

Equality Diversity and Inclusion Newsletter

May 2023



Have you got news for us?

Please send any items for distribution to vp-health@qmul.ac.uk. The deadline for submissions is the 25th of each month.

April Highlights

FMD People Spotlight - Kamrul Islam



After last month's brilliant profile we're pleased to display another thoughtful, interesting piece by Kamrul Islam, a Genes & Health Stage 1 Manager within the The Blizzard Institute.

A short excerpt from the piece:

"How has your personal identity(ies) intersected with your work and role at Queen Mary?"

I was born at the famous Royal London Hospital (RLH) in Whitechapel, and all six of my beloved children were also born at the same hospital. Having lived just two streets away from my current office, I feel incredibly grateful to have the opportunity to work in the very community where I grew up. It is an indescribable feeling to be able to give back to an area that has shaped me in countless ways.

Throughout my career, I have worked on various research studies that have had a profound impact on shaping healthcare for underrepresented communities with significant health disparities. When I first entered the field of research, only a few studies were examining ethnic groups, but today, more studies are being conducted, which is a promising indication that we are moving in the right direction. The Genes & Health study is one such initiative that is leading the charge in this regard."

Please support Kamrul by clicking below to read the full feature.

To view all Spotlight profiles, please click [here](#). If you would like a Spotlight of yourself or a colleague, please email us at vp-health@qmul.ac.uk and we'll send you the feature template.

[Kamrul's Spotlight](#)

Bias is a Four-Letter Word: Rethinking healthcare and education through the lens of equity, diversity and inclusion

"BIAS IS A FOUR LETTER WORD":

**RETHINKING HEALTHCARE
AND EDUCATION THROUGH
THE LENS OF EQUITY,
DIVERSITY & INCLUSION**



DR. SANDRA MONTEIRO

*Associate Professor
Department of Medicine
McMaster University*

FREE FULL DAY EVENT

INVITED TALK - Dr. Sandra Monteiro

AM

This talk will focus on unpacking the literature on implicit, cognitive, and systemic bias and how this influences our understanding of clinical teaching and the medical curriculum.

LUNCH PROVIDED

**INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION -
Rethinking Activity**

PM

Engage in an interactive discussion and facilitated activity, rethinking the way we approach curriculum components through the lens of EDI.

NETWORKING RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

25 MAY

09:00-17:00 BST

2023

**Laws Building 210
QMUL Mile End Campus
335 Mile End Rd
Bethnal Green, London E1 4NS**

Register Now!



For more information, email Vanessa Thompson at v.thompson@qmul.ac.uk

The Institute of Health Sciences Education is delighted to invite you to this one day event on 25 May 2023 with invited speaker Dr Sandra Monteiro of McMaster University in Canada and to offer you the opportunity for one on one sessions with Dr Monteiro and Research Support Manager Mark Lee in the days prior to the event.

For those of us who are accustomed to living with discrimination, microaggressions and bias there were few surprises or grand epiphanies, but 2022 was notable as the beginning of worldwide recognition and acknowledgement of equity, diversity and inclusivity in healthcare and education. This one-day event will engage participants in inquiry and discussion around rethinking our current approach to healthcare and education, with an emphasis on equity, diversity, and inclusion.

The 30-minute one-on-one meetings are a chance to discuss a variety of topics including: assessment validity and reliability, clinical reasoning and clinical expertise, innovative research scholarship, equity, learning science, innovative teaching and learning, and research project management.

For more information and to book your place please click the link below or email v.thompson@qmul.ac.uk.

Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 | 09:00 - 17:00 (BST)

Location: Laws Building 2.10 335 Mile End Rd, Bethnal Green, London E1
4NT

[Register Now](#)

International Nurses Day - 12th May



'Our Nurses. Our Future.'

International Nurses Day falls on the 12th of May each year, the anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth. The theme this year is 'Our Nurses. Our future.' and aims at using the lessons taught by the pandemic to inform actions for the future to improve global health for all.

"It is now time to look to the future and demonstrate what these investments will mean for nursing and healthcare. The Our Nurses. Our Future. campaign will shine the light on nurses and on a brighter future." - ICN

The ICN will be releasing a toolkit in the days leading up to International Nurses Day and the RCN have a new exhibition 'Unmasked: Real Stories of Nursing in COVID-19'; click below to join the exhibition launch.

[Exhibition booking and other RCN #NursesDay celebrations](#)

Anniversary of the Murder of George Floyd - 25th May



This year is the third anniversary of the murder of George Floyd. On May 25th 2020, the world watched in horror as his murderer, a police officer named Derek Chauvin, knelt on his neck for nine minutes and twenty-nine seconds, suffocating George to death. The Black Lives Matter movement spread across the world in response, sparking a global anti-racist movement that is still active today. We saw statues topple, and policy's change and yet, it was only earlier this month that the second officer, Tou Thao was, found guilty of aiding and abetting second-degree manslaughter.

On this day we remember George, whose death changed the world and we urge you to use his anniversary to reflect on the many ways in which we have progressed, and the many more ways in which we have yet to go.

Inaugural Lecture of Professor Chloe Orkin - 14th June



Infections and inequities

"My interests as a medical student - learning about microbes and student anti-apartheid activism - shaped my career. I will share my long and scenic journey from an NHS clinician with no formal academic training to a Professor of Infection and Inequities. The journey spans three countries, five viruses and the leadership of three medical organisations."

Professor Chloe Orkin is a Professor of Infection and Inequities at the Queen

Mary University of London and a Consultant Physician at Barts Health NHS Trust.

Her specialist area is viral therapeutics, and her clinical trials unit has contributed to licensing more than 20 therapies for viruses such as HIV, viral hepatitis, and SARS-CoV-2. She is the global lead author for the first-ever long-acting injectable HIV therapy.

She is the Academic Lead for Equality Diversity and Inclusion in the Faculty of Medicine at Queen Mary and Director of the SHARE research collaborative for health equity.

[Register Now](#)

Awareness Weeks and Days in May



1st - 7th May: Deaf Awareness Week

Deaf Awareness Week is an annual event in the UK to raise awareness about the deaf community. The purpose of Deaf Awareness Week is to encourage better communication between deaf and hearing individuals and to promote the inclusion of deaf individuals in all aspects of society and highlight the importance of accessibility in the workplace and other public places.

5th May: Vesak

Vesak is the most important Buddhist festival and it commemorates the birth, enlightenment, and death of the Buddha. Please join us in wishing our Buddhist colleagues and students a very happy Vesak!


10th May: National Day for Staff Networks

The purpose of the National Day for Staff Networks is to shine a light and recognise the multiple benefits that staff networks/resource groups offer to employees and their organisations. This year's theme is #StayingStrong and aims to remind us all that standing together with other networks, their allies and sponsors = power.

QMUL has three staff Networks that you can join: QMOut, Staff Disability Network & Parent & Carers. For more information on each and how you can join, please click [here](#).

15th to 21st May: Mental Health Awareness Week

#ToHelpMyAnxiety is the 2023 campaign from The Mental Health Foundation. Anxiety is one of the most common mental health problems we can face and a recent survey found that a quarter of adults said they felt so anxious that it stopped them from doing the things they want to do some or all of the time. Focusing on anxiety for this year's Mental Health Awareness Week will increase people's awareness and understanding of anxiety by providing information on the things that can help prevent it from becoming a problem.

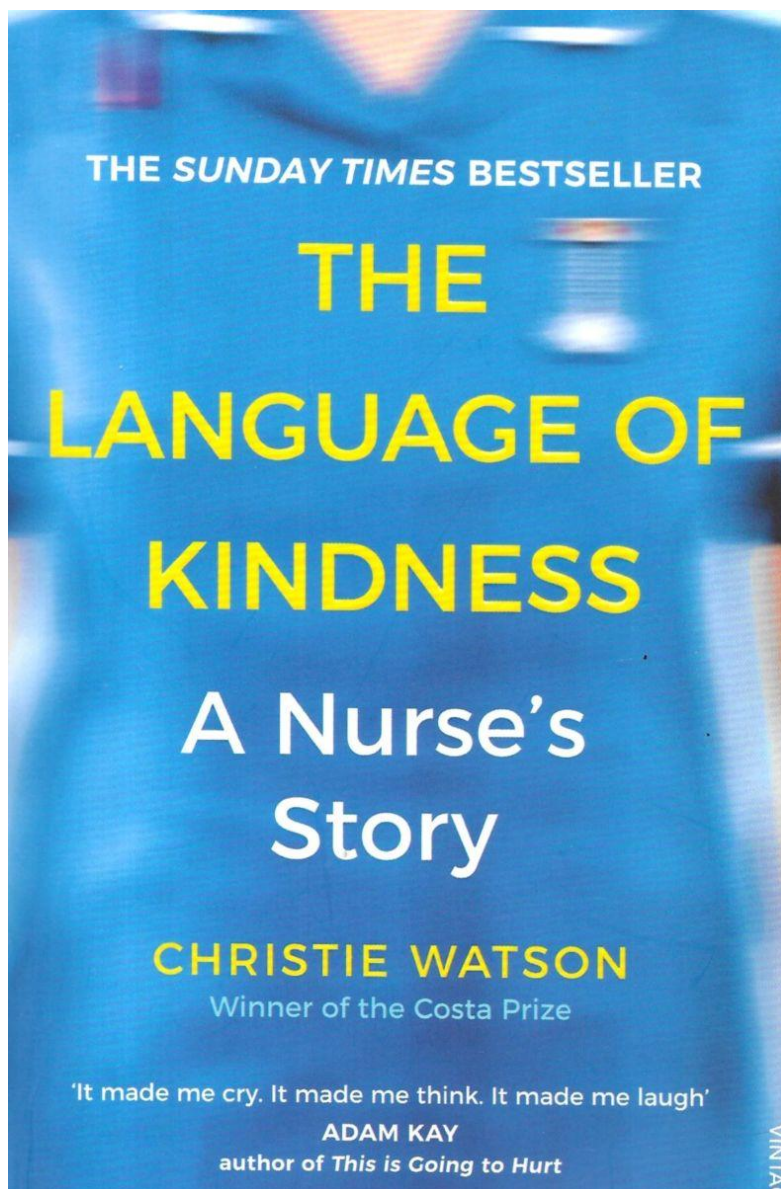
 17th May: International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia (IDAHoBiT)

IDAHoBiT was created in 2004 to draw attention to the violence and discrimination experienced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, intersex people, and all of those with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities or expressions, and sex characteristics. This year's theme is: "Together always: united in diversity" and aims to highlight that by coming together, we can make a difference in the lives of LGBTQIA+ individuals and communities worldwide

 24th May: Pansexual Visibility Day

First marked in 2015, Pansexual Visibility Day was created to acknowledge and recognise the existence of pansexual individuals around the world, as well as to raise awareness of pansexuality and the issues that pansexual people face.

Spotlight Recommendations



In honour of International Nurses Day, this month's recommendation is Costa Award winner and Sunday Times bestseller Christie's Watson's memoir about nursing today, *The Language of Kindness: A Nurse's Story*.

Christie was a nurse for twenty years and the novel takes us from birth to death and from A&E to the mortuary, *The Language of Kindness* is an astounding account of a profession defined by acts of care, compassion and kindness.

The Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Team

There are now EDI representative in all institutes. Your Institute EDI rep should be your first port of call for all enquiries, suggestions and feedback on matters related to Equality Diversity and Inclusion.

Barts Cancer Institute

Academic rep - [Jun Wang](#)

PS rep - TBC

Blizard Institute

Academic rep - [Dr Tania Maffucci](#) / [Jack Rappoport](#)

PS rep - [Sadna Ullah](#)

Institute of Dentistry

Academic rep - [Dr Aylin Baysan](#)

PS rep - [Mariella Amos](#)

Institute of Health Sciences Education

Academic rep - [Dr Lucy Carter](#)

PS rep - [Dr Shahrar Ali](#)

Malta Campus

Campus rep - [Dr Despina Moissidou](#)

William Harvey Research Institute

Academic rep - [Dr Stuart Miller](#) / [Dr Eirini Marouli](#)

PS rep - [Stavros Fotiadis](#)

Wolfson Institute of Population Health

Academic rep - [Dr Evangelos Katsampouris](#)

PS rep - TBC

Your FMD EDI Team



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Images by [Freepik](#)



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