



Free Public Event:

Widening participation: Supporting the transition of non-traditional groups to higher education



Visiting Scholar Professor Miriam David

The National Centre for Student Equity in Higher Education and The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre is pleased to present a public event featuring Professor Miriam David, an international scholar with a world class reputation for her research. Professor Miriam David is Professor of Sociology of Education and Associate Director (Higher Education) Teaching and Learning Research Programme at the Institute of Education, University of London. In her current role, Miriam is responsible for research projects on widening participation and learning within higher education as well as issues around social diversity and difference across all levels of education.

**Free Event.
All Welcome.**

The presentation will be followed by drinks and nibbles

Co-presented by the National Centre for Student Equity in Higher Education and The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre.

Monday 19 October - 5.30pm

Bradley Forum, UniSA City West campus, Hawke Building, Level 5, 50 North Terrace, Adelaide

Registration: www.hawkecentre.unisa.edu.au or RSVP phone line: 08 8302 0215

Event details

This presentation draws on the research findings from a suite of 7 UK projects on Widening Participation in Higher Education, funded by the UK government. Miriam will focus on both quantitative and qualitative evidence about the diverse transitions to higher education, amongst a wide range of students. Consideration will also be given to the diversity of higher educational institutions and their policies and practices, to show how inequality persists for both individuals and institutions. Nevertheless, there are opportunities for developing critical, inclusive or 'connectionist' pedagogies, which would engage socially diverse students in a range of subjects and settings. This event will also include short presentations from two high schools in the Adelaide area that focus on transitions of non-traditional student groups to higher education.

Background

You will be aware of the current interest in student equity in Australian higher education, fuelled by the Bradley Review and the federal government's announcements in HE, particularly with respect to students from low socioeconomic status backgrounds. There is similarly considerable interest in low SES students in schooling, given the federal government's national partnerships with the States, including the low SES school and community national partnership focused on outcomes (including accessing university) for low SES students. The schooling and higher education sectors have implemented many initiatives to support the transition of non-traditional student groups to further their education. There is considerable interest in these matters at Adelaide's universities, and also the three TAFEs and the schooling and early childhood sector. You will know about UNAP. UniSA (led by Hilary Winchester) has also recently secured funds to run a 'University Aspirations' suite of programs in the northern Adelaide regions. Flinders University is also running similar programs in the south. The Smith Family also runs programs in several Adelaide and SA schools, as does Anglicare.

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