



“ Exploring the experience of Black Minority and Ethnic students in Higher Education... ”

*University of Chester Law School presents a one day
Research Symposium*

Thursday, 16th February 2012
Westminster Building, Chester Campus

This symposium will seek to explore the experiences of Black, Minority, Ethnic (BME) students within Higher Education. Researchers from the University of Chester's Law School have recently completed a funded research project into the experiences of BME students within the host institution. The recognised need for research in this area is particularly compelling in relation to the experience of ethnic minority undergraduates on a campus (the research site) with a low proportion of BME staff and students. The aim of the day is to bring together academics, educational professionals and students to discuss some of the key themes which have emerged from the research.

The symposium is being hosted and subsidised by the University of Chester's Diversity and Equality Festival. Attendance is free but limited to the first 100 applicants.

If you would like to attend please contact:

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Please indicate which afternoon group you wish to attend (see programme) and if you will require parking

Directions and campus map can be found at: http://www.chester.ac.uk/find_chester



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It is anticipated that the research carried out by the University of Chester Law School will add to the emerging body of national and international work in this area and assist in understanding the BME experience within the research institution and other UK HEIs, and also universities and colleges in the wider European context. In particular it is expected that it will provide a firm evidential base for the development of institutional policy and strategy in this important area, with a particular focus on the learning experience and progression of BME students.

In addition to various external calls for further research in this area, the necessity for institutional research into the BME student experience is reinforced by the basic statutory requirements in the UK imposed by the public sector equality duty, and pursuant to the Equality Act 2010.

The morning session will provide an opportunity to hear about some of the key research in this area from the Equality Challenge Unit, the National Union of Students and Leeds Metropolitan University. The afternoon will facilitate group work to discuss issues and identify ideas and initiatives for future development in this research area.

Programme

9:15 am	Tea/Coffee
9:25 am	Welcome address
9:30 am	Dr. Matthew Garrett and Chantal Davies The BME Experience at a small Northern University
10:00 am	Robert Holland Research & Policy Officer, National Union of Students
10:30 - 11:30 am	Tea/Coffee
11:00 am	Jacqueline Stevenson Reader in Widening Participation, Leeds Metropolitan University
11:30 am	Claire Herbert Senior Policy Officer, Equality Challenge Unit
12:00 - 1.30 pm	Lunch
1:30 - 2:30 pm	GROUP A: The BME student experience and feelings of belonging GROUP B: The BME student experience and perceptions of employability GROUP C: The BME student experience and marketing implications GROUP D: The BME student experience and inclusive practice
2:30 - 2:45 pm	Tea/Coffee
2:45 - 3:00 pm	Group feedback
3:30 - 3:45 pm	Summary and close



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