Open University Students Association Conference Programme
17–19 June 2016
Share your Conference experience using #OUstudents16 on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook

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Welcome and Useful info

Registration
First things first! Pick up your documents, name badge, goodie bag and get registered.

Friday Afternoon 2 – 7pm
Berrill Foyer
Conference Campus Tours
A chance to find your way, meet other delegates and get to know all of the key places you'll need to find over Conference weekend. Tours will set off throughout the afternoon.

Friday Afternoon 2.30 – 6pm Depart Berrill Foyer
Ending up in Jennie Lee Building

Stuck? Problem?
If you need some help, seek out a member of staff – we are wearing blue t-shirts and we will do our very best to help. An emergency number will also be provided by email before you arrive.

Photos and video
We'll be capturing photos and video over the Conference weekend. This material will be used to promote the work of the Association in our publications and online. If you do not want your photograph to be taken and if you would prefer not to appear in video footage, please make yourself known to the photographer, videographer, or a member of staff.

If a session may be filmed it will be marked. [Filmed]

Wifi
The Cloud network is available across campus. You’ll be given a leaflet at registration which explains how to connect.

Chill out zone
Looking for a moment of calm among all the vibrant activities of the weekend? Come to the Bookends Café in the Library for some quiet reflection and colouring. There is also a coffee machine, so you can pick up a cuppa if you have some pennies.

Content may change...
This programme, and its contents are subject to change. We’ll keep you informed of any major changes to the timetable.
The image shows a map of the OU Campus.
Buildings

This page includes images of the following buildings used on conference weekend: Berrill Building, Betty Boothroyd Library, Christodoulou Meeting Rooms, George Abell Observatory, Jennie Lee Building and The Hub.
So who are we, the OU Students Association?

A huge welcome to the OU Students Association Conference! This is the biggest event in our calendar and it only happens every two years, so we think you’ll agree that it’s a pretty special thing to be part of.

We are run and led by students, just like you. All OU students automatically become members of the Association when they start with The Open University. That means we have around 200,000 members. Our mission as an organisation is to represent the collective voice of OU students everywhere and to build student community. We can’t do any of that without you, so thank you for being part of it!

You can find out more about what we do and how you can get involved in many places over the Conference weekend, but particularly keep a look out for our slot from 2 – 2.30pm in the Hub Theatre on Saturday and at various workshops on Sunday morning.

www.open.ac.uk/ousa
Friday “At a Glance”

FRIDAY 17 JUNE

Berrill Foyer
Friday 2 - 7pm       Registration
Friday 2.30 - 6pm    Campus Tours

Library Bookend Café
Friday 2 – 7.30 pm   Chill out zone

Observatory Tours
Friday 3 - 6pm       George Abell Observatory

Jennie Lee Atrium
Friday 2 - 6pm       OU Expo and Societies Showcase

Christodoulou Meeting Room 01
Friday 4 - 5pm       Disabled Students Group Meet & Greet

Various Locations
Friday 5.30 - 7.30pm  Area Gatherings

Hub Café
Friday 5.30 - 7.30pm  Dinner (two sittings)

Berrill Café
Friday 8 - 10.30pm    Delegate Reception

Berrill Theatre
Friday 7.45 - 8.30pm  Welcome from the President and Ruth Spellman’s Talk
Friday 8.30 - 10.30pm  Film
Saturday “At a Glance”

SATURDAY 18 JUNE

Hub Theatre and Berrill Theatre

Saturday 8 – 8.45am  Early registration and collection of handsets
Saturday 8.45 - 1pm  Conference business:

President’s opening remarks, testing of handsets, talk from the Vice Chancellor - Peter Horrocks, Students Association Celebration, Business Resolutions and voting, payment for Officer’s debate and voting, elections results and conferring honours

Saturday 2 - 2.30pm  About the OU Students Association

Saturday 2.30 - 3.30pm  Question Time

Saturday 4 - 4.30pm  Debate 1 of 2

Saturday 4.30 - 5pm  Timandra Harkness

Saturday 5 - 5.30pm  Monica Grady

Saturday 5.30 - 6pm  University Challenge

Hub

Saturday 1 – 2pm  Lunch

Saturday 3.30 - 4pm  Tea and Coffee

Juniper & Medlar Suite
Saturday 2 - 5.30pm  OU Students Association stands (including the Disabled Students Group and the OU Students Shop)

Hub (comfy chair area)

Saturday 3 - 6pm  Indoor games and colouring

Mulberry Lawn

Saturday 3.30 – 4pm  Zumba
Saturday 4 – 4.45pm  Hula Hooping
Saturday 4.45 - 5pm  Outdoor games
Saturday 5 – 6pm  Tai Chi

Library – Bookends Café

Saturday 2 - 6pm  Chill-out Zone

Jennie Lee Atrium

Saturday 2 - 6pm  Societies Showcase
Saturday 3.30 - 4pm  Tea and Coffee

Jennie Lee Meeting Room 1

Saturday 2 - 2.45pm  How Sexual Desire Works – OU Psychological Society
Saturday 3 - 3.45pm  The Secrets of Enduring Love
Saturday 4 - 4.45pm  Fire alarm or false alarm? Can a psychologist really help with decision making in the fireground?
Saturday 5 - 5.45pm  OpenLearn – The Next Ten Years

**Mulberry Lawn (Marquee)**

Saturday 3 – 3.45pm  Solar Panel Workshop

**Library Presentation Room**

Saturday 2 - 2.45pm  Has LinkedIn taken over the CV? 1 of 2

Saturday 3 - 3.45pm  Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality

Saturday 4 - 4.45pm  The Future of Disabled Student Services

Saturday 5 - 5.45pm  OU Students Association to AOUG – The natural progression

**Library Seminar Room 1**

Saturday 2 - 2.45pm  Why and how to reference correctly using the OU Harvard style

Saturday 3 - 3.45pm  Digital skills for study and beyond

Saturday 4 - 4.45pm  Has LinkedIn taken over the CV? 2 of 2

Saturday 5 - 5.45pm  How we are using analytics to help students at The Open University

**Meet outside the Hub Café**

Saturday 2 - 2.45pm  Campus Tour

Saturday 3 - 3.45pm  Campus Tour
Saturday  4 - 4.45pm    Campus Tour

**Kents Hill Dining Room**

Saturday  6 - 9pm    Dinner (for everyone)

**Meet outside Kents Hill**

Saturday  6.30 - 7 pm    Walk

**Kents Hill – Nightingale Room 01**

Saturday  7 - 8pm    Societies AGM

**Kents Hill – Nightingale Room 23, 24**

Saturday  8.30pm onwards    Open Mic and Disco

**Kents Hill – Nightingale Room 34, 35, 38**

Saturday  9 pm onwards    Quiet Quiz
Sunday “At a Glance”

SUNDAY 19 JUNE

Hub Theatre

Sunday 10 - 10.30am Kevin McConway

Sunday 10.30 - 11am Debate 2 of 2

Sunday 11 - 12am Break

Sunday 12 - 12.30 Final address

Sunday 12.30 - 1pm Pledge Drive

Hub Café

Sunday 11.30 - 12am Tea and Coffee

Sunday 12.30 - 1pm Pledge Drive

Sunday 1 - 2pm Lunch

Juniper & Medlar Suite

Sunday 9.30 - 1pm OU Students Association stands (including the Disabled Students Group and the OU Students Shop)

Library – Bookends Café

Sunday 10 - 1pm Chill out zone
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 10 - 11.30am</td>
<td>Societies Showcase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 11.30 – 12pm</td>
<td>Tea and Coffee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 12 - 1pm</td>
<td>Final address and Pledge Drive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Jennie Lee Meeting Room 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 10 - 10.45am</td>
<td>The Power of Philanthropy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 11 - 11.45am</td>
<td>Societies Workshop</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Library Presentation Room**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 10 - 10.45am</td>
<td>Enabling Learning &amp; Living with Disabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 11 - 11.45am</td>
<td>Fun and games with the Disabled Students Group</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Library Seminar Room 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 11 - 11.45am</td>
<td>Amplifying Your Student Voice</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Library Seminar Room 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 10 - 10.45am</td>
<td>You Said, We Did: Listening to the OU Student Voice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 11 - 11.45am</td>
<td>Creative Writing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Food at a Glance

Friday 17th June

2pm & 4pm
Jennie Lee Atrium
Tea, Coffee and Cake

5 – 8pm
Bar Open in Juniper and Medlar, Hub
Drinks available to purchase at your own cost

5.30 – 7.30pm
Hub Café (2 sittings – you will be allocated your sitting at registration)
Evening Dinner

8 – 10.30pm
Berrill Café
Drinks Reception

Saturday 18th June

From 6.30am
Kents Hill Conference Centre and Hilton Hotel
Breakfast

8am
Hub Café & Berrill Café Tea, Coffee and Biscuits

11am
Hub Café & Berrill Café Tea, Coffee and Biscuits

11 – 1pm and 11 – 6pm
Berrill Café Hub Café
Coffee machines will be available to purchase drinks at your own cost

12.30 – 6.30pm
Bar Open in Juniper and Medlar, Hub
Drinks available to purchase at your own cost

1pm
Hub Café
Collect your packed lunch

3.30pm
Hub Café & Jennie Lee Atrium
Tea, Coffee and Biscuits

6 – 9pm
Dinner for everyone at Kents Hill Conference Centre

Sunday 19th June
7 – 9am
Kents Hill Conference Centre and Hilton Hotel
Breakfast

9am
Hub Café & Jennie Lee Atrium
Tea, Coffee and Biscuits

From 10.30am
Hub Café
Packed lunches available for collection (pre-ordered only)

11am
Hub Café & Jennie Lee Atrium
Tea, Coffee and Biscuits

1pm
Hub Café
Lunch

**Conference 2016 Transport**

A regular shuttle service of 2 mini buses, 1 of which will be accessible for wheelchair users, will loop around the Campus and the Hotels during Conference. Campus is a short walk away. Look out for a walking bus leaving from your hotel.

**Friday Afternoon**

12 – 8.30pm
2 Mini Buses (Approx. every 10 – 15 mins)
Berrill Building, Kents Hill and Hilton

12 – 7pm
Souls Brothers Coach
Milton Keynes Rail Station (Bay Y5), Kents Hill, Hilton, back to Milton Keynes Rail Station

*Please note that the coach driver will be taking a 45 minute break between 4 – 4.45pm*

9.30 – 11.30pm
Souls Brothers Coach
Bus Stop by the Library, Hilton, Kents Hill

**Saturday Morning**

8 – 11am
2 Mini Buses (Approx. every 10 – 15 mins)
Kents Hill, Hilton and Berrill Building

11 – 5pm
2 Mini Buses (Approx. every hour)
Berrill Building, Kents Hill and Hilton

**Saturday Evening (between hotels)**
5 – 7pm
2 Mini Buses (Approx. every 10 – 15 mins)
Kents Hill and Hilton

7pm – Last bus at midnight
Accessible Mini Bus Only (Approx. every 30 mins)
Kents Hill and Hilton

**Sunday Morning**

8.30 – 10.30am
2 Mini Buses (Approx. every 10 – 15 mins)
Kents Hill, Hilton, Berrill Building, Walton Hall

1 – 3pm
Accessible Mini Bus Only (Approx. every 15 – 20 mins)
Walton Hall, Milton Keynes Rail Station

1 – 3pm
Souls Brothers Coach
Bus Stop by the Library then back to MK Central Rail Station (Bay Y5)

**Local Taxi Company (for Emergency Use Only) – Skyline Taxis 01908 222111**

**Disabled Students Group**

**Meet & Greet**

*Meet the wonderful team who run the Disabled Students Group* – there will certainly be a friendly face welcoming OU students who come to say hello!

Friday Afternoon 4 – 5pm Christodoulou Room 1

**Need a private space to take a breather?**

This quiet room is here for you if you need it. But please note, you shouldn’t be in this room alone, so find a friend.

All weekend Christodoulou Room 1 DSG Drop-In Area

**Missed the Friday Meet & Greet but still fancy a natter?**

Come and visit our stand.

All weekend Juniper and Medlar DSG Stand
OU Students Association Societies Showcase

[Filmed]

Come and meet some of our wonderful OU Students Association affiliated societies at the Societies Showcase.

Alchemy
www.oualchemy.org

Ballet & Opera

Change Ringers
www.opuscr.org.uk

History
www.ouhistory.org.uk/

Mountaineering
www.oums.co.uk

OU Psychological Society
www.oups.org.uk

Engineers Without Borders
www.ouewb.wordpress.com

OU Development and Environment Society
www.oustudents.com/OUDES_FB16

Fusion
www.oufusion.org.uk/
OU Expo

[Filmed]
A chance to get an insight into some of the amazing projects happening within the University at the moment.

Friday Afternoon 2 – 6pm
Jennie Lee Atrium

LTS: Driving Innovative Learning: Learning and Teaching Solutions (LTS) works to create effective and engaging learning experiences. Come along and spend some time talking to our specialist staff. We have displays and information about content production in LTS, Hack days and the Online Student Experience Programme (OSEP).

“Guess Who?”: Promoting the value of a multidisciplinary Open degree: Given the wide choice of subjects available to study, Open degree graduates often end up in a variety of different careers, as a result of their varied personal and professional interests. We will be demonstrating this variety in a fun and interactive way by giving you the opportunity to play our “Guess Who” style card-matching game where you will have to try and match the correct Open degree graduate and their module choices to their career (for a small prize of course!)

Baxter the robot: Meet Baxter, the humanoid robot that is completely safe to interact with – unlike most industrial robots which must operate behind safety cages. This allows Baxter to work more collaboratively with humans. We have recently purchased seven Baxters to support new curriculum in electronics, and residential school activities for engineering. Come along to our stand to meet Baxter, and find out what it is like to be up close with a real life-size robot!
**Area Gatherings**

Meet up with some other students from your region or nation, have a chat and get to know each other.

Scotland
5.30 – 6pm
Jennie Lee Meeting Room

London
5.30 – 6pm
Comfy chairs in the Hub Café

South
5.30 – 6pm
Library Presentation Room

East of England
6 – 6.30pm
Juniper and Medlar

South West
6 – 6.30pm
Library Presentation Room

North West
6.30 – 7pm
Comfy chairs in the Hub Café

South East
6.30 – 7pm
Jennie Lee Meeting Room

West Midlands
6.30 – 7pm
Library Presentation Room

East Midlands
6.30 – 7pm
Library Seminar Room 1

Yorkshire
7 – 7.30pm
Library Seminar Room 2

Wales
7 – 7.30pm
Comfy chairs in the Hub Café

North
7 – 7.30pm
Berrill Presentation Room

Northern Ireland & Republic of Ireland
7 – 7.30pm
Library Presentation Room

Southern Europe
7 – 7.30pm
Berrill Café

Northern Europe
7 – 7.30pm
Berrill Café
OU Students Shop

Pick up all of your wonderful OU and OU Students Association goodies at our stall over Conference weekend. You can find us in Juniper and Medlar, next to the Hub Theatre, on Saturday (11 – 11.30am and 1.30 – 6pm) and on Sunday (9.30 – 1pm).

We accept both cash and card payments.

Visit the George Abell Observatory

[Filmed]

A chance to visit the on campus Observatory and have a tour from one of the researchers who use it. Tickets will be limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis at Conference Registration.

Friday Afternoon 3 – 6pm Observatory

Friday Welcome to Conference!

New to Conference? Been before but still not quite sure? Join some friendly faces who will welcome you to the wonderful world of the OU Students Association Conference.

Friday Evening 7.45 – 8pm

Berrill Theatre

Ruth Spellman (OBE)
Ruth was awarded an OBE in 2007 for services to workplace learning. In 2012, she was appointed as Chief Executive of the Workers’ Educational Association (WEA) – an organisation with a mission to inspire individuals, communities and society and work towards a better world through adult education. She is the first female to hold this position. Ruth’s Non-Executive roles include being a Council Member of The Open University; Director of the Centre for Talent and Innovation; a Board member of the Cooperative Group and a Trustee of Adviza, a careers advice charity.

Friday Evening 8 – 8.30pm

Berrill Theatre
Delegate Reception
Wine, nibbles, OU students. Need we say more?

**Friday Evening 8 – 10.30pm**  
Berrill Café

**Film Night**
Chill out and watch a film with your fellow OU students.

**Friday Evening 8.30 – 10.30pm**  
Berrill Theatre

**Saturday Conference Business**

[Filmed]

All attendees gather in both the Hub Theatre and the Berrill Theatre for Conference Business. The session in the Hub Theatre will be webcast.

8 – 8.30am Late Registration – If you didn’t make it in time on Friday, make sure you register early Saturday outside of the Hub Theatre.

8.15 – 8.45am Collect Handsets and be seated – Voting in the Conference business is electronic so don’t forget to pick up your handset and be seated promptly.

8.45 – 9.10am President’s Opening Remarks – A warm welcome to Conference 2016 from the President, Ruth Tudor, to all delegates and guests attending both on campus in Milton Keynes and those joining us online.

9.10 – 9.30am Vice Chancellor Peter Horrocks – The Vice Chancellor of the Open University addresses Conference attenders.

9.30 – 9.45am OU Students Association Celebration – The President leads a celebration of the achievements of the Students Association and its student representatives over the past 2 years.

9.45 – 10.15am Business Resolutions and Voting – Don’t forget to refer to reports of progress from your current team of student representatives and the Board of Trustees which can be found in your Book 1 – General Business.

10.15 – 11am Payments for Officers. Debate and Voting – A chance to consider and have your say on the principle of payment for the Association’s President and Deputy President. More information in Book 1 – General Business.

11 – 11.30am COFFEE BREAK – There’s lots of students all grabbing coffee at one time, so please queue patiently. Thanks!

11.30am – 12.45pm Elections Results – Here’s the big moment we’ve been waiting for when we hear the results of the recent election for the new leadership of the Students Associations for the coming two years.
12.45 – 1pm Conferring Honours – Acknowledging some student representatives, volunteers and other friends of our organisation and the valuable contributions that they have made to the OU Students Association.

Question Time

[Filmed]
An unrivalled chance to ask some of the most senior members of staff from the University your burning questions!

Saturday Afternoon 2.30 – 3.30pm

Hub Theatre

On the panel will be:
Keith Zimmerman, University Secretary

The University Secretary is responsible for the effective governance of the University and for ensuring that the Professional Services are effectively and efficiently managed to meet University objectives. This entails membership of the Vice-Chancellor’s Executive, acting as secretary of Council and Senate, overseeing the work of the OU in the devolved nations of the UK, and the management of units responsible for: strategic and resource planning, student and associate lecturer support services, academic policy and quality assurance processes, and central administrative services including Finance, Estates, Human Resources, and Information Technology. Keith is also a key link for the Students Association.
Susan Stewart

Susan is the Director of the OU in Scotland. The OU in Scotland has had an office in Edinburgh since 1969, the year the university was established by Royal Charter. Its first graduation took place at the Assembly Rooms on George Street in Edinburgh in 1974. As the Director, Susan is the OU’s senior officer in Scotland and works closely with the Vice-Chancellor. Susan also leads on all relationships with the Scottish Government, Scottish Funding Council, other Higher Education Institutions in Scotland and other national agencies.

Hazel Rymer

Hazel is the Acting Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Learning Innovation. In this role, Hazel contributes to the strategic vision and mission of the University and has a focus on supporting student success by providing executive leadership in the areas of innovation, strategy and policy development, production, informal learning and research and scholarship in technology enhanced learning. She is chair of several of the University’s main governance committees and is a driver of initiatives relating to learning innovation. In her role, she interacts across the University faculties, institutes and supporting portfolios. The Learning Innovation portfolio comprises The Learning and Teaching Centre, Learning and Teaching Solutions (LTS), Library Services, the Open Media Unit, the Knowledge Media Unit and the Institute of Educational Technology.

Anne De Roeck

Anne is the interim Executive Dean for the new Faculty combining Science and Mathematics, Computing and Technology known as STEM. In this role, Anne is the chief academic officer and also the chief administrative officer for the Faculty. She has the responsibility to ensure that students receive the highest quality experience and have the greatest opportunity to succeed. Anne is also a member of the Vice-Chancellor’s Executive Team, where she contributes to the University’s strategic direction.

Liz Marr

Liz is Director of the Centre for Inclusion and Collaborative Partnerships (CICP). In this role, Liz has overall responsibility for the strategic direction and smooth running of the Centre. She has oversight of the production and presentation of the University’s access curriculum, the development of research and scholarship in the areas of widening access and inclusion and strategic management of the University’s validation services. She also has responsibility for the University’s Widening Access and Success strategy, Recognition of Prior Learning Policy and working collaboratively with external organisations through validation and the Social Partnerships Network and developing research and scholarship via the Access Observatory.
Debate Number 1

[Filmed]
‘This house believes...,’ OU Students go head to head over this controversial statement.

Debate topic: **Face to face contact is pointless at the OU.**

**Saturday Afternoon 4 – 4.30pm**

**Hub Theatre**

**Timandra Harkness**

[Filmed]

Timandra Harkness is an OU student, writer, comedian and broadcaster, who has been performing on scientific, mathematical and statistical topics since the latter days of the 20th Century. She is a regular on BBC Radio, resident reporter on social psychology series The Human Zoo as well as writing and presenting documentaries including BBC Radio 4’s Data, Data Everywhere and Future Proofing series.

In 2010 she co-wrote and performed Your Days Are Numbered: The Maths of Death, with stand-up mathematician Matt Parker, which was a sell-out hit at the Edinburgh Fringe before touring the rest of the UK and Australia. Science comedy since then includes solo show Brainsex, cabarets and gameshows. She is currently writing a new comedy show about Big Data.

**Saturday Afternoon 4.30 – 5pm Hub Theatre**

**Professor Monica Grady**

[Filmed]

Monica has been a Professor of Planetary and Space Sciences at the OU since April 2005. She is a Director of the Cosmochemistry Research Group and prior to that, she was part of the Department of Mineralogy at the Natural History Museum in London, where she headed the Meteorite team. To this day she remains a Scientific Associate of the Museum.

In 2014, Grady spoke to BBC News about the aims and the significance of the spacecraft Rosetta, indicating that one of the key questions the mission aimed to tackle was where did life on Earth come from? A video of her highly enthusiastic reaction when the Philae lander successfully landed on the comet was published extensively around the internet, helping to spread widespread interest in this mission.

**Saturday Afternoon 5 – 5.30pm Hub Theatre**

**Outdoor Activities**

There’s plenty to keep you busy on the Mulberry Lawn – weather permitting! :-)

**Saturday Afternoon 3 – 6pm**

**Mulberry Lawn**
Solar Panel Workshop

[Filmed]

Brought to you by OUDES (OU Development and Environment Society)… Ever wondered what photovoltaics are made from? Come and find out more at this solar panel building workshop.

Saturday Afternoon 3 – 3.45pm

Mulberry Lawn Marquee

Zumba

Get dancing, get exercising and have fun doing it! This session is open to all abilities – no special clothing is needed.

Saturday Afternoon 3.30 – 4pm

Mulberry Lawn

Hula Hooping

HulaFit is a fun and relaxed exercise session where you will learn how to Hula Hoop on your waist and learn a few hooping tricks! A great class suitable for all ages and abilities the only pre-requisite is that you can have fun and enjoy yourself!

Saturday Afternoon 4 – 4.45pm

Mulberry Lawn

Tai Chi

Come and have a go at Tai Chi – no special clothing or equipment required.

Saturday Afternoon 5 – 6pm

Mulberry Lawn

University Challenge

[Filmed]

Watch the teams battle it out for quiz glory. Participants include OU Students who auditioned for the televised programme airing later this year, who will be pitting their wits against OU Staff.

Saturday Afternoon 5.30 – 6pm

Hub Theatre
Saturday Workshops

We hope you'll enjoy the variety of workshops available over the Conference weekend. You don't need to book (with the exception of the Observatory Tours – bookable at Registration). Places at workshops are allocated on a first come first served basis, so make your way to the appropriate room at the appropriate time and hopefully there will be a space for you.

2 – 2.45pm How sexual desire works – Brought to you by OUPS (Open University Psychological Society)... The lecture will explore the processes in the brain and mind that underlie sexual desire and also those that inhibit it and/or its expression in behaviour. To do this, it will consider such features of sexual desire as (1) typical gender differences in desire, (2) promiscuity and fidelity, (3) fetishes, (4) addiction and (5) sexual violence. It will look at the brain chemicals underlying sexual desire and how their investigation can illuminate a number of phenomena such as the split that can sometimes arise between sexual wanting and liking.

Jennie Lee Meeting Room [Filmed]

2 – 2.45pm & 4 – 4.45pm Has LinkedIn taken over the CV? – It’s more than just job hunting – find out more about why social networking is important to your career and how to make LinkedIn work for you. This is your chance to also find out more about how Careers and Employability Services can support you and the wide range of services available.

Library Presentation Room

2 – 2.45pm Why and how to reference correctly using the OU Harvard style – This interactive workshop, led by a librarian, will explore why referencing is important in avoiding plagiarism. There will be activities designed to develop your skills in referencing using the OU Harvard style and there will be opportunities to ask questions.

Library Seminar 1

3 – 3.45pm The Secrets of Enduring Love – In this workshop Jacqui Gabb and Meg-John Barker discuss their experience of disseminating research evidence to a general audience. The Enduring Love? study examined how couples sustain their long-term relationships. Findings have been widely published in the media, translated into educational resources for young people, and written up in a self-help book The Secrets of Enduring Love (2016, Vermillion, Random House). This session will give attendees the chance to try out some of the activities from the self-help book and discuss why this book differs from others available in this popular genre.

Jennie Lee Meeting Room
3 – 3.45pm Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality – Did you know that the OU Student Prospectus includes elements of Augmented Reality (AR)? This is just one way AR is being used by the OU. Paul Hogan will give you an introduction into what we mean by Augmented Reality and his work on it within the University’s technology research lab, the Knowledge Media Institute.

Library Presentation Room [Filmed]

3 – 3.45pm Digital skills for study and beyond – This interactive workshop, will offer an opportunity to catch up with the latest Library digital skills developments, and shape future initiatives. We will provide an overview of what we currently offer, and explore your experiences of developing and using digital and research skills both as part of OU study and in informal environments. We are interested in how skills such as finding, evaluating and communicating information have been useful to you, what helps you to successfully transfer what you have learned and how we can best support you as digital learners.

Library Seminar 1

4 – 4.45pm Fire alarm or false alarm? Can a psychologist really help with decision making on the fireground? – Brought to you by OUPS (Open University Psychological Society)… Firefighters are called upon to make rapid decisions in dynamic, and often dangerous situations. Graham Edgar will consider how firefighters make these decisions and discuss examples where some decisions can be seen, with the benefit of hindsight, to have been wrong. Graham will then present a range of research, including that from the ‘Firemind’ project; a project across the fire services of five countries that draws on cognitive psychology and cognitive neuroscience to better understand decision making on the fireground – and to develop ways to support that decision making.

Jennie Lee Meeting Room

4 – 4.45pm The Future of Disabled Student Services – The University listened to the views and ideas of students and have developed a new model for the delivery of support to disabled students in England. The new model will provide specialist timely coherent and consistent disability related Information, Advice and Guidance. Come along to contribute your ideas and to find out more about this exciting new service and support for disabled students in all nations.

Library Presentation Room

5 – 5.45pm OpenLearn – The Next Ten Years – OpenLearn is 10 years old. We have had more than 40 million visitors and around 50% of OU students visit it each year. We have some new services (public profiles, badges open courses for employability, ebooks, etc) and we will be relaunching the site later in the summer. Come and see what it offers and hopefully play a role in giving us feedback on the site and plans for its development for the next ten years.

Jennie Lee Meeting Room [Filmed]
5 – 5.45pm OU Students Association to AOUG – The natural progression What is AOUG? – An association run by OU Graduates for OU Graduates. An Association waiting to welcome you. Have you already graduated or are you nearing the end of your studies? Come and find out all about what we can offer you and how you can get involved. Even if you have only recently started your studies, we welcome your participation. Face to face activities/printed magazine/electronic newsletters/ social media/special awards for new graduates and research students. Opportunities to interact with others who shared the OU experience – all ages – all backgrounds.

Library Presentation Room

5 – 5.45pm How we are using analytics to help students at The Open University – A chance for you to find out how the University is using analytics to help and support OU students and improve the learning design of our modules. Find out about the policy on the ethical use of student data for learning analytics, how the university safeguards your privacy and pose any questions you might have to staff leading the development.

Library Seminar 1

Walk

Take in some of the lovely landscape in MK and get some gentle exercise with a nice walk.

Saturday Evening 6.30 – 7pm

Departs from Kents Hill Conference Centre

Open Mic & Disco

It’s party time! Have you got a hidden talent you’d like to share? There will be an hour of Open Mic and then time to dance the night away!

Saturday Evening 8.30pm – late

Kents Hill Room Nightingale 23, 24

Quiet Quiz

Find your inner quizzer and meet other like-minded people at what should be a nice relaxed evening.

Saturday Evening 9 – 11pm

Kents Hill Room Nightingale 34, 35, 38
SUNDAY

Kevin McConway

Kevin is an Emeritus Professor whose work includes applications of statistics in biological and medical sciences, and on the representation of ideas of risk and uncertainty. For several years he was involved with an BBC/Open University co-production, ‘More or Less’, a current affairs programme about numbers, broadcast on BBC Radio 4, on which he has explained statistical approaches to the lay person and has used numbers to explore topical questions from school league tables to lotteries via Formula 1 racing.

[Filmed]

Sunday Morning 10 – 10.30am
Hub Theatre

Debate Number 2

More fighting talk from the floor as students get to grips with a question about our furry, four-legged and fishy companions.

Debate topic: Do pets make better study buddies than people?

[Filmed]
Sunday Morning 10.30 – 11am
Hub Theatre

Sunday Workshops

10 – 10.45am

The Power of Philanthropy (Virtual Tour) – There is a growing tradition of philanthropy at the OU which is set to grow as we move towards our 50th anniversary. The “Power of Philanthropy” presentation will take guests on an exciting virtual tour of campus looking at areas of the University that have benefited from philanthropic gifts. The presentation will also introduce the University’s fundraising campaign.

Jennie Lee Meeting Room 10 –10.45am
Enabling Learning & Living with Disabilities – The OU has more disabled students than any other university in Europe. We will introduce how the Institute of Educational Technology (IET) and the Securing Greater Accessibility (SeGA) project works with staff across the university to improve the experiences of students with disabilities. The goal of the workshop is to create new conversations. To identify the big issues and questions that you, the students, want answers to. These could be directly related to your study or be wider issues where disabilities impact on your lives. Where do we need to do more to understand the challenges, or to design new solutions? We want to work with you to define new research questions and project ideas for the future.

Library Presentation Room

10 – 10.45am You Said, We Did: Listening to the OU Student Voice – We would like to showcase the Student Charter and the student consultative process as an example of the partnership between the OU and the OU Students Association. Students will find out what the Student Charter is and how the university consults students. You will have an opportunity to put yourself forward as a volunteer members of online student consultative forums. You will be given the opportunity to give examples of where you think your experience is aligned to the Charter (or not) and suggest topics for consultation with the student body.

Library Seminar 1

11 – 11.45am Societies workshop – For further details on how you could join or set-up a Society come along to this workshop. Jennie Lee Meeting Room 1 [Filmed]

11 – 11.45am Fun and games with the D S G! (OU Students Association Disabled Students Group) – Are you studying as well as coping with a long-term mental or physical health issue? Difficult isn’t it. So why not come and chill out with Cherry, Steph and the rest of the D S G Team for 45 minutes of interactive fun and prizes. You’ll also be able to learn a bit about us as well.

Library Presentation Room

11 – 11.45am Amplifying Your Student Voice – A chance to hear more about how the Students Association is involved in getting your voice, as an OU student, heard within the University. There will be an update on some important research the Association has been conducting, and an opportunity to hear more about how you might get involved.

Library Seminar 1

11 – 11.45am Creative Writing – Everyone has at least one book in them, or so the old adage goes. Do you have a pressing story that must be told? Have you researched your family history or longed to compose a sonnet about unrequited love? In this session, Nicky Harlow will get your creative juices flowing, introduce you to the writers’ craft, and give you a taste of Creative Writing at the OU.

Library Seminar 2
Peer Support & Nightline

Peer Support

Feeling lonely or negative about your studies? Need to talk to a fellow OU student? You might want to contact one of our volunteer Peer Supporters. You can find out more about the service, and details of how to contact the team at [www.open.ac.uk/ousa/help-and-support/peer-support](http://www.open.ac.uk/ousa/help-and-support/peer-support)

Nightline

Nightline is a confidential listening, support and practical information service for students. You can talk to the Nightline volunteers (who are all students) about anything – big or small – in complete confidence. They won’t judge you or tell you how to run your life: they’ll simply listen to whatever is on your mind.

Nightline is open from 6pm to 8am every night until 24th June this term.

You can contact Nightline using the following methods.

Phone:

0207 631 0101

Email:

listening@nightline.org.uk

Skype Chat:

nightline.chat

Skype Phone:

londonnightline

Text:

07717 989 900

You can meet the Nightline team on their stand at registration.

Final address & Pledge Drive

Some final words followed by plans for what you’ll take away from Conference. What will you pledge? What better way to stay in touch with the new friends you’ve made this weekend but to pledge to stick together and help support your local community of students? Continue the good vibes of Conference by planning a local event or another activity near you.

[Filmed]

**Sunday Afternoon 12 – 1pm**

Hub Theatre and Jennie Lee Atrium
OU Students Educational Trust

There will be plenty of fundraising fun happening over Conference weekend. All money raised will go to the OU Students Educational Trust (OUSET). This is the student charity where funds raised by students are used to support students in financial hardship. After many years of campaigning against challenges that part-time and distance learners face, there are still those students in financial need who don’t qualify for financial assistance from elsewhere. OUSET, through its small fund, gives these students the opportunity to apply for a study grant.

Student discount card

As an OU Student, you are eligible to purchase an NUS Extra Card from the National Union of Students. The student discount card can save you money when you buy from online and high street clothing stores, travel companies, restaurants, bars and much more across the UK. Look out for the NUS team on campus at registration on Friday afternoon.
Enjoyed meeting other OU students this weekend? Join the thousands of students in our online communities:

Facebook page: www.fb.com/OUstudents
Twitter account: @OUstudents
Instagram account: @OUstudentslive
OU student forums: http://oustudents.com/forums16

Share your photos and thoughts on the Conference using #OUstudents16 on Twitter and Instagram.

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