

PraxisAuril Annual Conference 2022 - Call for Abstracts

We are inviting the submission of abstracts to contribute to a range of sessions planned for the PraxisAuril Conference in June 2022.

The details below outline the parallel sessions and the content that will be sought from the community. The final programme may be amended to reflect the content received, so we also welcome content that isn't an exact match to the descriptions below.

To submit an abstract, please complete the form found on the conference webpages and email to conference@praxisauril.org.uk.

Strand title	Engagement Innovation: KE to increase audience diversity'	KE Capacity Building: supporting the KE professional's skills development	Universities as Anchor institutions: journeys along the Research and Knowledge Exchange Continuum
Strand team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yvonne Kinnaird – Strathclyde University • Stuart Duncan – University of St Andrews • Britta Wyatt - Oxentia • Rebecca Edwards – Bournemouth University 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amanda Selvaratnam, University of York • Rhian North, Cardiff University • Alicen Nickson, Cranfield University 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tim Brundle, Ulster University • Chris Hewson, University of York • Caroline Hyde, Cambridge Enterprise
Strand description	<p>Knowledge exchange and commercialisation succeeds by adapting mechanisms that reflect the needs and cultures of specific audiences.</p> <p>Through workshops, seminars and expert panels, delegates will learn from examples of innovative KE practice that has reached new audiences, to inspire the adoption of</p>	<p>Knowledge Exchange Professionals play a pivotal role in facilitating knowledge exchange and require a varied skillset to play this role successfully.</p> <p>Through facilitated discussions, workshops and case studies, delegates will reflect on the pivotal role of the PraxisAuril community in supporting KE; focusing on the</p>	<p>Knowledge Exchange is key to the role of universities as anchor institutions, engaging communities and delivering value in the context of regional economic, social and political imperatives.</p> <p>Through panel sessions and case studies, delegates will hear examples of how HEPs have developed strategies to reflect the</p>

	novel approaches within their own organisations.	implementation of Knowledge Exchange Concordat Action Plans, development of the KE skills framework, and effective utilisation of skills in diverse partnership development.	needs and priorities of their communities, and how they have responded to social upheaval and change – both planned and unplanned – in the research and innovation ecosystem.
Session 1 title	Equality, Diversity & Inclusion: How KE can enable more inclusive practice	Implementing KE Concordat Action Plans	The KE contribution to Recovery, Levelling Up and ‘Building Back Better’
Session 1 description	<p>Members are invited to showcase initiatives that systematically embed greater equality, and diversity in KE practice and audiences. In particular, we are keen to hear of the challenges faced (such as the lack of women or BAME representation in KE) and ways in which the KE community can tackle them, including indicators of progress to date.</p> <p>We invite members to share examples of new or adapted programmes, and/or strategies and policies to enable the delivery of knowledge exchange that reflects our wider society. This could include but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversity in commercialisation • Improving EDI in enterprise & innovation at HEIs • Increasing disciplinary engagement 	<p>This facilitated session would be an opportunity for delegates to share best practice, thoughts, frustrations, and ideas from colleagues involved in the implementation of the KEC Action Plans.</p> <p>Each of the 8 KEC principles will have a table and delegates will each take part in 3-4 facilitated table discussions on 3-4 different principles.</p>	<p>We are keen to hear about the value KE teams have provided over the last two years, as HEPs seek to redefine their role in sometimes choppy waters.</p> <p>Topics could include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-partner working around place-based priorities • Local authority engagement in the context of Covid • Engagement with the Civic Universities agenda • Universities as drivers of local economic development (including working with LEPs) • Extending the scope of the TTO (e.g. engagement with SHAPE disciplines, developing measures of social value)

<p>Session 1 format</p>	<p>We are looking for 3 to 4 presentations followed by discussion around the good practice delegates can take back to institutions.</p> <p>Please submit abstracts for case studies of no more than 15 minutes each.</p>	<p>For this session we are looking for volunteers to be a table host: the role of the table host will be to make sure discussions flow, that everyone has the opportunity to speak, and that people jot down ideas on the tablecloth.</p> <p>Table hosts will stay on their table for the whole session and attendees will move across 3-4 different tables. Table hosts will be asked to provide a short overview of the discussions which will be shared with all attendees.</p> <p>Please indicate whether you have a preference for a specific KEC principle.</p>	<p>We are looking for a range of submissions, typically in the form of 10-15 minute talks.</p> <p>We envisage that some sessions will operate as discussion panels, and some as a series of related talks with a Q&A component.</p>
<p>Session 2 title</p>	<p>Student KE and innovative enabling practice</p>	<p>Building an effective KE Function</p>	<p>University strategies as drivers of research-based KE and impact</p>
<p>Session 2 description</p>	<p>Student and graduate activities now form a significant element of KE practice within HEPs. But how do we ensure students are effectively supported and how can we deliver innovative practice in a way that is supported by funders?</p> <p>We invite case-studies on the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we capture and demonstrate that we are enabling student KE (<i>e.g.</i> 	<p>No two HEPs are the same when it comes to structuring the institutional KE function and there is a huge range of KE-related roles and responsibilities across our sector. How can HEPs build the most effective structure for their KE approach, and recruit and retain the right KE staff?</p> <p>Topics could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment and key skills for KE professionals 	<p>We are keen to hear examples of KE goals embedded within top-level HEI strategies, in addition to examples where KE teams have shaped and refined whole university approaches to impact, engagement and citizenship</p> <p>Topics could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HEI commitments to KE embedded in strategic planning

	<p><i>through metrics and by attracting funding)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case studies of student KE programmes that increase skills and employability (<i>How, what, where – tips for what works, what doesn't, and replication</i>) • What are the new forms of student KE and their benefits, or are mechanisms such as placements and KTPs their mainstay? (<i>What have you trialed and what has proved most effective? How do you realise the wider benefits of student KE?</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional development training of KE staff • Best practice in supporting impact and/or enterprise • Comparing and contrasting different institutional models of impact and/or KE support • Innovative approaches to evaluating impact of KE teams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) to align activities and measure success • New models for strategic academic-led partnership engagement • Capacity building in the context of challenge-led funding • Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) and impact investing in university seed and investment strategies.
Session 2 format	<p>We are looking for 3 to 4 short presentations followed by discussion around the good practice delegates can take back to institutions.</p> <p>Submissions are encouraged to incorporate topics or points for debate, highlighting particular challenges and what has not worked in practice as well as successful interventions.</p>	<p>We are looking for 3 to 4 presentations that can be used in a case-study or panel discussion to draw out key learning points.</p>	<p>We are looking for a range of submissions, typically in the form of a 10-15 minute talk which will be incorporated into a panel session, or a series of related talks with a Q&A component.</p> <p>We will target an invited speaker to this session who has undertaken SDG work at the university level (e.g. in relation to top-level KPIs).</p>
Session 3 title	International Practice and innovation	Building Effective Partnerships with the Public and Private Sector	KE working within the Policy and Innovation landscape
Session 3 description	Knowledge, and its exchange, is a global business and critical for securing rapid	We are keen to hear from PraxisAuril members, Public and Private Sector	We are keen to hear examples of university policy functions working with and alongside

innovation. In this session, we are keen to learn about how knowledge exchange across global borders extends the impact of the UK knowledge base and furthers global knowledge exchange practice.

Topics might include:

- **How are universities using KEC to build their global links?** (e.g. in CPD, global knowledge exchange festivals, etc.)
 - **How can we leverage our international alumni networks for KE?** (e.g. ways to involve them in KE such as by sitting on spinouts boards, connections with investors, etc.)
 - **Doing KE overseas** (lessons learned or examples of trying to do collaborative research, commercialisation, and reach industry partners in other countries.)
- What can we learn from KE teams in other countries?** (How does it work? What are the differences and similarities? How do innovative ecosystems affect KE?)

organisations and/or the NHS who have built long term sustainable partnerships with each other.

Topics could include:

- Best practice engagement – local, national and international – as recognised by all partners
- Innovative collaboration models
- What skills KE professionals and academics need to engage with this type of external partner.

KE teams to deliver targeted social and economic benefit.

Topics could include:

- Innovative use of Policy QR funding at a range of scales
- Using UK Government ARIs (Areas of Research Interest) to support KE activity
- Support models for research teams seeking impact across the policy and business space
- Working with place-based funding schemes and agencies
- The HE contribution to innovation debates (including the evidence base).

<p>Session 3 format.</p>	<p>We are looking for 3 to 4 presentations that can be used in a case-study or panel discussion to draw out key learning points.</p> <p>We encourage presentations that involve partners / collaborators from overseas.</p>	<p>This will be a panel session with case studies from externals who have developed partnerships with universities.</p> <p>We are especially interested in having speakers from partner organisations, rather than the university partner, so we can hear their perspective on what worked well and what barriers or issues they had to address to ensure a productive partnership.</p>	<p>We are looking for a range of submissions, typically in the form of a 10-15 minute talk which will be incorporated into a panel session, or a series of related talks with a Q&A component.</p> <p>We will invite a UPEN representative to this session (dependant on the shape of the session) to contribute to discussions.</p>
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January 2022