

Universities of Sanctuary Steering group

Bates, Maggie Senior Manager Widening Access

I am the Senior Manager for Widening Access at The Open University in Northern Ireland. I have worked for the OU for 7 years and have held a variety of roles; including Educational Adviser and Disability Support Adviser. I am interested in joining the University of Sanctuary as this work fits well with my widening access remit – especially in regards to the Community Partnerships strand of our work. Ireland, both North and South, is becoming increasingly demographically diverse and therefore I feel it is vital that we join with the work being done to achieve the goal of University of Sanctuary; to be able to better promote the opportunities offered by The Open University for asylum seekers and refugees. <http://www.open.ac.uk/people/mb25758>

Boukouvala, Elena Research Student

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/keb383>

Bowes-Catton, Helen Lecturer RES, Graduate School

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/hhc33>

Bower, Sarah has been an associate lecturer in FASS for almost 13 years, teaching creative writing at both undergraduate and postgraduate level (A363, A802, A803). Her work includes teaching students in secure environments.

She is based in Norwich, which is part of the Cities of Refuge network, and has devised and delivered schools workshops on behalf of the Refugee Council to share refugee stories. These were delivered jointly with refugee tutors. She has visited Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan and has been part of the UN protective presence at the olive harvest in the West Bank.

For ten years she ran and raised funds for a mentoring scheme for emerging literary translators which gave her an appreciation of the importance of language and cultural exchange among second and subsequent generation refugees as well as current forced migrants.

She mentors fellow novelists through The Literary Consultancy Chapter and Verse scheme and is a former Samaritans listening volunteer. Earlier this year she undertook research for a FASSTEST Scholarship project looking at ways to improve mental health support for students and associate lecturers.

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Charitonos, Koula, Senior Lecturer IET / WELS

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/kc4683>

Castle-Herbert, Alayla, OU Wales Policy Officer (Learning & Teaching)

Dancu, Lidia (Access Participation and Success Scotland) has worked with asylum seekers and refugees in Glasgow, and with displaced people in India. Her interest in human rights and access to justice have seen her support work in asylum, human trafficking and for Shakti Women's Aid. Lidia's current work is in students' mental health and wellbeing. She is on the

Advisory Board of the Open Justice Centre and works in the online law clinic. Lidia.dancu@open.ac.uk
[Http://www.open.ac.uk/people/ld8975](http://www.open.ac.uk/people/ld8975)

Darcy, John Director Ireland

John D'Arcy has been The Open University's National Director for Ireland since 2010, working in its Belfast and Dublin offices as well as being a member of the University's Council, Senate, Vice Chancellor's Executive and Senior Team at Milton Keynes. Prior to joining The Open University, John was Chief Executive of Colleges Northern Ireland; Director of BDO Management Consultants; Principal Officer for Research and Statistics, Northern Ireland Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment; and Research Fellow with the Northern Ireland Council for Educational Research.

Aside of his main work, John has led a number of major initiatives in a range of sectors in Northern Ireland. He is a trustee of The Light body Foundation; he was founding Chair of the Oh Yeah Music Centre and is a former Chair of Enterprise Northern Ireland and Audiences Northern Ireland. He is currently a Board member of the Open College Network in Northern Ireland; a member of the Matrix Panel (Northern Ireland's Science Industry Advisory Panel) and AONTAS, Ireland's Lifelong Learning Organisation. John has also been a Board member of Sport Northern Ireland and the BBC's Broadcasting Council. He has a keen interest in educational technology and was The Open University's lead consultant on its 'Languages of Ulster' television programme for BBC Northern Ireland. He is also a founder of The Open University's recently launched digital archive 'Time To Think: Open University journeys in British and Irish prisons during the years of conflict 1972-2000'. John was awarded an OBE in The Queen's Birthday Honours for services to education and the arts.

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/jda233>

Downes, Julia Lecturer in Criminology

I am a Lecturer in Criminology in FASS. The overarching aim of my work is to document and honour the lived complexities, struggles of, and impacts on, survivors of violence who are marginalised by the criminal legal system and systemic oppression. This constitutes a critical exploration of criminal justice, specialist sector and transformative justice responses to gender-based violence with particular attention to intersections of race, class, disability, gender, age and sexuality. Since October 2019, I am the FASS Academic Lead for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. In this role I aim to support staff and students in our collective process of institutional and cultural transformation to cultivate an inclusive learning community aligned with our social justice mission. I have particular interests in trauma-informed learning, decolonising higher education, non-oppressive practice, student co-creation methods and intersectionality.

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/jd23778>

Erel, Umut Professor of Sociology

Umut Erel is Professor of Sociology at The Open University. She has widely researched and written on gender, migration, racism and citizenship. This has included work on the experiences of refugees, her work uses arts based and participatory approaches.

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/ue27>

Graffin, Neil Senior Lecturer in Law

Neil is a Snr Lecturer in International Law at The Open University. Prior to this Neil studied for a PhD in Law in Queen's University Belfast, where he also completed both his undergraduate and postgraduate degrees. Neil has also worked as an Associate Lecturer with The Open University and a Teaching Assistant at Queen's University.

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/ng3279>

Haider, Suki Tutor or Consultant

I'm a history and social science tutor and AL rep. My research interest is in decolonising the history curriculum and staff-student collaboration. I am supporting this initiative as it is a chance for me to put my values in to action. I want to DO something to help refugees achieve their academic and career goals. Expressing support for the victims whose stories are told on the news is not enough. As far as the OU is concerned, this is its opportunity to put its mission statement, on 'openness' into practice. By becoming a University of Sanctuary, the OU will be making a significant political gesture that it is important to give refugee and asylum students the opportunity to improve their life chances. It is also my view that the OU will benefit from having a more diverse student body.

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/sh8548>

Hameed, Arooba

I am a 2nd year under-graduate student in university of Bristol. I am also the founder of the Community organisation named H.E.A.R.

about the community organisation.

I am assisting individuals get access into education. this includes Asylum Seekers, Discretionary leave to remain, Limited leave to remain, humanitarian Protection and Refugees. We are helping them integrate into society, up-skill themselves and assist them in moving forward.

in terms of the initiative, we want that the individuals can be provided with the right courses where they can excel, provided they have support. We will be signposting them to you, however due to their situation, in terms of limited finances, this will be a go initiative to take forward.

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Haslam, Sara Professor of Twentieth-Century Literature/DRD, FASS

Sara Haslam is Professor of Twentieth-Century Literature, and Director of Research Degrees in FASS. The opportunity to work with colleagues on the University of Sanctuary project team is particularly welcome to her because of its promotion of social justice. It's also great to learn more about colleagues' work in related areas. As DRD she has had the opportunity to engage with recent OU PhDs researching the experience of refugees internationally - she hopes these studies can feed into the project? And in the DRD role she is focused currently, along with many colleagues, on trying to improve the experience of international students in the hostile environment, generally and as a result of the pandemic. She hopes that her research, on 'literary caregiving' in particular, will prove useful as the project develops.

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/sjh673>

Hauck, Mirjam is the Associate Head for Internationalisation, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in the School of Languages and Applied Linguistics at The Open University/UK and a Senior Fellow of the UK's Higher Education Academy. She has [published widely](#) on the use of technologies for the learning and teaching of languages and cultures, in virtual exchange (VE) contexts in particular. Her work covers aspects such as intercultural communicative competence, and critical digital literacy with a focus on VE for social justice. She presents regularly at conferences, seminars, and workshops worldwide, is the President of the European Association for Computer Assisted Language Learning ([EUROCALL](#)), serves as Associate Editor of the *CALL Journal*, and is a member of the editorial board of *ReCALL* and *LLT*. She is also a founding board member of [UNICollaboration.org](#), a cross-disciplinary professional organisation for telecollaboration and VE in Higher Education
<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/mch9>

Hosier, Gillian Head of Philanthropy and Events
<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/hg399>

Jeffcott, Leah Philanthropy Manager
<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/lj4854>

Foreman, Tania Executive Assistant
<https://uk.linkedin.com/in/tania-foreman-8b0008183>

Foster, Matthew Director International Devl Office
<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/mf7463>

Guillaume Laura Tutor or Consultant
I have a PhD in International Politics from Aberystwyth University and have been involved in a range of grassroots initiatives aimed at assisting refugees under the community sponsorship scheme. I have taught for The Open University as an AL for 11 years and have become increasingly impressed by the university's commitment to social inclusion and would love to be part of expanding its contribution to communities seeking sanctuary.

<https://uk.linkedin.com/in/lag327>

Johnson, Jhumar Senior Aide to the Vice-Chancellor since Jan 2002
<https://uk.linkedin.com/in/jhumarjohnson>

Lee, Simon Simon Lee became Professor of Law at The Open University in December 2015. He also served as Director of Citizenship & Governance Research in 2016, 2017 and 2018. He is Emeritus Professor of Jurisprudence, Queen's University, Belfast. Simon Lee writes about law, ethics, religion, politics, history and sport.
<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/sfl64>

Kassem, Hossam Learning and Teaching Librarian
My name is Hossam Kassem. I am a Learning and Teaching Librarian at the OU. I came to the UK from Syria in Sep 2001 to study for LL.M and PhD in Law with the plan to go back to teach in Syria.

However, things changed since the start of the Syrian revolution and there was no way for me to go back due to the crimes committed by the Syrian regime, including arresting and torturing my brother and cosines, and killing other family members. The University of Sanctuary project mean a huge thing for me as it offer people who have been forced to leave their countries a place to develop and build their lives and gives them hope.

Kocabicak, Ece Lecturer in Sociology

I am currently working as a Lecturer in Sociology in the Department of Sociology at School of Social Sciences & Global Studies (2020-current). My teaching and research engage with the contemporary debates in sociology of development, intersectional political economy, feminist theory, comparative politics and political economy, varieties of gender regimes, and the global South. My contribution to the UoS working group would be related to the political economy of international migration addressing (1) in which ways the geographical inequalities and global governance lead to the international migration from the global South to the North, and (2) how far international migration supports the political economies of the global North.

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/ek5486>

Kodwani, Devendra Devendra joined The Open University Business School in 2004 and is Professor of Financial Management and Corporate Governance based in Department of Accounting and Finance. He was previously employed in India at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad; Gujarat University and the Tolani Institute of Management Studies. <http://www.open.ac.uk/people/dk2567>

Kukulska-Hulme, Agnes Professor of Learning Technology & Communication

I am a Professor in the Institute of Educational Technology with a special interest in opening up learning opportunities to marginalised and disadvantaged learners, including migrants and refugees. My research has a focus on the use of mobile technologies to make learning more readily available and more tailored or personalised to the specific support needs of those groups of learners. Since my original background is in linguistics and language learning, much of my work is on mobile assisted language learning and the broader concept of 'mobile assistance' through smartphones and intelligent assistants. I'm equally interested in the roles of first and second languages (especially English in global education) in facilitating or hindering learning opportunities among the target groups. I've recently obtained external funding from the British Council for an international project on marginalised learners, technology and the English language in four countries in Asia and Africa. I also have an internally RES-funded project on marginalised learners in Higher Education in Nepal and Kenya.

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/ak35>

Mackintosh, Maureen . Professor of Economics. Research interests revolve around the economics of markets in social sectors, especially markets for health services and pharmaceuticals. The organisation of health systems and their impact on poverty and inequality, notably in African contexts.

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/mmm4>

McCafferty, Heide

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/hm5437>

McFaul, Hugh Senior Lecturer in Law, Director Open Justice Centre

I am a [Director of the Open Justice Centre](#) at The Open University and a consultant for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. In these roles, I've developed a range of innovative community-based initiatives and am particularly interested in harnessing the potential of online technologies to support the work of civil society organisations. I'm interested in the University of Sanctuary initiative because its ambition to fully support students from an asylum-seeking background resonates strongly with the OU's core aim of **being** open to people, places, methods and ideas.

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/hjm242>

McSorley, Kelvin Senior Lecturer in Sociology

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/km27793>

Mohan, Giles Chair of International Development

A Professor of International Development at The Open University in the UK. His research focuses on the challenges facing Africa, and starts from the recognition that while Africa has been subject to external influence for decades Africans themselves are the shapers of their own development. Professor Mohan is particularly interested in 'new' actors in African development and the threats and opportunities they offer for the continent. This has led to work on structural adjustment, participatory development, diasporas and development, and most recently China's engagement with Africa. Funded by a series of grants from the Economic and Social Research Council his recent projects have focused on China's aid to Africa, Chinese business migrants in Africa, the impacts of China's oil investments in Africa, and migration's potential contributions to inclusive growth. Professor Mohan has also sought to engage with learning beyond universities and he has worked with the BBC on TV programmes about development, as well as working with African and international NGOs on various capacity-building and training initiatives.

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/gm2557>

Martin, Shannon - Shannon Martin is a first-year PhD student based in the Sociology department; her research involves investigating race, racism, and decolonisation at The Open University. Shannon's research interests revolve around improving access and equality for all within higher education institutions.

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Munro, Page – Partnerships Officer (Open University in Scotland)

page.munro@open.ac.uk - Profile to follow

Murphy, Kerry – Though Kerry's work is largely focussed on STEM education in Africa and the economic empowerment of girls and young women. He is also a co-applicant on a recent FCDO consortium bid on *Educational Research in areas of Conflict and Protracted Crisis* (including South Sudan, Syria, northern Nigeria and Myanmar).

A couple of years ago Kerry attended a conference on Science4Refugees organised by the European Commission and wrote about it in a short piece for the IDO newsletter.

[ID@OU: Latest News & Events \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

Murray, Rebecca 'Dr Rebecca Murray's academic research and practice across the statutory and non-statutory sector focused on the marginalisation and precarity encountered by forced migrants. Rebecca is a Research Associate and a University Teacher working across the University of Sheffield's Department of Sociological Studies and the School of Education. Rebecca graduated from the University of Sheffield after having completed her ESRC-funded PhD in the field of Human Geography. Rebecca's doctoral thesis entitled '*Navigating the Higher Education Border: Routes to Belonging for Forced Migrant Students in the UK & Sweden*', is a comparative study exploring the role of universities in creating 'routes to belonging' for forced migrant students in the UK and Sweden.

From 2008 - 2018, Rebecca founded and acted as the Director of the Article 26 project, which worked in partnership with UK universities to create scholarships for forced migrant students. This project has been integrated into [Universities of Sanctuary](#) and Rebecca continues her involvement as a member of the steering committee. Recent publications include the compendium of [Sanctuary Scholarship](#) resources (2018), which were created in collaboration with three UK universities, the 'Let us Learn' initiative and three sanctuary scholars supported by the project. '[Education for All](#)' (2014) was published to support the transition from external management to mainstreaming and embedding scholarship schemes for forced migrants within university services.'

Mutwarasibo, Fidele FBL

I am a Visiting Research Fellow at the Centre for Voluntary Sector Leadership based in the Faculty of Business and Law (The Open University). I have worked on many initiatives at The OU, including facilitating learning clubs for voluntary sector leaders, curating content for the OU's year of migration portal for several months in 2018, undertaking scoping research on civic leadership and researching the leadership capacity of Black and Minority Ethnic voluntary sector organisations in Milton Keynes. I have extensive academic, lived and practical expertise in migration. In addition to migration and integration, my interest in research and practice revolves around equality, diversity, inclusion, participation, representation, and leadership on racial equity.

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/fm5289>

Pryke, Michael Professor of Economic Geography

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/mdp5>

Raghuram, Parvati Professor of Geography and Migration

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/pr2892>

Ryan, Francine Senior Lecturer in Law, Director Open Justice Centre

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/fmr52>

Ryan, Gill (Access Participation and Success Scotland) leads on the forced migration project work in the OU in Scotland, undertaking outreach to communities and voluntary sector organisations to identify pathways into OU study, and contributing to the university's application to become a University of Sanctuary. Gill is co-author of the [Refugee Learning Stories](#) blog and has written on displaced people and education. Gill.ryan@open.ac.uk

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/gpr78>

Sarantidis, Dimos Research Student

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/ds25536>

Sondhi, Gunjan Lecturer in geography. Research interests focus on the interplay between gender, class, education and skilled mobility. This work has stretched across South Asia, Southeast Asia, North America and the UK/EU to examining the mobility of international students, and highly skilled migrants within academia, the IT sector and Finance.

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/gs7948>

Soper, Viki (Access, Participation & Success Scotland) works on the Students in Secure Environments programme in the OU in Scotland and so has experience of education provision in an offline environment with little to no digital access. Prior to working in Access, Participation & Success she managed the provision of information, advice and guidance in Student Recruitment & Support Scotland; enabling and empowering students from all backgrounds to meet their study goals.

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Tahar, Maryam

Maryam is the University of Sanctuary Coordinator within the City of Sanctuary. She graduated through one of the Sanctuary Scholarships and is a member of the Equal Access network at STAR (Student Action for Refugees). She is now working on supporting Universities to join the network, apply for the award, and providing information and resources to help make universities more accessible and welcoming for people seeking protection.

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Thomas, Lynnette Deputy Director, Strategy & Development (Wales)

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/lmt373>

Tremlett, Paul Francois Snr lecturer in religious studies. Interested in classical and contemporary anthropological and sociological theories of religion, and the broad constitution of religion as a site of study in societies experiencing rapid social change. My current research interests can be summed up as follows:

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/pt3595>

Seal, Tim – Senior Manager (TEL) International Development

<https://www.open.ac.uk/about/international-development/overview/meet-team/tim-seal-technical-director-tess-india>

Senior Manager within the International development Office and specialist in the use of digital media for learning, with over 25 years' experience across UK, Africa and South Asian

contexts. A particular focus on OER and open learning including inclusion and accessibility. Part of the Global Refugee Tertiary Education Task Force supporting the 15by30 target. Along with Koula Charitonos represent the OU as part of the Connected Learning in Crisis Consortium. Previous co-chair and current member of the IT for development Bond working group. Most recent work has been focussed in Myanmar with the projects TIDE and TREE both of which, to some extent, have a focus on supporting more open and online pedagogies and increasing access.

Tindall, Simon Head of New Business

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/st9728>

Van-Eg-Dom-Tuinstra, Wannette, Law Tutor

Westergreen-Thorne, Margaret Associate Lecture (Social Science)

Wilcock, Ceri Assistant Director, Student Experience, L&T (Wales)

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/cw3767>

Wilson, Marcia – EDI Dean

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/mw25749>

Wolf John Prof of Religious History, FASS Soc Sci & Global Studies

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/jrw3>

Yussuf, Hakeem – Head of Law School#

<http://www.open.ac.uk/people/hy456>

University of Sanctuary Advisory Group

Abigail Grace National Coordinator, University of Sanctuary

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