

Activating UK UNESCO Chair Expertise

Agenda for the UK UNESCO Chairs' Conference at the University of Portsmouth

Faculty of Business and Law, Ground Floor, Richmond Building, Portland Street, Portsmouth PO1 3DE.

Day 1: Thursday, 17 July 2025

Afternoon Session:

12:30 - 13:30 **Registration and refreshments**

13:30 – 14:00 **Introduction: UNESCO Context in the UK**

Prof Graham Galbraith CBE, Vice-Chancellor, University of Portsmouth

Prof Anne Anderson OBE, Chair, UK National Commission for UNESCO

14:00 - 14:45 **Example of UK UNESCO expertise addressing global challenges**

UNESCO Chair in Ocean Governance - Looking Forward

Prof Pierre Failler and Dr He Yuan, UNESCO Chair in Ocean Governance

Ocean Science on the Move - The Power of Global Sailing

Dr Sophie Quintin, Researcher in Marine Security and Ocean Governance

James Harayda, Skipper and Team Principal

Big Wave Reserve: Riding the Balance - Conservation in Big Wave Reserves

Dr Ian Hendy, Senior Lecturer in Tropical Marine Ecology

Sebastian Steudtner, Big Wave Surfer

14:45 – 15:30 **Panel Discussion: Profile raising of UNESCO and UNESCO Chairs locally, nationally and internationally**

Moderated discussion with contributions from attendees

15:30 – 15:45 **Refreshment Break**

15:45 – 17:00 **Exchange of ideas among UNESCO Chairs: Opportunities and challenges and how best to demonstrate the value of the UNESCO Chair designation to a range of stakeholders**

Moderated discussion with contributions from attendees

17:00 – 17:15 **Day 1 Concluding Remarks and Next Steps**

Professor Anne Anderson OBE, Chair, UK National Commission for UNESCO

17:30 – 21:00 **Evening Reception and Cultural Trip**

18:00 Boat trip around Historic Dockyard

19:30 Evening meal at Still and West, Bath Square, Old Portsmouth, Portsmouth PO1 2JL

Day 2: Friday, 18 July 2025

Engaging with policy – locally, nationally and globally

Morning Session:

08:30 – 09:00 **Morning coffee and informal networking**

09:00 - 10:15 **Engaging with UNESCO, UK and Devolved Governments**

Professor Anne Anderson OBE, Chair, UK National Commission for UNESCO

Anna Nsubuga, UK Ambassador and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO

Emily Boyce, FCDO UN Partnerships Lead (UNICEF, UNDP, UNESCO, UN Women, UNOPs), Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)

Justin Ahanhanzo, ex-(retired) IOC-UNESCO Focal Point, Coordinator & Evaluator of UNESCO Chairs and Category II Centres in Oceans & Climate Sciences, Observations & Services, Policy and Governance

10:15 – 10:30 **Coffee Break**

10:30 – 12:15 **Workshop on research and funding: UNESCO Designations as sites for research and collaboration**

James Bridge, Chief Executive and Secretary-General, UK National Commission for UNESCO

Matt Rabagliati, Head of Policy, Research and Communications, UK National Commission for UNESCO

AHRC Subject to final confirmation

Representatives of The Isle of Wight and Brighton and Lewes Downs UNESCO Man and Biosphere Reserves

12:15 – 12:30 **Plenary: Follow-up and next steps**

Professor Anne Anderson OBE, Chair, UK National Commission for UNESCO