

Title: **How are we living values in our practice?**

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Abstract:

This session will explore the role of values in our practices as academic developers, based on the presenter's recent experiences and reflection.

SEDA Values

Indicate which SEDA Values may be relevant to your proposal:

An understanding of how people learn	✓	Scholarship, professionalism and ethical practice	✓
Working and developing learning communities	✓	Working effectively with diversity and promoting inclusivity	✓
Continuing reflection on professional practice	✓	Developing people and processes	✓

Session Learning Outcomes

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

Reflect on the part their personal values, as well as SEDA's, impact on their practices as academic developers.

Session Outline

Key issues to be addressed are:

Over the last 18 months I have been involved in a number of activities which, often in retrospect, have led to me reflecting on the values I and others draw on and how these relate to beliefs, purpose, principles and practices we engage in.

As Games Maker volunteers at the London 2012 Olympics, Viv, my wife, and I discussed with others and read in the media the values of volunteering, the benefit to the individual and how we felt about the whole experience. Whilst not life changing for us, as we have always volunteered in our sport, professional associations and community, we did feel and try to articulate something different about our values.

Becoming a governor at a local secondary school early in 2012, I have been working with the Head and Deputy Head to re-visit the school's purpose and values and how these are then reflected in the ways individual staff and their subject groups are given greater responsibility for their own actions.

I was made an Emeritus Professor at Sheffield Hallam University when I retired in 2009 and made the commitment to support HE research and scholarship and their preparation for the REF. In undertaking various activities I have reflected on the nature of academic practice – teaching, research and service – and, in particular, the values that underpin our 'service' with disciplines, institutions and professional associations, not least SEDA. The latter also coincided with me assessing a SEDA Senior Fellowship and reading a candidate's interpretation and engagement with the SEDA values.

These are just a few examples of how I have actively reflected on the nature of values as they inform our practices as volunteers engaged in service of many kinds. In this session, I would like individuals to engage in a similar reflection and to draw out how they actually live the values in what they do.

Session Activities

The session will begin with a brief account of I how started reflecting more deeply on my values as well as supporting others in articulating theirs. Following brief opportunity for discussion, participants will work in pairs and then fours to share their own experiences of how values are important to them. The session will close with a brief sharing of what has been discussed and consider what further activity we might engage in.