

CIRCLE U. NATIONAL CONFERENCE

TEACHING AND LIVING LEADERSHIP FOR ADDRESSING SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS - THE ROLE OF UNIVERSITIES

KING'S COLLEGE LONDON

19 May 2022



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1 ONLINE PROGRAMME

Circle U. National Conference – 19 May 2022 Teaching and living leadership for addressing Sustainable Development Goals - the role of universities	
Timing	Description
14.00-14.10	Official Welcome Professor Shitij Kapur, President & Principal, King's College London Professor 'Funmi Olonisakin, Vice President (Global Engagement), King's College London
14.10-14.40	Keynote Speech Mr Robert Skinner, Deputy Director and Chief of Partnerships and Global Engagement, Outreach Division, United Nations Department of Global Communications
14.40-15.30	Panel 1 - Leadership and Democratic Societies Chair: Professor Bobby Duffy, Professor of Public Policy and Director of the Policy Institute, King's College London Professor Tshilidzi Marwala, Vice-Chancellor, University of Johannesburg Professor Mette Halskov Hansen, Vice-Rector for Climate & the Environment and Cross-Disciplinarity, University of Oslo Professor Sandra R. G. Almeida, President, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais Q&A with panel
15.30-15.50	Break
15.50-16.40	Panel 2 – How impactful can universities be in achieving the SDGS? Chair: Professor José Celso Freire Junior, Associate Provost for International Affairs, UNESP Hamza Lone, Vice President Education, King's College London Student Union and Circle U. Student Representative Dr Robyn Klingler-Vidra, Reader in International Political Economy, King's College London Dr Tim Flink, Scientific Advisor to the Federal Parliament of Germany and affiliate member of the Robert Merton Center for Science Studies at Humboldt University Professor Joseph Wong, Vice-President International, University of Toronto Q&A with panel
16.40-17.00	Closing Remarks Mr Kevin Guillaume, Secretary General, Circle U. European University Alliance Professor 'Funmi Olonisakin, Vice President (Global Engagement), King's College London

2 SPEAKERS



Robert Skinner

Robert Skinner is the Deputy Director and Chief of Partnerships and Global Engagement in the Outreach Division of United Nations Department of Global Communications. Prior to this, Robert was the Director of the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) in Washington, DC, serving in this role from April 2021 to September 2021 and from November 2015 to July 2018. In between these periods, Robert was Senior Special Advisor in the UN's Department of Global Communications, focusing on the UN's COVID-19 Communications Response Initiative, and the Executive Director of the United Nations Office for Partnerships.

Prior to joining the UN, Robert was the Executive Director in the New York Office of the United Nations Foundation. Before joining the Foundation in 2006, Robert held several positions in the United States Department of State, including as Deputy Spokesperson at the United States Mission to the United Nations in New York, and as Public Affairs Officer for the United States Embassy in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. He also held diplomatic posts in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire and San Salvador, El Salvador.



Professor Bobby Duffy

Professor Bobby Duffy is Professor of Public Policy and Director of the Policy Institute, King's College London. He has worked across most public policy areas in his career of 30 years in policy research and evaluation, including being seconded to the Prime Minister's Strategy Unit.

Bobby sits on several advisory boards including Chairing both the Campaign for Social Science and the CLOSER Advisory Board, is a member of the Executive of the Academy of Social Sciences, a trustee of British Future and the Centre for Transforming Access and Student Outcomes in Higher Education (TASO) and a Senior Fellow of the Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy, University of Toronto.



Professor Tshilidzi Marwala

Professor Tshilidzi Marwala is the Vice-chancellor and Principal of the University of Johannesburg and before that he was the Deputy Vice-chancellor for Research and Internationalisation and Executive Dean of Engineering and the Built Environment, both at the University of Johannesburg. He is the Chair of the Africa Health Research Institute, a member of the Namibian 4IR Task Team and trustee of the Nelson Mandela Foundation.

Professor Marwala is an accomplished scholar with multidisciplinary research interests that include the theory and application of artificial intelligence to engineering, computer science, finance, social science and medicine. He has an extensive track record in human capacity development and has published 23 books on artificial intelligence.



Professor Mette Halskov Hansen

Mette Halskov Hansen has been Vice-Rector responsible for climate, environment and cross-disciplinarity at the University of Oslo since 2021. She is also a Professor of China studies, and has published widely on topics related to Chinese society, culture and politics, most recently about environmental issues.



Professor Sandra R. G. Almeida

Professor Sandra R. G. Almeida is currently the President of Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (UFMG), Brazil. She was UFMG Vice-President from 2014 to 2018, and Dean for International Affairs from 2002 to 2006. She is a Professor of English and Comparative Literatures at UFMG and a fellow researcher from the Brazilian funding agency CNPq. She is also the President of AUGM (Associação de Universidades do Grupo Montevidéu) and Vice-President of WUN (World University Network).



Professor José Celso Freire Junior

Professor José Celso Freire Junior has a PhD degree in Computer Science from Université Grenoble Alpes, France. He is an Associate Professor at São Paulo State University – UNESP, in Brazil, and for the last twelve years, he has been Associate Provost for International Affairs. In this role, he developed and is responsible for the university's internationalization strategy and has been working on its implementation by establishing effective and fruitful partnerships and linkages with several HEI worldwide. Prof Freire is the current Vice President of the Brazilian Association for International Education – FAUBAI, having been the Association's president from 2009 to 2017. As such, he has changed the Association's level of recognition in the world international education scenario. In his international journey, he has participated as a panellist in numerous events focused on the internationalization of higher education, such as Going Global, EAIE, AIEA, CAIE, and NAFSA.



Hamza Lone, Vice President Education, King's College London Student Union

Just last year, I graduated from King's College London after completing my Law degree. I am now due to start the Bar course in September 2022 as I begin to pursue a career as a barrister. This past year, I have been working as an elected representative of the KCL student body as the Vice-President of KCL Students' Union (KCLSU). In my capacity as KCLSU Vice-President, I have also been a member of the Circle U. Student Union, representing KCL more widely.



Dr Robyn Klingler-Vidra

Dr Robyn Klingler-Vidra is Reader in Political Economy at King's College London. She is the author of *The Venture Capital State: The Silicon Valley Model in East Asia* (Cornell University Press, 2018). She holds a Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange Research Grant (2019-2022).

Robyn's research focuses on government efforts to promote innovation, economic growth and entrepreneurial clusters and has been published in highly-ranked peer-reviewed journals, including *International Affairs*, *Journal of Development Studies*, *Journal of Small Business and Entrepreneurship*, *New Political Economy*, *Regulation & Governance* and *Socio-Economic Review*.



Dr Tim Flink

Dr Tim Flink works as a scientific advisor to the Federal Parliament of Germany in the Committee of Education, Research and Technology Assessment. He is an affiliate member of the Robert Merton Center for Science Studies at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, where he worked as a postdoctoral researcher, lecturer and co-ordinator of the master's program Social Studies of Science.

Tim is a leading international expert on science diplomacy and pioneered with the first conceptual and empirical study. His works cover a wide range of topics pertaining to research and higher education policymaking, including issues of research integrity, university governance, EU research policymaking, challenges of international and intercultural collaborations in research, and science policy advice. He wrote the first history of the European Research Council.



Professor Joseph Wong

Professor Joseph Wong is Vice-President, International, University of Toronto, where he is also the Roz and Ralph Halbert Professor of Innovation at the Munk School of Global Affairs, and Professor of Political Science. He held the Canada Research Chair in Health, Democracy, and Development for two terms from 2006 to 2016.

He is the author of many academic articles and several books, including *Healthy Democracies: Welfare Politics in Taiwan and South Korea* and *Betting on Biotech: Innovation and the Limits of Asia's Developmental State*, both published by Cornell University Press. Inspired by the Sustainable Development Goals, in collaboration with the Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth, Professor Wong founded the Reach Alliance: <http://reachalliance.org/what-is-reach>.