



Manchester
Metropolitan
University

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Please telephone 0161 247 1068/5902.

The Conference will be held at the following venue:

Manchester Metropolitan University
Geoffrey Manton Building
Rosamond Street West
off Oxford Road
MANCHESTER
M15 6LL

The building has full wheelchair access but please contact us if you have any further special requirements.

Vegetarian food will be available on the day and any other dietary requirements can be catered for with advanced notice.



How to book

For further information or to book a place please contact Lauren Spurr on 0161 247 5902 or email l.spurr@mmu.ac.uk.

Delegate places are free but space limitations mean early booking is advisable.

Conference:

Advising Learners
about Higher
Education:

**Support for the
Front Line**

Keynote address by Barry Sheerman MP

5th June 2009

Invitation to Attend – Hosted by
Recruitment and Admissions,
Manchester Metropolitan University

 **aimhigher...**
north west



Manchester
Metropolitan
University

Advising Learners about Higher Education:

Support for the Front Line

This **FREE** one-day conference offers practical support to anyone who gets asked about HE and the application process - whether a trained specialist, someone who helps with Personal Statements or References, or “just” the form or personal tutor (often the most influential of all).

The keynote address will be given by **Barry Sheerman MP**, Chair of the Commons Committee on Children, Schools and Families.

The Conference takes place at Manchester Metropolitan University and is based around the findings of the “up2uni” project, which between 2004 and 2008 offered support to over one thousand practitioners in the “front line” of HE guidance.

It will appeal to FE lecturers, tutors, teachers in schools, IAG Specialists and Connexions staff, WBL practitioners - in short, to any who learners/students/clients trust and rely on for help and advice. It is also particularly useful for those who don't necessarily have the time needed to keep themselves as fully informed as they might like, as well as to those who wish to share expertise and keep up to date.

The day itself will include focus on topics such as Student Finance, advising adult returners about HE, GMSA's Pathways scheme for vocational HE applicants, personal statement and reference writing, sources of online help for HE applicants, issues arising from the up2uni project, the evaluation of its success and other aspects of gaining practical value from evaluation. Students will also give their input on the experience of HE today.

Booking a place is essential so please see overleaf for further details on how to attend.



The Provisional Programme

9.30am

Registration and morning refreshments

10.00am

Open and Welcome

10.15am

Keynote address - Barry Sheerman MP

10.45am

up2uni: What it's shown, where it points to
- Peter Millen

11.15am

Refreshments

11.30am

Workshop 1

12.30pm

Lunch (included)

1.30pm

Workshop 2

2.30pm

Plenary - the Student Voice

3.15pm

Summary and Close

Workshop Sessions

The Workshops will give you the opportunity to attend an option from each of the following two sessions. When booking a place please indicate which morning and afternoon option you would prefer to attend.

Workshop 1 (11.30-12.30)

Option 1: up2uni, SEF, aiming4uni, SA ...etc!! - evaluating staff development programmes: what do practitioners find useful, and what ideas emerge for provision of IAG?

(Dr Ann-Marie Houghton, Director of REAP, Lancaster University)

Option 2: Helping vocational students into HE in Greater Manchester - the GMSA Pathways scheme.

(Gill Scott, Development Manager, Greater Manchester Strategic Alliance)

Option 3: Providing advice and guidance for adult returners to HE - an MMU perspective.

(Benedikte Joergensen and Sally Lawlor, Recruitment and Admissions, Manchester Metropolitan University)

Workshop 2 (1.30-2.30pm)

Option 1: UCAS References and Personal Statements: problem-solving, experience sharing, and other essentials.

(Peter Millen, Real Solutions and up2uni Project Manager)

Option 2: Student Finance - how the system works.

(Jon Legg, Student Finance Consultant NW England, Student Loans Company)

Option 3: Surplus to Requirements? Given the growth of national, publicly funded websites to help HE decision making, is there still a role for staff?

(Susan McGrath, Head of Recruitment and Admissions, Manchester Metropolitan University)