

Building the Anti-Racist Classroom Workshop Event Summary

Building the Anti-Racist Classroom, was a two day intensive interdisciplinary workshop, funded by NARTI and Leeds Beckett University, bringing together scholars and students of colour and anti-racist allies around intersectional issues of race in higher education, particularly in business, management and organisation studies. The event took place on 15 and 16 June 2019 at Leeds Beckett University. The event was held in Room 220, Carnegie Hall, 9.30-5pm on Day 1 and 9.30-4pm on Day 2, with an optional evening social event from 5-9pm on Day 1. Registration and Lunch was held in the Food Court.



The aims and outcomes of the workshop are described below:

Aim	Outcome
To provide a safe space for Early Career Researchers to understand and apply contemporary anti-racist theory to their teaching and research practices.	NARTI ECRs and PhD students (and students from elsewhere) were able to share their teaching and research experiences. Sessions delivered used theory, including black feminist theory, and intersectional theories, to understand their teaching and research practices.
To facilitate mutual learning between longer established (SL and L) and ECRs and PhD students who face different challenges in relation to anti-racist teaching, career progression, and research.	The wide range of participants, from PhD students, to Lecturers, Senior Lecturers, Readers and Professors, meant that practice advice was shared between scholars from different practices. Our host, Professor Shirley Anne Tate, and keynote speakers, Dr Akile Ahmet and Dr Francesca Sobande, as longer-established faculty members, were on hand to provide practical advice to students throughout the course of the event
To enable participants to identify instances of racism in their local contexts, share strategies for addressing them, and design activities to begin implementing and advocating for anti-racist practices in their universities	Participants were able to share their teaching and learning experience in a safe environment, co-created strategies for how to address racism in their classroom, using university policies where appropriate. We discussed how participants could bring these strategies back to the classroom.

It was conceptualised, organised and delivered by (in alphabetical order):

- Dr Deborah Brewis, University of Bath, Centre for Business, Organisations and Society, UK
- Dr Sadhvi Dar, Queen Mary University of London, School of Business and Management, UK
- Dr Angela Martinez Dy, Loughborough University London, Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, UK
- Dr Helena Liu, University of Technology Sydney, Australia
- Dr Udeni Salmon, University of Keele, Keele Institute for Social Inclusion

Our cross-disciplinary keynote speakers and facilitators were UK-based leading scholars in anti-racist pedagogy and practice in HE:

- (Day 1) Professor [Shirley Anne Tate](#), Professor of Race and Education and Director of the Centre for Race, Education and Decoloniality in the Carnegie School of Education, Leeds Beckett University, UK and Honorary Professor at Nelson Mandela University, South Africa.
- (Day 1) Dr Akile Ahmet, Senior Lecturer in the Sociology of Race at the University of Middlesex. Her research is focused on race, ethnicity, age and education. In 2009 she worked alongside a team of researchers at Goldsmiths, University of London examining ‘Diversity and Progression of Social Work Students’, she then went on to help develop a series of on-line ‘toolkits’ from this project. In 2011 she worked on a project entitled ‘Care and Caring Amongst Ethnic Minority Older People’. She has worked on a knowledge transfer program from this project and has recently completed an ESRC seminar series on ‘Ageing and Ethnicity’. She has recently co-published a report for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation on ‘caring and earning’.
- (Day 1) Dr Mojisola Adebayo, Lecturer in Drama, Theatre and Performance at QMUL. Dr Adebayo is a London born theatre artist - performer, playwright, director, producer, facilitator, teacher and researcher. She trained in Theatre of the Oppressed and Physical Theatre and has worked internationally in theatre, television and radio for over twenty-five years, from Antarctica to Zimbabwe. She has been teaching in academia since 1998, at Goldsmiths, University of London, and now at QMUL. Her research interests include theatre making, theatre for social change, ‘Afriquia’ / black queer theatre and performance, theatres of the African diaspora and creating accessible and inclusive theatre
- (Day 2) Maria D’Amico, artist, illustrator and yoga teacher who led us in a breathing and centering exercise.
- (Day 2) Dr Francesca Sobande, Francesca is a lecturer in Digital Media Studies at Cardiff University, with research interests and expertise in issues related to race, gender, structural inequalities, media and the marketplace. Francesca’s work particularly focuses on digital space, internet culture, Black identity and diaspora, gender and feminism, advertising, and popular culture. She is author of the forthcoming monograph *The Digital Lives of Black Women in Britain* (2020, Palgrave Macmillan) and co-editor with Professor Akwugo Emejulu of *To Exist is to Resist: Black Feminism in Europe* (2019, Pluto Press).

Attendees from the below NARTI institutions were represented:

- University of Huddersfield
- University of Manchester
- University of Leeds
- Leeds Beckett University
- University of Lincoln
- University of Liverpool
- University of Sheffield

We would like to thank our sponsors, NARTI and Leeds Beckett University, for their support. We would particularly like to thank the wonderful Joanne Garrick for her efficient and timely support.