

Implications for research, policy and practice

Access & WP Network

June 2009

Professor Penny Jane Burke



Society for Research into Higher Education

Welcome

- Introduction to seminar
- Introduction to Network
- Aims of Network

Researching WP

- Seminar series
- Professor Louise Morley (11 November)
- Professor Carole Leathwood and Dr Barbara Read (January 2010)
- Professor Penny Jane Burke and Jackie McManus (March 2010)

Programme

- 1:45 pm: Speaker - Professor Miriam David, 'Diversity and Widening Participation in HE'
- 2:30 pm: Working groups - making links between research, policy and practice
- 3:00 pm: Tea and coffee
- 3:15 pm: Plenary discussion
- 3:45 pm: Final reflections from Professor Miriam David

Aims

- As well as having input from a very experienced and senior researcher in the field, to think about the concerns we all bring as members of a community concerned with WP
- Research is extremely important in shaping the WP agenda – in terms of strategy, policy, practice and the everyday and common sense assumptions that frame our approaches and thinking in all dimensions of our work

Aims

- opportunity to make links with the research Miriam discusses in her talk and with wider methodological, epistemological and ethical challenges in terms of the future of research on widening participation
- to think about the how, why and what of the research we develop and do within the particular contexts and constraints we are facing

Aims

- how research might be used to impact on policy
- how we might build better links and dialogue between the community of researchers and practitioners
- specific methodological considerations and challenges

Aims

- what we mean by widening participation – what are the meanings at play and what are the implications of those meanings for those who become the subjects of research and policy?

Aims

- the WP Network itself –its aims, formats, contribution, membership -- who participates and how, the resources required, and the issues we hope the Network will help us to address and how the Network might be able to do that

Aims

- Opportunity for discussion amongst Network members and others in the community – different perspectives, concerns and issues

Questions for our discussion groups

- Where are we now with research on widening participation and what are the key challenges for the future?
- What are the methodological and ethical challenges, particularly in relation to making an impact on policy and practice?
- How do we see the role of the WP Network in contributing to the development of research on widening participation?
- What do you want from the WP Network as a community of researchers, policy-makers, practitioners concerned with widening participation?
- Any other key questions or concerns your group wants to raise...
- Please be ready to feedback the key issues discussed in the plenary session....