

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: Shifting the Dial

Drive Research Excellence
Research Professional News
Live Webinar Series



Moderator



Harriet Swain
Event Chair
Comment and Features Editor
Research Professional News



Meet the Speakers



Sapna Marwaha
Deputy chair of ARMA



Jakob Feldtfos Christensen
Director of DIVERSlunity



Katherine Deane
Associate Professor
University of East Anglia



Dina Stroud
Program Director
National Science Foundation



Parveen Yaqoob
Pro-Vice-Chancellor
University of Reading



Alejandra Palermo
Head of Global Inclusion
Royal Society of Chemistry

Sapna Marwaha

Deputy chair of the Association of Research Managers and Administrators (and chair of the EDI Advisory Group)



Sapna Marwaha is an experienced lawyer, board member and independent consultant working to deliver more inclusive leadership and governance. Her board roles include deputy chair of the Association of Research Managers and Administrators (ARMA), where she is also chair of the EDI Advisory Group. She also leads on legal and governance as a development board member of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in Science and Health (EDIS), a coalition that drives more equal health outcomes in society through a more equitable sector.

**Jakob Feldtfos
Christensen**

Director of DIVERSlunity



Jakob Feldtfos Christensen is the director of DIVERSlunity, a Denmark-based international consultancy dedicated to making diversity and internationalisation work in research and research management. He founded this in 2020 after studying comparative religion. Previously, Jakob worked within research management and internationalisation for almost 10 years at Aarhus University. He has been active in both the Danish and European associations for research managers. He co-hosts “The Diversity in Research Podcast”.

Dr Katherine Deane

Associate professor in the School of Health Sciences at the University of East Anglia and university access ambassador



Dr Katherine Deane is associate professor in the School of Health Sciences at the University of East Anglia, UK. She conducts research on the co-created management of long-term conditions and disabilities and has published more than 80 peer-reviewed journal articles; her work informs NHS and WHO guidelines. Dr Deane has used her expertise as a wheelchair user with a variety of long-term conditions to become the university's access ambassador, improving the accessibility of UEA's campus over the past nine years. Her latest project examining disability access in laboratories has created a suite of [access guidelines](#).

Dr Dina Stroud

Program Director, US
National Science Foundation



Dr Dina Myers Stroud joined the National Science Foundation from Vanderbilt and Fisk Universities. Passionate about building research access and capacity, especially at minority serving institutions, she works in the Office of Integrative Activities as lead program director for GRANTED and HBCU-Excellence in Research. Dina acquired her PhD in molecular biology from Vanderbilt with a focus on developmental biology.

As executive director of the Fisk-Vanderbilt Master's to PhD Bridge Program, she mentored students from underrepresented and underserved groups into and through STEM PhD programs and the workforce. She oversaw formalisation and dissemination of practices, built mutually beneficial partnerships and developed a diverse, inclusive community. This experience led her to work with the National Institute of Health sponsored National Research Mentoring Network creating mentor-mentee supportive technology. Dina also served as the director of the NSF LSAMP Regional Center of Excellence in Broadening Participation.

Parveen Yaqoob

Pro-vice-chancellor for research and innovation and deputy vice-chancellor at the University of Reading



Professor Parveen Yaqoob OBE, MA, DPhil, RNutr, FAFN, FHE is currently pro-vice-chancellor for research and innovation (since 2018) and deputy vice-chancellor (since 2020) at the University of Reading. She is chair of the national Athena Swan Governance Committee and has been a member of the Advance HE EDI Committee since 2020. She led a Race Equality Review at the University of Reading, which contributed to a Bronze Race Equality Charter Mark awarded in 2023. Parveen is a professor of nutritional physiology and member/chair of a number of national and international research funding panels.

Dr Alejandra Palermo FRSC

Head of global inclusion,
Royal Society of Chemistry,
UK



Dr Alejandra Palermo is currently responsible for global inclusion at the RSC leading a team working in developing and implementing our overall strategy for inclusion and diversity in the chemical sciences. I also lead international priority areas that include large international programmes in Africa and the Commonwealth and our international engagement with key organisations and chemical societies across the world. Our common objective is to drive change towards an inclusive global chemistry culture.

She is an FRSC, a life fellow of the Chemical Research Society of India, and an honorary Fellow of the Chemical Society of Ethiopia. Since 2023, she have been an appointed member of the Executive Board of Commonwealth Chemistry and more recently, has been elected Science Board member of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry

REMINDERS

- Sessions are being recorded
- Please use the Chat feature to ask questions

Q&A

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: Shifting the Dial

Ask your questions using the Chat function

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Thank you

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Don't forget to take a few minutes to fill out the exit survey!

The recording of the session will be sent to you over the few next days.

