



The Graduate Employment Conference #GEC13

Thursday 30th May 2013, 9:30am - 4:00pm, Sheffield Town Hall

Programme:

9:30 - 10:00 Registration and coffee/tea

10:00 – 10.15 Welcome and introduction from Conference Chair and sponsors

Martin Edmondson, CEO of Gradcore
Ed Highfield from the RISE programme

10:15 - 10:45 Eastern Promise

Femi Bola MBE – Director of Employability, University of East London

10:45 - 11:15 Bridging the Gap - Connecting SMEs and Graduate

Leigh Sear – CEO of SFEDI Solutions, and Author of the 2013 BIS report into graduates and SMEs

11:15 - 11:30 Refreshment break

11:30 - 12:20 Panel Debate: Creating better connections between Universities and Employers

Jane Kidd – Resourcing specialist, Graduates, at ASDA
Therese Reinheimer-Jones - Director of Student Services –Kingston University
Lauren Hornbuckle – 2013 Graduate Apprentice

12:20 - 13:00 Real life resilience

Suzi Rees – CEO of the social enterprise DDAA solutions – Suzi will tell her inspiring story of graduate resilience in adversity.

13:00 - 13:45 Lunch and networking

13:45 - 14:00 Unconference introduction

14:00 – 14:50 Unconference Tracks 1/2/3

Track one: Employability strategy – Richard Blackwell (DVC, Southampton Solent University) and Martin Edmondson (CEO, Gradcore)

Track two: Regional graduate recruitment – Nicola Turner (Director of Employability, Aston University) and John Cusworth (Business partnerships manager, Gradcore)

Track three: Graduates and SMEs – how can we build better connections between graduates and SMEs – Leigh Sear and Edward Highfield (Director, Creative Sheffield)

15:00 - 15:50 Unconference Tracks 4/5/6

Track four: Reaching the graduates that are hard to reach – Femi Bola and Joanne Beaumont (Head of careers, University of Bradford)

Track five: Key qualities of successful graduates – Vanessa Gough (Professional development manager, IBM) and Matthias Feist (Head of Careers and Business Relations, Regents University London)

Track six: Placements and work experience – Paul Helm (Director of Student services, Sheffield Hallam University) and Martin Reynolds and Vanessa Clarke (Birmingham City University)

15:50 - 16:00 Conference summary

16:00 – Conference close – Drinks and networking at the Mecure Hotel Bar (100 yards)