

# FMS Educational Research, Development & Practice Network



## Workshop

### The Use and Abuse of Student Voice

**Stella Jones-Devitt, Head of Research and Evaluation, Sheffield Hallam University and Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy**

The current climate in Higher Education for lecturers, students and leaders of both of these groups can be uncomfortable. Discomfort is generated by a perception that measures such as the Teaching Excellence Framework and module questionnaires operate as proxies for evaluation of the performance of academic staff. These processes of evaluation (managers evaluating lecturers who are evaluating students who are evaluating lecturers) potentially disrupt the traditional trust between lecturers and their students as required for effective learning.

*The Use and Abuse of the Student Voice* project was funded by the Leadership Foundation (now part of Advance HE). It investigated challenges for academic leaders tasked with developing education in the context of evaluation of teaching by students. Several case studies were generated from the project as a set of resources that can be used as problem-solving and reflective tools. We will be using these evidence-informed materials within the workshop to make best use of the student voice to recognise and support teaching excellence in your own context. The event should be of interest to staff and students in Higher Education involved in using the student voice productively to inspire professional development.

#### **Workshop outcomes:**

At the end of this session, we expect you to go away with:

- The opportunity to have engaged in lively discussion about how student voices influence academic tutors
- Access to a set of useful resources which can help manage difficult and / or contradictory messages from the student body

**1-4pm, Wednesday 7 November 2018  
room 1.57, Ridley building 2**

[Register a place here](#) or email  
[sarah.carey@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:sarah.carey@ncl.ac.uk).

