

Title: **Professional Standards and Professional Bodies:
common agenda for the future?**

Presenters: **Andrea Lee**
University of Central Lancashire

Abstract:

Session Learning Outcomes

By the end of this session, delegates will be able to:

- Consider the tensions of dual professionalism
- Review the requirements of a wide range of Professional Bodies to identify approaches to CPD: common themes, activities, and processes
- Discuss the extent to which these meet the requirements of the UK Professional Standards Framework, and future international standards.

Session Outline

Key issues to be addressed are:

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is the hallmark of a professional and underpins the guarantee of reliability of services offered to the public. CPD should ensure that practicing professionals have kept their knowledge and skills up to date. For many staff in Higher Education this creates tension between the requirements of the professional discipline governed by the Professional Bodies, and the requirements of professional pedagogic practice.

This workshop will explore the tensions of the dual professional in the context of changing national and international agenda. It is based upon research of a sampling frame of 35 Professional Bodies all involved in professional accreditation of programmes across the Faculties of Health, Science and Technology, Arts and Social Sciences and the Business School at Uclan. For the sample, the CPD requirements have been explored and mapped against the requirements of the sector owned UK Professional Standards for teaching and supporting learning. The proliferation of CPD practices and processes poses issues and presents some difficulties for the promotion of a common agenda for the future.

Session Activities and Approximate Timings

Please provide an indication of how the session will be structured and how activities and discussion will be facilitated. For discussion papers please include a few indicative questions which will focus the discussion element.

It is intended that the session is interactive and that participants will contribute their own experience of Professional Body membership

- Introduction to the session and the research (5 minutes)
- Discussion based upon the tensions of dual professionalism (15 minutes)
- The presentation of results from the sample of Professional Bodies and mapping against UK PSF (15 minutes)

- Further discussion of the implications for professionalizing teaching and supporting learning in HE and meeting future challenges eg. Employer engagement; international standards. (10minutes)
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Indicative questions:

- Identify any conflicts between your identity as lecturer/academic developer and a professional in a discipline with Professional Body membership.
- Are there common characteristics as a professional? What is a professional?
- What are the CPD requirements in each case? What are the commonalities? How is CPD evaluated in each case? How well do these relate to the UK PSF?
- What are the current trends – recent changes made?

References

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