

“Permit us to question — to doubt, that’s all — to not be sure.” Richard Feynman (1955)

This flyer provides details of the first Research and Practice in HE Seminar of 2018.

All staff are welcome, and are encouraged to attend.

Refreshments will be available from 4.00pm and the seminar will start at 4.15pm.

To [book a place](#) please email TlAcademy@ljmu.ac.uk

4.15pm – 5.30pm, Wednesday 14th February
Roscoe Boardroom, Egerton Court

Near Future Teaching: building a collective vision for digital education

Professor Sian Bayne, University of Edinburgh

Abstract

‘Futures thinking’ has become popular over recent years as a way for institutions to understand the implications of rapid social and technological change. It is often defined as a form of ‘design thinking’ in which creative and speculative responses to change are co-developed across communities. Within universities there is a growing trend to apply this method to collaborative thinking about futures for teaching and learning, often as a way of understanding how digital shifts are re-shaping education. These initiatives tend to be characterised by their focus on speculative, big ideas, and by collaborative approaches which engage with as wide a group of people as possible.

At The University of Edinburgh we are conducting ‘futures’ work specifically on digital education, across undergraduate, postgraduate, on-campus and distance modes. Our aim is to enable a wide conversation to

take place among students and staff about how we would like to see digital education grow over the coming decades, and from that to build a vision for the university which balances technological change with the values of our academic and student body.

In this talk I will describe how we are going about this project, and will share some of the project outputs and visions. I will explore some of the key themes which are emerging – including the ‘hollowing out’ of the campus, automation of teaching, creativity and diversity – and speculate on the implications of these for how we plan our digital futures.

Biography

Sian Bayne is Professor of Digital Education and Assistant Principal for Digital Education at The University of Edinburgh. Based in the Centre for Research in Digital Education, her research is currently focused on open and distance education and the application of theory from the humanities and social sciences to digital education.



More information about her work is on her web site at:
<http://sianbayne.net>

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