

Title: **Exploring a Framework for Student Engagement: What Can We Learn and Where Do You Stand?**

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Session Learning Outcomes

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

- Understand the distinction between narrow and wider models of student engagement
- Learn about specific examples of student engagement from the public and private sectors
- Apply a framework for student engagement to their own institutional context and professional practice

Session Outline

Student Engagement, from the perspective of the student voice, is a vital part of contemporary higher education. Drawing on specific examples from the publicly funded sector (e.g. The University of Exeter) and especially the private Higher Education sector (e.g. BPP University), we will present a framework as a basis for sharing practice and comparing experience. The framework portrays contrasting views of student engagement: a narrow view (often evidenced by mechanisms for collecting student feedback and ensuring student representation on key bodies) and a wider view (e.g. concerned with engaging students with their learning) (Rivers and Willans, 2013). Through engaging with this framework, participants will themselves engage in learning how this applies in their own context. Reference will be made to the QAA (2012) and Trowler (2010).

Session Activities and Approximate Timings

We will facilitate a workshop session in which:

- We will give a short presentation setting out the key principles of our framework for student engagement, giving specific examples from the publicly funded and private Higher Education sectors (15 mins)
- We will allow time for questions and answers on this (10 mins)
- We will ask participants to self-evaluate where their institution currently sits within the framework and where they aspire to be and share this with neighbours. (10mins)
- We will then share their responses in a final roundup. (10 mins)

References

- QAA. (2012), *Part B: Assuring and enhancing academic quality - Chapter B5: Student Engagement*, UK Quality Code for Higher Education, QAA.
- Rivers, S. and Willans, T. (2013, "Student Engagement in Private Sector Higher Education", in Dunne, E. and Owen, D. (Eds.), *The Student Engagement Handbook: Practice in Higher Education*, Emerald Books, London.
- Trowler, V. (2010), "Student engagement literature review", York: Higher Education Academy. Retrieved from <http://www.new2.heacademy.ac.uk/assets/documents/studentengagement/StudentEngagementLiteratureReview.pdf>