

Postgraduate Research & Writing Conference

Creative Connections

Tuesday 5th July 2016 DMU

Hugh Aston, 4th floor (4.10-15)



Speaker biographies

Julia Reeve

Julia is a DMU Teacher Fellow and co-ordinates the East Midlands Centre for Writing PAD: her research involves applying creative, arts-based methods to the teaching of theory in order to deepen learning and increase engagement.

Julia is the Research ELT Officer for the Graduate School, and joined the CELT team in June 2015. Her role involves the design, development and evaluation of online courses for PhD researchers, and work towards a Virtual Graduate School at DMU. Julia is particularly interested in inclusive approaches to learning design, with an emphasis on visual learning.

Before moving into teaching, Julia worked as a designer in the fashion industry, and then spent around 10 years as a lecturer in Further Education. She joined DMU in 2006, and worked as a Senior Lecturer in Art, Design & Humanities for 9 years, delivering Critical & Contextual Studies across a range of Fashion programmes.

Kaye Towlson

Kaye Towlson, Academic Team Manager (Information Literacy and Teaching), DMU Teacher Fellow, De Montfort University. Kaye has worked as a Librarian for many years; she ran the business information service at DMU and has worked as a subject Librarian with responsibility for a variety of Humanities subjects.

Her research interests include information literacy and employability, visual and creative learning techniques and digital identity. She has experimented with visual learning techniques within a library and information literacy and other contexts. She is interested in using visual and creative techniques to overcome textual barriers for visual learners and visual disciplines.

Dr Julia Lockheart

Dr Julia Lockheart is Senior Lecturer in Writing in Creative Practice at Goldsmiths, University of London, director and co-founder of the Writing-PAD project and joint editor and co-founder of the Journal of Writing in Creative Practice. Julia has studied both Fine Art and TESOL to MA level and is also qualified to teach adults with SpLDs (Dyslexia). She recently completed her PhD research in the Design department at Goldsmiths. She has presented and published both nationally and internationally.

Dr Alison James

Alison James is Associate Dean Learning & Teaching at the London College of Fashion and a Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy in the UK. Her higher education career has focused on working with creative arts staff and students and in May 2014 Alison was awarded a National Teaching Fellowship in the UK. She has worked in creative arts education in a variety of guises, across all levels and many subjects – as educational and staff developer, researcher and policy maker and teacher. Her trademark is creative and interactive approaches to pedagogy with a high level of staff and student involvement and plenty of humour to go with.

While studying and writing she worked in full time learning and teaching roles and developed her longstanding interests in alternative and creative pedagogies, identity and self – construction in learning contexts, reflective practice and personal and professional development. A fascination with alternative and creative approaches to PPD led her to experiment with Lego as a research tool and then to become an accredited facilitator of Lego Serious Play (LSP). She uses this methodology extensively to developing reflective thinking on a range of curriculum design and delivery issues, as well as for helping staff and students explore matters important to them.

She has presented widely on all of these subjects and published in creative arts journals and edited collections. In 2013 she received an excellent teaching award from the University of the Arts London for her work with Lego Serious Play and student learning.

Harriet Edwards

Harriet Edwards has worked across various London universities for over 20 years. Earlier work focused on English for Academic Purposes and much work with international students.

From 2002 to 2006 Harriet worked as a team member of Writing-PAD, a UK FDTL project that carries on today as a network. Harriet is an editor for its 'Journal of Writing in Creative Practice' and currently works at UAL across Academic Support and Contextual Studies. Her PhD (Leeds Beckett, 2012) focused on the relationship between design/drawing practices and writing practices.