

Inclusion and Diversity Forum 2025

25 March 2025 | London, UK



Programme

10:00 **Registration, tea & coffee**

10:30 **Welcome remarks**

Dr Annette Doherty OBE FRSC, President, Royal Society of Chemistry, UK

Dr Ale Palermo FRSC, Head of Global Inclusion, Royal Society of Chemistry, UK

10:45 *2024 Inclusion and Diversity Prize talk & medal presentation*

Dr Victoria Mason, Discovery Planet CIC

Chair: Prof. Robert Mokaya OBE FRSC FRS, President Elect, Royal Society of Chemistry and Chair of Royal Society of Chemistry Inclusion & Diversity Committee, UK

11:15 **RSC work on disability and accessibility**

11:45 *An introduction to the EPSRC EDI Hub+*

Dr Daniel Smith, Head of Physical Science EPSRC, UK

Professor Vania Dimitrova, University of Leeds, UK

12:10 **Lunch**

13:10 **LGBT+ Inclusion in STEM grants – Presentations and Q&A session**

Chair: Kevin Coutinho, Chair of the Board of Trustees Windsor Fellowships

Barriers within barriers - minorities within minorities: the challenges for LGBT+ inclusion in the UK-US STEM landscape through an intersectional lens

Dr Robert Bolton, University of Lincoln, UK

ASPIRE: Addressing systemic precarity: Trans inclusion and retention in STEM

Dr Cal Horton, Oxford Brookes University, UK

Somewhere over the rainbow: Investigating presence, perceptions, and engagement with LGBTQ+ inclusion symbols in STEM departments in the UK and US

Prof Ioana Latu, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Centering LGBT+ perspectives in STEM career decision making

Prof Bryce Hughes, Montana State University, USA

Creating change by telling the whole story: Making the case for qualitative research methods to strengthen LGBTQ+ retention in STEM in the US and the UK

Dr Marco Reggiani, University of Strathclyde, UK

Dr Timothy Atherton, Tufts University, USA

- 14:50 **Afternoon refreshment break**
- 15:20 **Inclusion & Diversity Fund flash presentations**
Chair: Dr Ale Palermo FRSC, RSC Head of Global Inclusion
- Addressing barriers in the education of mature postgraduate students in the Chemical Sciences*
Dr Kalliopi Kousi, University of Surrey, UK
- Lab Coat for Wheelchair users*
Dr Oliver Collier, University College London, UK
- Visibility and mentorship campaign for underrepresented groups in Computational Chemistry*
Dr Michelle Sahai, Brunel University, UK
- Shifting your mindset from can't to why not*
Dr Marcia Philbin, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Medicine, UK
- Student mental health and anxiety as a hidden disability in UK chemistry labs*
Dr Jenny Burnham, University of Sheffield, UK
- The experience of British-Asian chemistry students in higher education*
Dr Tom Ritchie, University of Warwick, UK
- 16:00 *Sign O Times: Trying to convey hope in challenging times*
Professor Jason Arday, University of Cambridge, UK
Chair: Prof. Robert Mokaya OBE FRSC FRS (President Elect, Royal Society of Chemistry and Chair of Royal Society of Chemistry Inclusion & Diversity Committee, UK)
- 16:30 **Closing remarks**
Dr Helen Pain MBE CSci CChem FRSC, Chief Executive, Royal Society of Chemistry, UK
- 16:40 **Reception and networking**
- 17:30 **End of event**

Please note final timings are subject to change