

Title: **Continuing Professional Development: from present practices to future frameworks – exploring the possibilities**

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Abstract:

Session Learning Outcomes

At the end of the session participants will have:

- explored definitions of CPD and related them to their own professional context;
- reflected on existing CPD practices, approaches and attitudes and developed their understanding of the situation within their own institution;
- considered how an appropriate CPD framework could be applied or developed for their own professional environment.

Session Outline

In the context of the present HEA led debate on professional standards and the development of CPD frameworks, this workshop will provide participants with the opportunity to exchange ideas and consider appropriate ways forward for CPD in their own institutions. Drawing on the literature on CPD in general and the work of the CAPCam Project (Continuing Academic Practice in Cambridge) in particular, it will explore:

- appropriate definitions of CPD for academia;
- existing practices and attitudes to CPD;
- the meaning and future development of individual institutional CPD frameworks.

In addition to the HEA context, consideration will be given to the relationship between the individual professional's reflective practice, often deeply and implicitly embedded, and the development of more formal frameworks for CPD which typically require the production of a CPD record and some element of external accountability, leading to concerns, as suggested in the title of this conference, that such developments may be constraining rather than empowering.

Session Activities

After a short introduction from the workshop leaders outlining the context of the session, the workshop will be structured around three main activities focused, on the following issues:

- the definition of CPD, comparing the definition offered by the presenters with definitions appropriate to the context of the participants' own institutions;
- what practices, attitudes and approaches to CPD currently exist within the participants' own institutions;
- the characteristics of customised CPD frameworks.

Discussion of each of these issues will be facilitated by an initial brief input from the presenters reviewing relevant arguments from the literature and their own institutional context.

References

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