hub created through a partnership between the region's universities, the North East Combined Authority, local government, and the NHS. Insight North East aims to connect North East policymakers to evidence in order to make a positive and long-term impact on people's lives. Supported by an investment of £2.78m from the Research England Development (RED) fund, it was initially established as a demonstrator to develop methods for

delivering actionable insights to the region's policymakers and to develop capability for evidence-based policymaking.

Liz is also a co-lead on the recently announced Universities Policy Engagement Network programme to build a national connective infrastructure which can respond to growing policy demand, at multiple levels of government, for academic expertise and evidence. The programme is funded by Research England and ESRC and will be focused on supporting universities to strengthen their academic engagement with public policy by enhancing individual and organisational capabilities; strengthening place-based approaches to academic-policy engagement; and developing a national knowledge brokerage function.

Previously, Liz was Director of Policy for the University of Lincoln and the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership, where she has worked to connect the University with local and national policy development. In that time, she has played a leading role on various projects to help shape and develop regional and university strategy including 21st Century Lab, which focussed on the purpose of university in relation to the challenges of the 21st Century, the Local Industrial Strategy, the Innovation Strategy for the Humber Freeport and the University's Regional Inequality Commission. Prior to this Liz had a well-established career in higher education policy, in Universities UK and working to establish University Alliance as a new policy representative group in the sector. She has also worked for Department for Work and Pensions and Sheffield Hallam University.



Gareth Cross, *Deputy Director of Science, Research and Evidence, Welsh Government*

Gareth Cross is the current Deputy Director Science, Research and Evidence for the Welsh Government, as well as co-director of Health and Care Research Wales. Gareth has spent his six years in Government evaluating the impact and value of scientific advice and evidence on health policy, including working on programmes such as the transition NWIS to a new Special Health Authority for Digital Health.

Prior to working for the Welsh Government, Gareth served as a police officer for Dyfed-Powys Police.



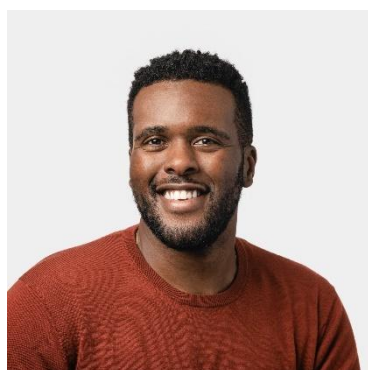
Simon Hepworth, *Director of Knowledge Exchange, Research England*

Simon leads policy development and delivery of knowledge exchange functions, focusing on how higher education institutions contribute to knowledge exchange and commercialisation. His responsibilities include overseeing Research England's knowledge exchange programmes, including the Higher Education Innovation Fund and Knowledge Exchange Framework, and providing strategic leadership across UK Research and Innovation to support the government's economic growth initiatives.

Previously, Simon served as Director of Enterprise at Imperial College, where he built a 140-person innovation team over 10 years. He has developed 57 spin-out companies since 2019 with over £500 million in investment and four acquisitions, and has created key innovation initiatives including the Enterprise Lab, Imperial Venture Mentoring Service, and White City Incubator. He currently serves as President of TenU, where he led development of the University Spinout Investment Terms software guide for university spin-out investment terms.

Simon's career spans corporate roles at Ford Motor Company and Visteon, artificial intelligence startup leadership at TherML, and extensive work building UK capabilities in science and technology innovation.

Simon holds a DPhil in neural network based control, University of Oxford, and a first-class honours degree in electronic and mechanical systems engineering, University of Salford.



Shomari Lewis-Wilson, *Senior Manager, Research Culture and Communities, Wellcome Trust*

Shomari leads the Equitable Research Ecosystems team for the UK. This team oversees significant investments, partnerships and initiatives across the UK research ecosystem. Their goal is to broaden the range of people leading, participating in and benefiting from science.

Shomari joined Wellcome in 2018 as part of the Research Funding team and facilitated the delivery of several multimillion-pound funding programmes. As an inaugural member of Wellcome's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Executive Committee, he implemented changes to promote equity internally within Wellcome's culture.

His notable achievements include supporting Wellcome's first policy for grant holders with disabilities, its first EDI policy, delivering the Institutional Fund for Research Culture, and introducing the Accelerator Awards, Wellcome's first targeted funding stream for researchers from Black, Bangladeshi or Pakistani heritage backgrounds.

Shomari is a founding member and former Chair of the Wellcome Race Equity Network (WREN), organising thought-provoking events and campaigns on Afrofuturism, antiracism, and Black Joy. He co-founded the New Fables Collective to highlight racialised thought leadership. He has a master's in Clinical Neuroscience from the Queen Square Institute of Neurology at UCL.

Rooted in his British Caribbean upbringing, Shomari values love, hard work and community. In his personal life, he enjoys video gaming, science fiction and running half and full marathons. Shomari's pronouns are he/him.



Natalya Zavina-James, *Deputy Head of Exploration, UK Space Agency (UKSA)*

Dr Natalya Zavina-James is the Deputy Head of Exploration for the UK Space Agency (UKSA) where she leads on delivering the national exploration research programme and developing

the UK space exploration strategy. The programme maximises UK investment in the ESA Human Spaceflight and Robotic Exploration programme through supporting and developing UK research and innovation expertise in Low Earth Orbit, Lunar, and Mars science. Natalya completed her PhD at the University of St Andrews where she studied the biological regulation of earth's early atmosphere via metal stable isotope geochemistry. She then worked in UK biotechnology development policy and strategy, before joining the UK Space Agency as a strategist.



Dr Tiarna Lee, Kings College London

Dr Tiarna Lee recently completed her PhD at the School of Biomedical Engineering & Imaging Sciences at Kings College London. Her research focuses on evaluating fairness and biases in Artificial Intelligence (AI) used for cardiac imaging. In her work, she has found that models trained with imbalanced datasets have a worse performance on underrepresented subjects, often minority ethnicities and females. Her research aims to find the sources of these biases so that she can find a method to

address and mitigate them.

In 2023 Tiarna has presented work at Science Gallery London's AI: Who's Looking After Me? Exhibition, through a public-facing project examining the role that technology and community play in the healthcare journey of patients. Her work has also been internationally recognised, having presented at the 2023 International Conference on Medical Image Computing and Computer-Assisted Intervention (MICCAI).



Sue Ferns, Senior Deputy General Secretary, Prospect

Sue is Senior Deputy General Secretary at Prospect, the union for professionals. Her responsibilities in Prospect include leading the union's work across the energy and defence sectors; science, climate and environment; and gender equality.

Sue is a member of the TUC Executive Committee and the General Council's lead on energy, environment and sustainability and chair of the Trade Union Sustainable Development Advisory Committee (TUSDAC). She was a member of the government's green jobs taskforce and represents the TUC on the Net Zero Council.

Sue is a Non-Executive Director of DESNZ and a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development.



Zoi Roupakia, Policy and AI Research Lead, University of Cambridge

Zoi Roupakia is an AI scientist and policy expert with a multidisciplinary background spanning machine learning, innovation policy, and AI governance. She is a Policy Affiliate at

Cambridge Industrial Innovation Policy (Institute for Manufacturing, University of Cambridge), founder of Noetic AI and a member of the Center for AI and Digital Policy. She leads policy projects for governments and international organisations including UNIDO on responsible AI and innovation, and currently serves on EU AI Office working groups developing the Code of Practice on transparency of AI-generated content. A co-inventor of a patented voice-conversion technology at Google, she was previously Policy and AI Research Lead at the University of Cambridge.

PANEL CHAIR BIOGRAPHIES



Dr Helen Coulshed, *Senior Lecturer in Chemical Education and Associate Vice Dean (Assessment & Quality Assurance) for Natural Mathematical and Engineering Sciences, King's College London*

Dr Helen Coulshed's work bridges chemistry, inclusion, and educational leadership, focusing on how equitable and research-informed teaching transforms learning and participation in STEM.

Helen leads cross-faculty and national initiatives that advance inclusive practice in higher education. She co-created *Diverse Brains, Inclusive Education: Understanding Neurodiversity in Higher Education* with neurodivergent students and staff—now adopted by multiple UK universities—and co-led *Professional Skills for a Globalised World*, a training programme embedding inclusive, culturally responsive professional skills across science curricula.

Her current research investigates evaluative judgement and feedback literacy, exploring how students develop the ability to evaluate and enhance the quality of their own work. A champion of co-creation, Helen works with students and colleagues to design inclusive assessments and foster belonging within laboratory and research communities.

Recognised with several awards for educational and EDI leadership, she contributes to sector-wide conversations on neuroinclusion, assessment reform, and the future of equitable STEM education.



Lauren Taylor, *Major Projects Lead for the National Space Innovation Programme (NSIP), UK Space Agency*

Lauren Taylor is Major Projects Lead for the National Space Innovation Programme (NSIP) at the UK Space Agency since July 2023. She is responsible for the successful delivery of NSIP; a multi-million-pound portfolio of high-risk, high-profile, ground-breaking projects involving UK research consortia and industry, focused on innovation and commercialisation. Before working in NSIP, Lauren was Programme Manager for the Space Science Programme at the UK Space Agency.

Lauren holds a master's degree in chemistry from Loughborough University and began her career as a Project Manager at a global technology group specialising in high-precision innovations. She then transitioned into the space sector, completing the International Space

University's Space Studies Programme in 2025. She is also a member of the 2025 cohort of the Foundation Future Leaders Programme.



Dr Tobiasz Trawinski, *Senior Lecturer in Psychology at Liverpool Hope University*

Tobiasz is a Senior Lecturer in Psychology at Liverpool Hope University. Prior to this, he was a Postdoctoral Associate at New York University in Abu Dhabi, following the completion of his PhD at the University of Southampton. His research explores how people's experience and social attitudes influence the ways in which we engage with other communities, as well as with art and cultural heritage that represent

them. He is also a member of the Health Research Authority's Research Ethics Committee, the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee in the UK Parliament, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.



Dr Amina Hamoud, *Senior Lecturer in Systems Engineering at University of the West of England*

Dr Hamoud is a Senior Lecturer in Systems Engineering at the University of the West of England where she leads the Bristol Robotics Lab Connected and Autonomous Vehicles (BRL CAV) research group. Prior to joining UWE, Dr Hamoud worked as a Research Engineer for an Automotive Consultancy where her focus was towards developing safe Autonomous Vehicles and Intelligent Transportation Systems while completing her PhD at Loughborough University in the same area. She currently leads on several projects all under the umbrella of AI and Transport autonomy across road, air

and maritime.



Dr Emily Staricoff, *Science Systems Lead and Secretary to the Science and Technology Advisory Council*

Emily works in the Chief Scientific Adviser's (CSA's) Private Office in the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ). Emily is the secretary to the DESNZ Science and Technology Advisory Council, which is a group of highly esteemed academic and industry experts that come together to provide expert, independent, and timely scientific and technological advice to the department. Emily is also responsible for supporting the CSA to provide robust oversight and governance of the department's research and development (R&D) portfolio, and for ensuring that the department has the

structures and processes in place to enable policy and delivery to be informed by the best available science and analytical evidence.

Before working in DESNZ, Emily was on the Civil Service Science and Engineering Fast Stream, and worked in the Department for Health and Social Care and at the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority. Emily holds a PhD in Clinical Biochemistry from the University of Cambridge, during which her research focused on how the brain senses changes in blood sugar levels. Emily is also a member of the 2025 cohort of the Foundation for Science and Technology Foundation Future Leaders Programme

ABOUT THE FST FUTURE LEADERS SCHEME

The Foundation Future Leaders Programme seeks to support the leaders of tomorrow in building the links and knowledge that they will need.

The programme brings together a cohort of around 30 mid-career professionals over the course of a year, with approximately 10 representatives each from the research community, industry, and the civil service and wider public sector. Over a 12-month period, the group meet and discuss with senior figures from government, parliament, universities, large industry, SMEs, research charities and others. Just as importantly, Future Leaders present their own expertise, develop skills and make future contacts. The programme includes external visits and the development of an annual conference for a wider group of mid-career future leaders in science, technology, research and innovation.

The 2025 Cohort of Foundation Future Leaders

Name	Position	Organisation
Ms Linda Bedenik	Senior Policy and Public Affairs Manager	UK BioIndustry Association
Dr Adam Berlie	Research Scientist	Science and Technology Facilities Council, UKRI
Dr Gustavo Berumen	User Experience Researcher	Ocado Technology
Dr Charlotte Blake	Industry Sector Manager	TWI Ltd
Dr Sam Burr	Senior Research Fellow	Cardiff Metropolitan University
Miss Olivia Candlin	Senior Technical Sales Consultant	Lucideon
Dr Helen Coulshed	Senior Lecturer in Chemistry Education	King's College London
Dr Sammy Field	Project Manager	Innovation and Research Caucus, Oxford Brookes University
Mrs Charlotte F. Glass	Principal Consultant	Technopolis
Dr Amina Hamoud	Senior Lecturer in Systems Engineering	University of the West of England
Ms Abigail Hilditch	Policy and Industry Relations Manager	Elsevier
Dr Mehdi Jangi	Associate Professor	University of Birmingham
Mr Rory Johnson	Global Skills Data Lead	Arup
Mr Dominic Jones	Strategic Engagement Manager	Medical Research Council, UKRI
Dr Claudia Lindner	Senior Research Fellow, Sir Henry Dale Fellow	The University of Manchester
Dr Marie Longnecker	Data Analytics and Science Hub (DASH) Head of Strategy and Engagement	Defra
Dr Charalampos Loukas	Research Fellow	University of Strathclyde
Dr Luise Luckau	Science Leader Protein	National Measurement

	Metrology	Laboratory, LGC
Mrs Isabelle Magkoeva	Project Coordinator	The Royal Society
Miss Rosie Moore	Research Commercialisation Team Lead	Scottish Government
Mr Phill Mulvana	Interim Head of Fusion Partner Office	UKAEA
Miss Ruqaiyah Patel	Joint Head of Energy and Decarbonisation	Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council, UKRI
Dr Jessica Pollitt	Senior Strategy Manager	Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, UKRI
Dr Jennifer Postles	Lead Specialist - Innovation Talent	Innovate UK, UKRI
Ms Zoi Roupakia	Policy and AI Research Lead, UCI	Institute for Manufacturing, University of Cambridge
Mx Daisy Shearer	Quantum Computing Outreach and Education Lead	National Quantum Computing Centre
Dr Emily Staricoff	Science Systems Lead and Secretary to the Science and Technology Advisory Council	Chief Scientific Adviser's Office, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
Mr Will Steele	Head of R&D Impact, Investment, and Innovation Analysis	Department of Science, Innovation and Technology
Miss Leyone Sylvester	Senior Research Scientist	Clinical Research Organisation
Ms Lauren Taylor	NSIP Major Projects Lead	UK Space Agency
Dr Jordan Tchilingirian	Lecturer in Sociology and Co-director of the Centre for the Analysis of Social Policy and Society	University of Bath
Dr Iain Templeman	Principal Scientist	Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl)
Dr Tobiasz Trawinski	Senior Lecturer in Cognitive Psychology	Liverpool Hope University
Dr Ronald Turner	Bid Development Manager	Centre for Process Innovation Ltd
Dr Neale Watson	Aerospace Engineering Lecturer	University of Liverpool
Mr George Wilson	Asset Manager	ARC

CONFERENCE CODE OF CONDUCT

Ethos

The Foundation Future Leaders Annual Conference brings together emerging and established professionals from across science, policy, and industry to share ideas, collaborate, and foster leadership for a sustainable, equitable future.

We are committed to creating a welcoming, inclusive, and stimulating environment where all participants feel respected and valued. Every participant plays a role in maintaining a professional, safe, and supportive atmosphere.

This Code of Conduct draws on the Variety in Chemistry Education and Physics Higher Education Conference ViCEPHEC (2020–2024) and Methods in Chemistry Education Research (MiCER) conference models, along with guidance from Evidence Base and the Northern Power Inclusion Network, and applies to all sessions, workshops, networking events, and digital interactions associated with the conference.

Expected Conduct

All participants—delegates, speakers, organisers, and volunteers—are expected to:

- Treat all participants with respect, courtesy, and professionalism.
- Value diversity, including different opinions, identities, backgrounds, and experiences.
- Communicate considerately, using language and behaviour appropriate for a professional audience.
- Be inclusive and collaborative, creating opportunities for everyone to contribute.
- Respect pronouns, access needs, and individual boundaries.
- Engage constructively, focusing discussion on ideas rather than individuals.
- Maintain confidentiality, avoiding the disclosure of personal experiences without consent.
- Comply with organisers' instructions, venue regulations, and applicable laws.
- Report concerns or incidents to organisers promptly and discreetly.

If using a webcam or engaging online, please maintain a professional presence and background.

Unacceptable Conduct

The following behaviours are deemed unacceptable and will not be tolerated:

- Harassment or discrimination of any kind, including:
 - Verbal abuse, intimidation, or threats
 - Offensive comments, jokes, or imagery
 - Unwelcome sexual attention or physical contact
 - Stalking, following, or deliberate intimidation
 - Harassing photography, recording, or online activity
- Behaviour that demeans, humiliates, or marginalises others, including hate speech, slurs, or microaggressions.
- Sustained disruption of sessions, disrespect toward speakers, or behaviour that undermines inclusion and dialogue.

Participants engaging in such behaviour may be removed from the event at the discretion of the organisers.

Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion

The Foundation actively seeks to promote diverse representation across all aspects of the conference. We aim to ensure the inclusion of voices from different disciplines, backgrounds, and career stages.

You can help us by:

- Recommending diverse speakers and panellists to the organising team.
- Encouraging participation from early career colleagues and students.
- Sharing calls for participation with networks and affinity groups.
- Suggesting improvements to make the conference more inclusive and accessible.

We value contributions that reflect the breadth of human experience and recognise that diversity strengthens both leadership and innovation.

Accessibility and Wellbeing

We strive to make the conference accessible to all participants.

If you have any access, dietary, or wellbeing requirements, please contact the organising team before or during the event.

Quiet spaces, prayer/reflection rooms, and accessible facilities are available at the venue. The organising team can provide guidance and confidential support at any point.

For practical guidance on inclusive and accessible participation, see:

<https://northernpowerinclusion.org/equality-and-inclusion-practices>

Reporting Concerns

If you experience or witness behaviour that breaches this Code of Conduct or makes you feel unsafe or uncomfortable:

- In person: speak with a member of the organising committee (identifiable by badges).
- By email: contact [Eddie Fahy (fahye@hope.ac.uk)].

All reports will be handled confidentially and sensitively.

Possible responses include mediation, issuing a warning, or removal from the event.

Acknowledgements

This Code of Conduct is adapted from:

- ViCEPHEC (2020–2024) and MiCER Conference Codes of Conduct
- Evidence Base and Northern Power Inclusion frameworks
- O'Reilly Media Diversity and Inclusion Guidelines (CC BY 3.0)

VENUE LOCATION AND TRAVEL INFORMATION

Parking

Visitors to the University are welcome to park on campus at a cost of £3.00 for all-day parking.

By Bus

To get to Hope Park from Liverpool city centre, you can take either the Arriva 75 or the Merseytravel 86C (alight at Woolton Road). The journey takes approximately 30–40 minutes, depending on traffic.

By Train

Broad Green is the closest railway station to the Hope Park campus, situated just under a mile away. You may also wish to travel to Liverpool South Parkway, which is around a 20-minute bus ride from campus on the 187 service.

By Local Taxi

- Alpha Taxi: 0151 722 8888
- Liverpool Taxi Service: +44 7582 35 35 35

Maps of the Liverpool Hope University Campus and floorplan of the i3 building are attached separately

LIST OF CONFERENCE IN-PERSON ATTENDEES

Name	Job Title	Company	Ticket Type
Mr Anaz Abbas	Innovation Analyst	LYVA Labs	In person
Dr Abdelrahman Abdeldayem	Research fellow	Cranfield University	In person
Mrs Vanessa Adams	Science teacher	St Monica's high school Bury	In person
Ms Moadeyah Alasmari	PhD student	Nottingham university	In person
Mr Ayyadah Aldhafeeri	Student	University of Nottingham	In person
Dr Jenny Andrew	Research Officer	Prospect	In person
Dr Peter Angell	Associate Professor	Liverpool Hope University	In person
Professor Mark Bellis	Interim PVC HITS Faculty	Liverpool John Moores University	In person
Dr Adam Berlie	Principal Research Scientist	ISIS Neutron and Muon Source, STFC, UKRI	In person
Dr Rachel Bibby	Director of Member Experience	IChemE	In person
Dr Jon Blackburn	Deputy CTO	HVM Catapult	In person
Miss Daisy Butler	Technical Analyst	Climate Critical Engineering	In person
Mr Dan Carrington	Knowledge Exchange Manager	Liverpool John Moores University	In person
Ms Sarah Carter-Bell	Knowledge Exchange Lead	POST, UK Parliament	In person
Mr Darryl Clough	Head of Life Sciences - Asia Pacific	Office for Life Sciences	In person
Dr Rachel Cochrane	Research Fellow	University of Manchester	In person
Miss Amelia Collier	EA to CEO	The Nutrition Society	In person
Mr Gavin Costigan	Chief Executive	The Foundation for Science and Technology	In person
Dr Helen Coulshed	Senior Lecturer in Chemistry Education	King's College London	In person
Mr Gareth Cross	Deputy Director of Science, Research and Evidence	Welsh Government	In person
Ms Sarah Dalmedo	Partnerships Directorate Operations Leader	National Physical Laboratory	In person
Dr Lorna Daniels	Technology Finance Policy Lead	Department for Science, Innovation and Technology	In person
Ms Lucy Davidson	Engagement Lead	Research England	In person
Mr Nick Doran	Senior Partnership and Innovation	University of Liverpool	In person

	Manager		
Dr Heather Doran	Public Engagement Manager	University of Dundee	In person
Raizhea Dumaguit	Plant officer	McMAI (Cebu) Trading Copr.	In person
Mr James Earl-Fraser	Head of Research & Innovation Sector Development	Jisc	In person
Mr Chris Edwards	Knowledge Exchange Manager	Liverpool John Moores University	In person
Dr Laura Feather	Science & Engineering Fast Streamer	Medicines and Healthcare Regulatory Agency	In person
Dr Zhouxiang Fei	Lecturer in Computer Science	Liverpool Hope University	In person
Ms Sue Ferns	Senior Deputy General Secretary	Prospect	In person
Dr Sammy Field	Project Manager	Innovation and Research Caucus, Oxford Brookes University	In person
Mr James Frankland	Lightning Propulsion Engineer	Ministry of Defence	In person
Ms Alice Fraser	Policy Advisor	Department for Science Innovation and Technology	In person
Miss Harriet Gay	Policy and Public Affairs Officer	The Physiological Society	In person
Ms Natalia Grzomba	Policy & External Relations Manager	British Science Association	In person
Dr Amparo Guemes	Royal Academy of the Engineering Research Fellow	University of Cambridge	In person
Mr Eamonn Guilfoyle	NEC	Prospect	In person
Mrs Ruth Hall	CEO	UK Science Park Association	In person
Mrs Caroline Hamilton	CEO	Safety Assessment Federation	In person
Dr Amina Hamoud	Senior Lecturer in Systems Engineering	UWE Bristol	In person
Mr Leo Hanglami	Consultant	Breakthrough Social Enterprise	In person
Mrs Deborah Harkins	Technical Risk Opportunity and Resolution Manager	SZC	In person
Dr Jessica Henderson	Consumer Scientist	Unilever	In person
Dr Simon Hepworth	Director of Knowledge Exchange	Research England, UKRI	In person
Ms Abi Hilditch	Policy and Industry Relations Manager	Elsevier	In person

Mr Mark Hollingsworth	CEO	The Nutrition Society	In person
Dr Eleanor Hopkins	Deputy Head of Research Policy	The British Academy	In person
Dr Mehdi Jangi	Associate Professor	University of Birmingham	In person
Mr Sebastian Janner	Vice President External	Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine	In person
Mr Leigh Jeffes	Chief Executive	Parliamentary & Scientific Committee	In person
Dr Julia Jimenez-Romero	Research Director	Advanced Process Integration	In person
Dr Sophie Johnson	Senior innovation consultant	Alder hey children's hospital	In person
Professor Richard Jones	Vice-President for Regional Innovation and Civic E	University of Manchester	In person
Mr Dominic Jones	Strategic Engagement Manager	Medical Research Council, UK Research and Innovation	In person
Mrs Victoria Joyce	Senior clinical Tutor	Liverpool Hope University	In person
Miss Koko Kawaura	PhD Student	Cranfield University UK / University of Queensland AU	In person
Mr Peter Leather	Innovation, IP & Commercialisation	Liverpool John Moores University	In person
Miss Tiarna Lee	PhD student	School of Biomedical Engineering & Imaging Sciences, King's College London	In person
Mr Shomari Lewis-Wilson	Senior Manager, Research Culture and Communities	Wellcome Trust	In person
Dr Claudia Lindner	Senior Research Fellow, Sir Henry Dale Fellow	The University of Manchester	In person
Dr Jamie Lingwood	Senior Lecturer in Psychology	Liverpool Hope University	In person
Dr Marie Longnecker	Air Quality - Evaluation Lead	Defra	In person
Dr Sam Lowe	GHG programme manager	Unilever	In person
Dr Luise Luckau	Science Leader	LGC	In person
Mr Roddy Maccallum	Policy Officer - Innovation	Liverpool City Region Combined Authority	In person
Dr Katherine Macfarlane	Assistant Private Secretary to the CSA	Department for Transport	In person
Mrs Isabelle Magkoeva	Project Coordinator	Royal Society	In person
Mr David Martin	Senior Policy Advisor	Department for Energy Security & Net Zero	In person

Professor Simon Marwood	Associate Dean for Research & Knowledge Exchange	Liverpool Hope University	In person
Miss Maria Massoud	Phd student	Queens Belfast University	In person
Mr Kasai Mbo	Mining engineer	Okapiland SARL	In person
Mr Ben McAlinden	Senior Enterprise Manager, Liverpool	Royal Academy of Engineering	In person
Dr Adam McCarthy	Postdoctoral Research Associate	Manchester Institute of Innovation Research (UoM)	In person
Mr Alex McKeown	Head of Data Ethics	Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ)	In person
Ms Erin McNeill	Physics Engagement Lead	University of Leeds	In person
Miss Tricia McQuarrie	PhD student	Middlesex University	In person
Miss Rosie Moore	Policy Lead	Scottish Government	In person
Dr Allan Munro	Associate Professor	Liverpool Hope University	In person
Dr Sinéad Murphy	Policy Engagement Coordinator	University College London - UCL Public Policy	In person
Dr Geoffrey Neale	Lecturer	Cranfield University	In person
Dr Alice Newton-Fenner	Sensory Perception & Neuroscience Manager	Unilever	In person
Professor David Nutt	Chief Scientific Officer and Former Chairman	Gaba Labs Research/Advisory Council of the Misuse of Drugs	In person
Miss Rachael Oman	Research Dissemination	Defra	In person
Dr Walid Omara	Senior Lecturer	Sheffield Hallam University	In person
Mr Ross Orchard	Planning Policy Advisor	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	In person
Ms Chelsea Owen	Science Officer	Ministry of Justice	In person
Professor Claire Ozanne	Vice-Chancellor	Liverpool Hope University	In person
Ms Elysha Paige	Founder & Director	Radiate Hiring	In person
Ms Letizia Palumbo	Associate Dean of External Engagement	Liverpool Hope University	In person
Dr Cesare Parise	Senior Lecturer in Psychology	University of Liverpool	In person
Miss Ruqaiyah Patel	Joint Head of Clean Energy	EPSRC, UK Research & Innovation	In person
Dr Sophoclis Patsias	Manager - Partnerships & Policy	Rolls-Royce	In person
Mr Conor Peacock	Innovation consultant	ALDER HEY CHILDREN'S NHS FOUNDATION TRUST	In person

Mr Nathan Phillips	Founder	StudySetGo	In person
Dr Jessica Pollitt	senior strategy manager	UKRI	In person
Dr Jennifer Postles	Lead Specialist - Innovation Talent	Innovate UK	In person
Ms Rosie Helen Power	Communications and Engagement Manager	Office of the Police Chief Scientific Adviser - NPCC	In person
Mrs Lynn Provoost	Assistant headteacher	Derby high school Bury	In person
Mrs Angela Pusey	Senior PA and Events Manager	The Foundation for Science and Technology	In person
Mrs Charlotte Raynsford	Communications Officer	The Foundation for Science and Technology	In person
Dr Luke Ridley	Joint Head of Circular Economy Science	Defr	In person
Mr Liam Robinson	Leader	Liverpool City Council	In person
Ms Zoi Roupakia	Policy and AI Research Lead	UCL, Institute for Manufacturing, University of Cambridge	In person
Professor Hatef Sadeghi	Professor	University of Warwick	In person
Dr Pejman Saeghe	Lecturer	University of Strathclyde	In person
Dr Gideon Salter	Lecturer	Liverpool Hope University	In person
Dr Laura Santana	Tech Transfer Manager	DSIT	In person
Dr Taku Sato	Innovation Growth Specialist	Innovate UK - Business Growth	In person
Ms Desiree Sehlapelo	Researcher	University of South Africa	In person
Dr Irene Senna	Lecturer in Psychology	Liverpool Hope University	In person
Dr G Viknash Shagar	Fellow	LJMU	In person
Mx Daisy Shearer	Quantum Computing Outreach and Education Lead	National Quantum Computing Centre	In person
Ms Liz Shutt	Programme Director	Insights North East	In person
Mr Duncan Sime	Innovation Partner	MoD - DASA	In person
Dr Alana Smith	Science Adviser	Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office	In person
Mr Will Steele	Head of R&D impact analysis	DSIT	In person
Mrs Jessica Stevenson	Principal	U T C Sheffield Olympic legacy park	In person
Mr Stephen Stuart	Chairman	Lyva Labs	In person
Dr Philip Taranto	Lecturer	University of Manchester	In person
Ms Lauren Taylor	NSIP Major Projects Lead	UK Space Agency	In person
Ms Alison Thornber	Head of Grants,	Liverpool John Moores University	In person

	Policy and Projects		
Mrs Jane Townend	Head of Knowledge Exchange & Commercialisation	Liverpool John Moores University	In person
Mrs Gemma Turnbull	Head of Gulf and Emerging Powers	Department for Science, Innovation and Technology	In person
Dr Ronald Turner	Bid Development Manager	Centre for Process Innovation Ltd	In person
Ms Liz Wainright	Associate Director of Strategic Partnerships	Edinburgh Innovations	In person
Mrs Pat Walters	Strategic manager NW	Comino	In person
Dr Richard Webb	Senior Lecturer in Clinical Nutrition	Liverpool Hope University	In person
Cllr Mike Wharton	Deputy Mayor	Liverpool City Council Combined Authority	In person
Professor Jun Jie Wu	Deputy Pro Vice-Chancellor Research and Enterprise	Aston University	In person
Associate Professor Jo Zhong	Associate Professor	London South Bank University	In person