Heriot-Watt University Learning and Teaching Conference 2025 Keynote

Professor Camille Kandiko Howson (Imperial College London)

"Engagement and Belonging in HE: Voice, Participation and…AI"

Thursday 5 June 2025, 9-10am UK | 12-1pm Dubai | 4-5pm Malaysia

Book a place for Prof. Kandiko Howson's keynote on 5 June.

Abstract: Engagement and Belonging in HE: Voice, Participation and…AI

This keynote explores the different dimensions of student engagement, the importance of belonging for students and the role of voice and participation in facilitating these. The discussion will be grounded by three main areas of research: research on students' expectations and perceptions of higher education, ways institutions capture educational gains, and recent research exploring belonging in the STEM context. Challenges and benefits of student engagement in policy and practice are explored. The talk will also introduce new research examining the influence of AI on student belonging, and how students view their educational experience and how they collaborate with staff and fellow students. The discussion will open up possibilities for student engagement in policy development and implications for the practices of individual academics, course teams and students.

Biography

Camille Kandiko Howson is a Professor of Higher Education in the Centre for Higher Education Research and Scholarship (CHERS) at Imperial College London, UK. She is an international expert in higher education research with a focus on student engagement; student outcomes and learning gain; equity and social justice; quality, performance and accountability; and learning analytics and the use of AI in higher education. She is a Council Member of the Society for Research into Higher Education (SRHE) and Chair of the Research and Development Committee, which she has served on since 2012. She is a Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

Conference information

Full conference information is available on the [Heriot-Watt Learning and Teaching Academy website](.).