Biographies of Speakers and Workshop Leaders

Jenny Batty, Campaigns and Delivery Officer, NUS Scotland

Jenny Batty is the campaigns delivery officer at NUS Scotland. Jenny supports NUS Scotland’s officer team to develop and deliver their campaigning priorities. Jenny also delivers training and provides support to students’ association officers around their local campaigning priorities. Prior to working for NUS Scotland Jenny was a sabbatical officer at Aberdeen University focusing on the area of student welfare. **Jenny.Batty@nus-scotland.org.uk**

Michelle Bingham, President, South Lanarkshire College

Michelle Bingham returned to full time education in Jan 2010 after being made redundant. She returned full time to train to be a Beauty Therapist at South Lanarkshire College, and this started off as until she gained a job. She has been involved within her student association for 4 years and took up a full time sabb role in July 2013. She was re-elected to this role in 2014. Michelle feels really lucky to have such an important and fantastic job. [**michelle.bingham@slc.ac.uk**](mailto:michelle.bingham@slc.ac.uk)

Professor Alice Brown, Scottish Funding Council

CBE, FRSE, AcSS, FRCP Edin, FRSA, Cipfa (Hon) 

Alice is Chair of the Scottish Funding Council. She is Emeritus Professor of Politics at the University of Edinburgh where she was previously Head of Department of Politics and a Vice-Principal, as well as Co-Director of the university's Institute of Governance.

Alice has always played an active role in public life in Scotland and the UK and currently serves as a Trustee of the David Hume Institute. She is also a Member of the Strategic Group on Women and Work, Scottish Government; a Member of the ESRC Future of the UK and Scotland Advisory Group; and a Member of the Public Policy Institute of Wales Advisory Group. Alice was appointed as the first Scottish Public Services Ombudsman in 2002, a post she held until her retirement in 2009. She was the first woman to be appointed as General Secretary of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 2011.

Alice has received honorary degrees from Edinburgh, Edinburgh Napier, Glasgow Caledonian and Stirling universities and is due to receive an honorary degree from Queen's University Belfast in July this year. She is married with two grown up daughters.

Mike Day, Director of Nations, NUS UK

Mike Day is the Director of Devolved Nations and Internationalism for NUSUK he provides staff leadership and officer support across the three devolved administrations within the UK as well as co-ordinating NUS’ relationship with student organisations on a global level. He has a long association with the student movement stretching back thirty years as an elected officer, SU Manager and NUS staff member, he has also worked in the third sector most recently as a Learning and Development Consultant with Barnardos. In 2012 he published a history of the National Union of Students and regularly contributes articles and runs session on the history of the student movement in the UK and internationally. [**Mike.Day@nus-scotland.org.uk**](mailto:Mike.Day@nus-scotland.org.uk)

Kate Byford, PfC Project Coordinator, NUS Scotland and Sparqs

Kate Byford is the Project Coordinator for Partnerships for Change project, which has provided support, advice, and resources to college students’ associations over the last two years. She supports consultants in their individual work with regions, and develops national resources and events.

[**Kate.byford@nus-scotland.org.uk**](mailto:Kate.byford@nus-scotland.org.uk)

Mandy Exley, Principal, Edinburgh College

Mandy Exley was appointed Principal at Edinburgh College just ahead of its Vesting Day on 1 October 2012. Previously she was Principal and Chief Executive at Jewel & Esk College for 2 ½ years and Principal at UHI Perth College for five years. Mandy has worked in education for over 25 years and her career has been both in England and Scotland, working in large inner city colleges in Birmingham, Manchester and Stoke and rural colleges in Gloucestershire, Perth and the Highlands and Islands. Mandy is a Board Director of the Scottish Institute for Enterprise and has served on a number of other private and public sector Boards and Government and College’s Scotland Task Groups, including the recent Government Change Team for College Regionalisation. She has a particular interest in Public Value and an engaged Student Voice within college education.

Alex Henderson, Sustainability Project Officer, Nus Scotland

Alex has been working in the Ethics and Environment Team since August 2013, based at NUS Scotland she supports the delivery of Green Impact and Student Switch Off at institutions and organisations in Scotland, Northern England and Northern Ireland. Prior to this Alex worked for the Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC) delivering the Universities and Colleges Climate Commitment for Scotland (UCCCfS), a voluntary commitment which 100% of the university and college sector in Scotland signed in November 2011.

alex.henderson@nus-**scotland.org.uk**

Charlotte Lawley, Development and Training Officer, NUS Scotland

Charlotte is the Development & Training Officer at NUS Scotland whose work focuses primarily around the development of students’ associations as democratic, effective and well governed organisations. Charlotte also coordinates the training and development programme in Scotland for officers and staff in both Colleges and Universities. **charlotte.lawley@nus-scotland.org.uk**

Eve Lewis, Head of Sparqs

As Head of sparqs, Eve is responsible for managing the agency on behalf of the Scottish Funding Council. She provides strategic direction and management support to the sparqs team, and maintains close links with other sector agencies both at home and abroad. Eve took up the post of Head of sparqs in July 2010. Previously, she was Education and Welfare Manager at Heriot-Watt University Students’ Association for eighteen years, managing their non-commercial activities including their extensive work on academic representation.[**Eve.Lewis@sparqs.ac.uk**](mailto:Eve.Lewis@sparqs.ac.uk)

Natalie Masterson, Head of Development & Charitable Services, NUS Scotland

Natalie Masterson is the  Head of Development & Charitable Services at NUS Scotland, Edinburgh. She has been working within NUS Scotland for 6 years. Natalie is responsible for supporting our membership, strategic decisions and supporting events. [**Natalie.masterson@nus-scotland.org.uk**](mailto:Natalie.masterson@nus-scotland.org.uk)

Stephanie Millar, Sparqs Development Advisor

Stephanie leads on our Supporting Institutions work, which involves supporting institutional development of student engagement – for instance in staff development and student engagement in the curriculum. Prior to this she was a Development Adviser at Equality Forward which supported colleges and universities to develop their equality strategies, and she has also worked as an adviser for a national disability organisation providing second tier advice, information and development to other agencies working with disabled people. Stephanie has been with sparqs since 2009. **Stephanie.Millar@sparqs.ac.uk**

Helen O’Shea, International Education Officer, NUS Scotland

Helen O’Shea is the International Education Officer at NUS Scotland. She has extensive experience in inward and outward student mobility at policy level and is the current lead researcher on the Scottish Government-funded project *Investing in Scotland’s Global Future*.

**Helen.O'Shea@nus-scotland.org.uk**

Laura Pike, Student Representation Coordinator, Bradford College

Having been a sabbatical officer at Oxford Brookes Students' Union in 2004-5, Laura rejoined the student movement a year ago and now works at Bradford College Students' Union as their Student Representation Coordinator.  She is responsible for coordinating the college course rep system as well as mentoring and training the union's 10 elected officers.  She organised this years union elections and supported officers and students to deliver a number of campaigns including the NUS Campaign of the Year, Save Bradford Youth Service.  She is a member of the FE Learner Voice Practitioner Network and recently set up their buddying scheme, enabling learner voice colleagues across the country to support one another. **L.Pike@bradfordcollege.ac.uk**

David Scott, Sparqs, Institutional Support and Development Manager

David joined sparqs in June 2014 as Institutional Support and Development Managed. Previously, he was Head of Learner Services at Dundee College, responsible for a range of student support services such as guidance, supported learning e-learning and learning resources. He also worked for a number of years as an Associate Assessor for Education Scotland and has served on the Board of JISC Collections and the Scottish Library and Information Council. Institutional Support and Development Manager. [**David.Scott@sparqs.ac.uk**](mailto:David.Scott@sparqs.ac.uk)

Martin Tyson, Head of Registration for the Scottish Charity Regulator(OSCR)

Martin Tyson is the Head of Registration for the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).  Martin is responsible for maintaining the accurate Scottish Charity Register, the granting of charitable status and operating the consents and charity reorganisation functions, and overseeing OSCR's Legal Team. He has worked in OSCR, with a particular focus on charitable status issues, since February 2006.  He oversaw OSCR’s reviews of the charitable status of university and college student associations in 2010-2011. **Martin.tyson@**oscr.**org.uk**

Simon Varwell, Development Advisor, Sparqs

Simon is a Development Advisor at sparqs. His work includes a range of activities relating to research and publications on student engagement; our resource library; and developing links with student engagement practitioners beyond Scotland. He is also responsible for our web and Twitter content. He is a graduate of the University of Aberdeen, where he was President of the Students’ Association, and has previously worked for UHI Millennium Institute (the precursor to the University of the Highlands and Islands) and Glasgow University SRC. Simon has been with sparqs since 2007 and is based in our Inverness office. [**Simon.Varwell@sparqs.ac.uk**](mailto:Simon.Varwell@sparqs.ac.uk)

Mike Williamson, Development Advisor, Sparqs

Mike’s work includes supporting universities and colleges to develop Student Partnership Agreements, looking at the potential for a national college student survey, and working with students to determine what public information is useful, to feed into the reviews of KIS and NSS. He is a graduate of The University of Edinburgh, where he was also Vice President for Academic Affairs at the Students’ Association. Mike joined sparqs in June 2012. [**Mike.Williamson@sparqs.ac.uk**](mailto:Mike.Williamson@sparqs.ac.uk)

Marc Winsland, Student President, Dundee & Angus College

Marc Winsland is a Student President at Dundee and Angus College and he studied Social Sciences last year after moving back to Scotland from Liverpool. He ran for president because he wants to promote civic engagement to students, being involved in student representation for 7 years from school to college, the student voice is something that is very important to him.

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