

# CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

*Educating • Inspiring • Celebrating*

**Second Edition**

I am pleased to introduce the second edition of the Celebrating Excellence - a collection of stories of achievements, contributions and excellence of Black professionals from UWE, Bristol.

The first edition of the Celebrating Excellence collection featured academics, researchers and staff from the College of Health, Science and Society at UWE, Bristol. This second edition goes further to provide a interdisciplinary, cross-university exposition of the brilliance that Black heritage professionals add to UWE and the Higher Education sector.

This year, the theme for Black History Month in the United Kingdom is “Saluting our Sisters” and in this collection we particularly recognise and salute the women who have been nominated and our colleagues and peers, who have not made this year’s collection.

Black History a month is a time to pause, reflect and celebrate. We are reminded of their stories, the many tales that were never told and those we hope one day will be. This collection is our opportunity to bring some of these stories to life.

My appreciation to the excellent team who have once again inspired the second ‘Celebrating Excellence’ collection and UWE, Bristol for providing a platform where the hard work and dedication of Black heritage professionals can be celebrated.

Finally, thanks to all who have allowed their stories of excellence to be shared.

Thank you for being a part of this journey.

*Prof. Emmanuel Adukwu*

Deputy Head of School  
College of Health, Science and Society  
UWE Bristol


"I am delighted to lend my support and words of encouragement to all those who have contributed to this wonderful booklet.

It so brilliantly showcases the incredible achievements, leadership, and contributions of Black colleagues from across UWE Bristol.

Their excellence is transforming futures here and in the wider world beyond the university. It's hard not to feel uplifted and inspired by their powerful stories.

They make a difference. We are proud of them. I am so pleased to see them all recognised in this important way."

**Dan Wood, Chief People Officer, UWE Bristol**



“My mission in life is not  
merely to survive, but to  
thrive, and to do so with  
some passion, some  
compassion, some  
humour, and some style”

Maya Angelou

## Academic Profiles

Name	Page Number
Abdullahi Arabo	6
Amelia Baldwin	6
Alisha Airey	7
Amy Saleh	8
Angelina Sanderson-Bellamy	9
Ann de Graft-Johnson	10
Bree Randen	11
Chisa Onyejekwe	12
Clay Johnson	13
Dena Edenojie	13
Emmanuel Adukwu	14
Emmanuel Nsiah Amoako	14
Gemma Adams	15
Glennie Moore	15
Faatihah Niyi-Odumosu	16
Hannah Nuttall	17
Hesham Kisher	17
Ifeoma Elizabeth Dan-Ogosi	18
Janet Ige	18
Jimi Ogunnusi	19
Lewis Wedlock	19

## **Academic Profiles**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Page Number</b>
Leyhana McCarthy	20
Malcolm Richards	20
Mubarak Mohamud	21
Nalumino Akakandelwa	21
Nancy Siboe	22
Olabimpe Adegbuyi	23
Oluwadamilola Okeyoyin	24
Paschal Anosike	25
Patience Mutiti	25
Rachael Ununuma Chidugu-Ogborigbo	26
Roger Griffith	27
Samuel Abbey	27
Stephanie Jay	28
Samuel Monday Ikpe	29
Sunny Atuba	29
Xavier Baker	30
Zainab Bakari	30

**Collection of information by**

**Emmanuel Adukwu, Alisha Airey, Emma Jefferies and Xavier Baker**

**Booklet design by Ilyssa Alagon**

## Abdullahi Arabo

### Associate Professor Cyber Science and Network Security



- Recognised by the Pro Vice Chancellor as the main catalyst behind UWE's rising reputation in Cyber Security, my foresight and unwavering dedication led to UWE achieving Gold Award status as a UK Academic Centre of Excellence in Cyber Security Education.
- Recognised as one of the UK's National Teaching Fellows (NTF) in 2022, I am one of only 10 NTFs at UWE and the sole NTF from a black minority background.
- Promotion to Associate Professor in Cyber Science and Network Security

Arriving in the UK with minimal qualifications, an English teacher discouraged my chances of passing GCSE English and suggested working at ASDA. However, I excelled as a top-performing student. I earned my degree at Swansea University, followed by a PhD at Liverpool John Moore's University. Subsequently, I became a Research Fellow at Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford before completing my PhD, and served as a Cyber Security Consultant at BT Labs and other companies, with a registered patent resulting from my research. Received numerous awards for global impact in research, development, and industry-focused inclusive teaching.



## Dr Amelia Baldwin

### Senior Lecturer in Counselling Psychology



- Chartered Counselling Psychologist and Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society
- About 20 years experience as a therapist, supervisor, advocate and trainer in sectors including the NHS, voluntary and private practice
- Senior Lecturer in Counselling Psychology

Dr Amelia Baldwin is an Intersectional Feminist and Practitioner Psychologist. Amelia is passionate about addressing the psychological needs of those targeted by oppression and hate crime and redressing the oppressive circumstances that lead to these experiences. Amelia has practiced, led, advocated and trained in varied aspects of social justice, transcultural counselling, anti-racist practice and decolonial practice. Her doctoral research was a qualitative exploration of British Women's Experiences of Racist Hate Crime.



**Alisha Airey**  
**Senior Race Equality Consultant**



- Co-founder and Director at Bliss and Airey Training and Consultancy.
- Senior Race Equality Consultant in Higher Education.
- Development of Student Advocate Programme, which support Black, Asian Racially Minoritised Students in the College of Health, Science and Society.
- Winner of SU Student Experience Award (2018 and 2020).

Alisha Airey, Co-founder and Director of Bliss and Airey Training and Consultancy and Senior Race Equality Consultant, is recognised for her impactful contributions to Higher Education. With a focus on promoting diversity and inclusion, she has successfully led initiatives, implementing a university wide, culturally appropriate wellbeing service for students and staff and developing a Student Advocate Programme. A two-time winner of the SU Student Experience Award, Alisha is dedicated to empowering individuals, fostering inclusivity, and advocating for racial equity.



With a passion for promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion, I have dedicated my career to creating positive change in Higher Education. As Co-founder and Director at Bliss and Airey Training and Consultancy, I lead a team committed to providing Evidenced based training and consultancy services. My expertise as a Senior Race Equality Consultant has allowed me to contribute to inclusive policies and practices. A two-time winner of the SU Student Experience Award, I am dedicated to empowering individuals, fostering inclusivity, and advocating for racial equity.





- I secured AHRC funding to create a full scheme of work on a Black British play for schools
- I am developing a CPD package to further support teachers implement the scheme of work.
- I had my first academic paper published titled: 'Black British Literature in the Secondary English Classroom' in UCL's 'Changing English' journal.

Collaborating with three Black British teachers, I have created a full scheme of work and resources to support the teaching of Chinonyerem Odimba's play, 'Princess & The Hustler'. There are several external advisors, including Black community leaders, academics and young people. The materials will be promoted in January 2024 at a launch event which will celebrate Black British/African-Caribbean culture and legacies. When the scheme of work is implemented in local schools, I will assess the impact through small-scale research. Beyond this, I would like to do broader cross-contextual comparisons by conducting research in schools further afield.



I qualified as a teacher of English in 2013 and have since taught in a range of settings. In 2021, I completed an MA in English Education; for my thesis, I looked at anti-Blackness in traditional English curricula and how anti-racist English curricula might be designed and implemented. Since joining UWE, I have had a paper, 'Black British Literature in the Secondary English Classroom' published in the Changing English journal. My research complements the project that I am leading on which seeks to equip teachers to teach a Black British play that is now available for study at GCSE level.

## Angelina Sanderson Bellamy

### Professor of Food Systems



- I've won over £18 million in research funding. \*The Food (Wales) Bill was based on and credited to a report I wrote in 2020 (Sanderson Bellamy A, T Marsden. 2020. A Welsh Food System Fit for Future Generations. WWF.).
- My project, TGRAINS, funded by the BBSRC was chosen by BBSRC for its Impact Showcase.
- I am PI of the Agrifood for Net Zero Network+, a £5 million investment by UKRI to build consensus around the pathways to Net Zero by 2050 through agrifood.

Before working at UWE, Prof Sanderson Bellamy was Senior Research Fellow and Associate Dean for Environmental Sustainability at Cardiff University. She also worked as a Research Fellow at the Stockholm Resilience Centre and Stanford University's Wood's Institute for the Environment. Her research career has been based at interdisciplinary research institutes, where she enjoys collaborating with colleagues across social, natural and physical sciences to tackle today's grand challenges. Prof Sanderson Bellamy's undergraduate degree is in Human Biology from Stanford and her PhD is in Ecology from Stockholm University. Her experience draws from working across Latin American and UK food landscapes.



Welsh Government Expert group on Ecosystem restoration and resilience: advise the Implementation Group in its delivery of Welsh Government's Nature Recovery Action Plan. Food Policy Alliance Cymru: board member of alliance advocating for food system approaches. Strategic Board Member: Food Cardiff; Board Member: Riverside Market; Chair: Bristol Good Food Strategy 2030; Strategic Advisory Board: Food Sense Wales. CU Ecosystem Resilience and Biodiversity Action Plan steering group: Chair (2019-2021). Future Earth UK Early Career Research Network Steering Committee: Responsible for promoting and building up the network for the Future Earth UK ECRN. Rainforest Alliance Expert advisor on Agrochemical use: advise on certification standards on appropriate approaches for the use of agrochemicals for different crop sectors. Associate Editor, Ambio (from 2018); Reviewer: BBSRC, US NSF, EU, ESRC grant applications; Swedish science council and ESRC review panels; +15 journals.

## Ann de Graft-Johnson

Senior lecturer in Architecture and the Environment



- Working towards gender, culture, racial and disability equity
- Challenging discrimination
- Advancing inclusive practice and creation of inclusive environments

Ann is an educator, researcher and architect with particular focus on inclusive practice covering gender, culture, race, ethnicity and disability. Throughout her career she has worked for greater equality whether in architectural practice or academia and been active in promoting greater race equality at UWE. She was a member director of Matrix Feminist Architects which sought to work with groups that were traditionally excluded from decision making. This has informed her academic practice. Ann has particularly been involved in advancing participatory and inclusive learning vehicles for students. She is also involved in the wider South Gloucester and Bristol communities regarding race equality.

Ann has spent roughly half of her career in practice and the other half as an academic. As a member director of Matrix she worked with diverse communities to realise projects. These were communities traditionally excluded from decision making in the built environment. The inclusive design approaches developed at Matrix have informed her work at UWE. . She actively tries to disseminate a wider global discourse in a discipline that delivers an overwhelmingly white western often male canon. Ann is a co-ordinator of the BME Staff Forum and through that has worked to push UWE to advance meaningful race equality.



## Bree Randen

### Global Development Officer



- My passion for helping people enables them to be the best version of themselves.
- My natural ability to communicate and bring people from diverse backgrounds together is one of my strengths in my present role.
- My presence, voice, and values inspire other individuals to be true to themselves – this helps students to confide in me and helps me to support or sign post them further.
- Going above and beyond to offer support to as many international students as possible results from my compassion, resilience, and eagerness to help and support others.

I was born in Zimbabwe, Africa where I resided until I was 12 years old before migrating to the UK. Moving to the UK had its challenges along the way, which I am pleased to say I overcame with grace, resilience, and integrity. This personal experience has enabled me to offer first hand support and empathy to our international arrivals who are beginning their own UWE student journey. For example, I take pride in being part of international student journey from beginning to end.

I enjoy meeting them during the pre-departure webinars and even more so when they arrive in Bristol. I absolutely love being the first point of contact for our new and returning international arrivals. I enjoy making them feel welcome, guided, and supported. The most rewarding part of my job is when I see students who looked lost and confused at the beginning, who are now, shining, thriving, and making exciting plans with their new friendship circles.

I am extremely passionate about helping people to better themselves in any aspect of their lives. In addition, I have embarked on my own personal journey to continue to be the best version of myself.

**Dr Chisa Onyejekwe**  
Associate Director (Law)



- Chisa has undertaken taken leadership roles at various universities in the UK including Canterbury Christ University and UWE
- Her research has been cited by a plethora of international organisations (including the United Nations) and the Scottish Government.
- Chisa participates in knowledge transfer activities, for example, she is a member of the Council of the Social of Legal Scholars.

Chisa qualified as a Barrister in Nigeria, holding an LLM and a PhD in Corporate Tax Law from Robert Gordon University. Chisa previously worked at Canterbury Christ Church University and subsequently joined UWE Bristol as the LLB Programme Leader. Shortly thereafter, Chisa was successfully promoted to Associate Director of Law. Chisa’s journey in Law can be used as an inspiration to black and ethnic law students, as she is also passionate about empowering and developing women through mentorship.



## Clay Johnson

### Senior Learning Designer

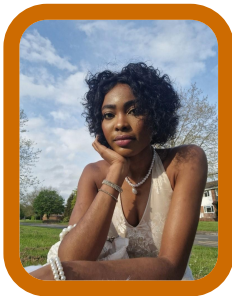


- Graduated with honours degree in Computer Science Education, in 2007.
- In 2016, received a scholarship to complete CSCI-E50 at Harvard's Extension School.
- And in 2018, he received a Masters degree in Computer Science Education from UKZN.

My kaleidoscopic work history has seen me wear a myriad of hats including that of a bank clerk, a firefighter, a paramedic, a rescue diver, an electronics technician, a health and safety manager (oil and gas), an educator, a learning technologist and now, a learning designer. None of these roles, however, have been as rewarding as the work I continue to do furthering the digital skills agenda in South Africa.



## Dena Edenojie



- Successful initiated and executed the Sustainability Hub at UWE Frenchay Campus, which has been shortlisted for a Green Gown 2023 award.
- Successfully demonstrated the impacts and positive effects of the Sustainability Hub to the University and wider community, leading to its continuity that incorporates improvements and transformations.
- Recipient of Stephen Hewitt Prize for outstanding achievement; and showing great strength and commitment to studies.

Dena Edenojie is an enthusiastic and motivated individual with a strong desire to build equitable environments that promote diversity and equality. Dena's contribution to the Sustainability team at UWE birthed the Sustainability Hub, which has garnered UWE staff Awards nominations, a Green Gown Award nomination and traction from various organisations including other universities. She seeks to use her knowledge and expertise to create possibilities that provide improved conditions for everyone.

## Professor Emmanuel Adukwu

Deputy Head of School and Professor of Applied Microbiology



- Recently promoted to Professor of Applied Microbiology at UWE Bristol (August 2023)
- Nominated for and recipient of several notable awards including Winner of the prestigious Royal Society of Biology Higher Education Bioscience Teacher of the Year Award and the first Black recipient of the award (March 2023) and National Diversity Award nominee in 2019.
- Selected to the Bristol Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Powerlist in 2018 featuring Bristol's 100 most inspiring Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) People in Bristol.
- Non-executive director and trustee and a member of leading national and international advisory groups and working committees

Professor Emmanuel Adukwu is currently the Deputy Head of the School of Applied Sciences at UWE Bristol. He was also recently promoted to Professor of Applied Microbiology. He graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Biomedical Sciences, a Masters by Research in Science (MRes) and a PhD in Applied Microbiology. He is a researcher, leader and serial innovator having created multiple platforms enabling educational and career development globally.



## Emmanuel Nsiah Amoako

Lecturer in Forensic Science



- Influencing policy on forensic science regulation in the UK and Africa through research and consultancy work.
- A co-creator of a research interest group at Northumbria University Law School that undertakes and encourages research in law and forensic science.
- Worked with police, forensic science practitioners, and legal and criminal justice scholars on the effective and ethical use of forensic science in the UK.

I am a forensic science academic with teaching and research experience in the interaction between forensic science and law. My career has been inspired by the impact of forensic science on miscarriages of justice, both as a cause and solution. I hope that through my research, I am contributing to addressing or highlighting issues that make forensic science unfit for the criminal justice system.



## Gemma Adams

Project Manager (Civic) National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement



- Developing a culture of evaluation in the Future Quest Uni Connect Programme, supporting the programme to better evidence its impact.
- Managing an England-wide action learning programme with universities and their partners to develop their civic work to benefit local people, including address inequality, supporting economic development, addressing environmental issues, and realising positive societal benefits.

My professional journey has always been people focused. After volunteering on a widening participation scheme, I found that teaching and supporting young people through the means of art was my calling. I've taught in secondary schools, secure units, and youth charities. I joined the university to bring my skills to the Uni Connect Future Quest Programme. During my 6 years working within Future Quest, I developed a strong network of collaborative partners and brought them together to work together more effectively to support under-represented learners in the region. I have since moved to the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement (NCCPE) where I am able to flex my partnership working skills with multiple universities and individuals working in HE and the civic sector.

## Dr Glennie Lauren Moore

Activist-educator



Glennie was born in Trinidad. Her areas of expertise and interests include race, racism, colourism, anti-racism, gender, feminism, and different types of inequalities and injustices. In addition, she is interested in development, colonialism, colonial legacies, decolonisation, and reparations. Glennie has been involved in various social justice activities.

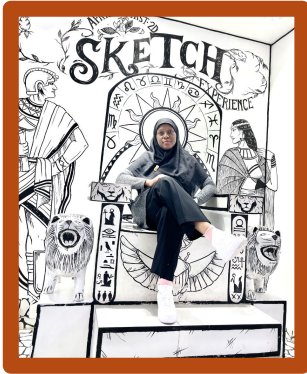
She is currently a senior lecturer at UWE. She was awarded scholarships for her UG, PG, and PhD studies. She studied and taught at SOAS University of London.





## Faatihah Niyi-Odumosu

Associate Professor of Physical Activity, Health & Well-being



- Co-I on Innovate UK, MRC, MRF funded project worth over £2.5M
- Commonwealth scholar & mentor
- Secretary ISPAH LMIC research council

Faatihah is a medical doctor with research interest in physical activity and health promotion. She explores diverse approaches to developing physical activity and health improvement interventions for people with chronic conditions such as kidney disease, older adults (55+), and ethnic minorities (Afro-Caribbean, and South Asians). She is the founder and co-host of the Ageing lifestyle in Black and South Asians monthly webinar as a measure to tackle health inequalities through health education and self-empowerment. She is also the current secretary of the International Society of Physical Activity and Health.



Faatihah is a Co-investigator on externally funded projects such as Fitbees project, Healthy Ageing Challenge fund on promoting and sustaining physical activity and social connection among underrepresented older adults. She has recently obtained a UKRI-funded Ageing Research Development Award to design interfaces aimed at promoting physical activity and health and wellbeing in older adults - the SAW-Health project. With expertise in clinical exercise physiology, her research has potential for developing interventions that are tailored for people with different long-term conditions.

## Hannah Nuttall

### Project Officer - Green Skills for Jobs and Entrepreneurship



- Member of the team that delivers the award-winning Green Skills for Jobs and Entrepreneurship Programme.
- Actively involved in Bristol Redistro, a collective engaged in participatory grant-making, aimed at empowering local grassroots organisations to drive positive change within their communities.
- Established a befriending service to provide support and companionship to isolated adults during the Covid 19 Pandemic.
- UWE BME forum coordinator and played a pivotal role in the inception of the newly established Beyond Black History book club for staff.

Having earned a degree and MA in History, with a specialisation in colonial history and migration, I've significantly enhanced both my understanding of and passion for matters related to race and racism. I began my Third Sector journey in 2013, organising local music events. Later, as a Volunteer Manager at WECIL, I developed a keen interest for disability equality, inclusive project design, and community participation. I'm particularly dedicated to participatory grant-making, empowering communities by giving them choice and control over how funding is distributed. These values and experiences drive my role at UWE, where I aim to bridge gaps and instigate change in Bristol, my hometown.



## Hesham Kisher

### Lecturer in Forensic Biology



- Graduated from the Master of Science (MSci) in Forensic Science and Masters in Research (MRes) in Applied Sciences (Biomedical) with Distinction classifications.
- Co-authored a peer-reviewed publication and edited the manuscript for a now-published academic textbook while completing the Masters in Research in Applied Sciences full-time programme at UWE Bristol.
- Reviewed and issued DNA expert reports to assist in cases related to criminal, family, and immigration law in collaboration with world-renowned forensic providers and academic institutes.
- He is the current Personal Science Tutoring Coordinator for the School of Applied Sciences at UWE Bristol.

Hesham Kisher is a Lecturer in Forensic Biology. He holds an MSci in Forensic Science and an MRes in Applied Sciences from UWE Bristol. Before returning to UWE Bristol, he gained valuable industry experience reviewing and issuing DNA expert reports to assist in legal cases. Hesham's passion for teaching and research led him back to academia. He aims to guide and equip the next generation of forensic biologists.



## Ifeoma Elizabeth Dan-Ogosi

Senior Lecturer in Public Health, School of Health and Social wellbeing



- Led as impact and evaluation manager of the access and participation plan at the University of East London from 2019 to 2023, in which several widening participation projects (access, success and progression) projects won national awards. I also won the Vice Chancellor & President awards in 2020 and the Director of student's services award in 2021
- Obtained her senior year fellowship in Higher Education (SFHEA) 2022.
- Completed a PhD in 2023 titled: The Impact of Participatory Budgeting (PB) on health and Well-being: A Qualitative Case Study of a Deprived Community in London. Her thesis explored the processes through which the PB approach was applied in the Well London programme, a multi-component intervention that operates to improve individual and community health and wellbeing. Ifeoma Received a citation by UEL's VC at the recent Graduation on the 6th of September 2023 as part of UEL's 125th Goodnews story for contributions to the UEL community and her achievements as an Alumnus.

Ifeoma is a senior lecturer in Public Health at the School of Health and Social Wellbeing. Her MSc in public health and a PhD were awarded by the University of East London (UEL). Ifeoma has 13 years of research and teaching experience in UK Higher Education. Her research focuses on community engagement, asset-based and system-wide approaches to improving health and wellbeing, including the award-winning 'Well Communities' programme and evaluations shaping national policies, like the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence and Public Health England.



## Dr Janet Ige

Senior Lecturer in Public Health



- Recognised as a professional reviewer for the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR).
- Co-led the BSc Public Health Practitioner Apprenticeship programme (in 2023)
- Mentored and supported students, and those from the widening participation groups to deliver the UWE SU Ted-x talk in 2023

With a seven-year journey in academia, I've embraced roles from research associate to senior lecturer, shaping the educational paths of undergraduates and post-graduates. My dedication extends to mentoring and empowering students from diverse backgrounds. My unwavering passion lies in research, particularly in fostering research prowess among underrepresented academic groups.



## Jimi Ogunnusi Senior Lecturer /Organisation Studies & Global Enrichment and Engagement Manager



- A Chartered Fellow of the Chartered Management Institute (CMgr FCMi), with a tenacious appetite for getting the best from people.
- An international education specialist - aptly coined the 'The 'Passionate Remolder'– during his Transnational Education (TNE) and entrepreneurial work across Sub-Saharan Africa.
- A hybrid management consultant, with over 28 years of leadership and operational experience.
- A renowned troubleshooter, who gets to the root cause(s) to solve problems.

Jimi has a unique way of problem-solving, delivering change and enriching the student journey. He has the vehicle, vision, and passion to ensure that your change journey is pleasurable and that you reach your destination regardless of the terrain. To this end, he subscribes to the notion that 'motivation is a frame of mind'. "To get the best out of people we need to fully understand and cultivate their motivations"



## Lewis Wedlock Social Psychologist



- Creator and Creative Director of Black Bristol, bringing culturally competent Black History to Bristol class rooms.
- His paper "Inspecting The Microcosm" has amassed a lot of interest in academic circles on producing culturally competent spaces for young people of colour to thrive in.
- Worked with over 3000 Bristol based high school students in 2023 on misogyny, sexism and internalised patriarchy

Lewis Wedlock is a social psychologist who examines and explores pathways that limit the expression of magnificence. With expertise in decolonial modalities and pluriversal masculinities, his work is centered around disrupting taken for granted assumptions of "truth" through intersectional lenses. He began teaching at UWE aged 22, and is currently teaching Critical Thinking for UWE's psychology department.



## Leyhana McCarthy

### Information Point Team Leader



- Joined UWE in December 2014 as an Information Point Adviser before being seconded as Team Leader in July 2017
- Successfully completed the BME Leadership Development Programme in 2018 and then secured a permanent position as Information Point Team Leader in January 2022
- Unison Branch & South West Regional Black Members Committee Member

Since starting my UWE journey in 2014, I've been one of the long-term Black members of staff within Professional Services. As Team Leader, I have been committed towards the goal of motivating and encouraging my team to provide an excellent student experience. I'm dedicated to working within UWE and the South West to ensure the voices and experiences of people in Black and Minoritised communities are represented and heard.



## Malcolm Richards

### Senior Lecturer in Education



- Graduate of the Black Supplementary School Movement in England (Josina Machel and Dimbaleh Education Centre (UK: Hackney))
- Founder Black Studies in Education Network @ UWE (UK: Bristol)
- Co-owner of Bookbag, an independent bookshop in Exeter (UK: Devon)
- Board member Exeter UNESCO City of Literature (UK: Devon)

Qualified teacher, school leader, governor, and advisory teacher, and community-based scholar-activist. Writer, author, speaker, and regular public discussant on education both nationally and internationally. In April 2022, I joined UWE as a Senior Lecturer in Education. My research interests include comparative teacher education and teaching development, research ethics and professional care, Black Studies in Education, and creative pedagogical approaches for transformative professional teaching cultures. During 2023/24, I am currently co/developing projects which explore themes of race equity, transformative practices, and teacher education; international comparisons of teaching and learning in HEIs with colleagues in Canada, Nigeria, and the United States; Counter stories with Black teachers of self-organising in education trade unions in England and Wales; and finding and using students' funds of identity approaches for race equity teaching in Bristol schools.



## Mubarak Mohamud

### Senior Lecturer in Strategy



Mubarak Mohamud has played a significant role in Bristol Society. He has worked on a number of landmark projects that cross many different communities and issues. For instance, He founded the “Islam in Bristol” Charity in 2010 which aims to dispel Islamophobia. As a Lecturer in Strategy, he has used this role to mentor students from the BME community. His current research focused on the Student Experience of minoritized students.

Took charge of the final year students in BA Business & Management with the remit to improve the score of the NSS. The positive results moved the dial for the whole university which in turn push our NSS scores up in years 17/18 and 18/19. In 18/19 I ran a series of spin-off sessions and workshops supported other programmes in sharing best practice. Projects such as the curation of “Five secrets to success” podcast series and ‘Best Practice’ sessions enhance the support for both students and staff. During Covid, I was the lead in curating the content for the group progress coach tutors. This was a cross disciplinary, cross faculty initiative which aimed at supporting students in the gap between formal teaching and what typical student services offer. This project was innovative in approach and outcome. The practices learnt now inform new versions of support in post-Covid times



## Dr. Nalumino Akakandelwa

### Senior Lecturer - Valuations and Property management



- Real Estate Programme Transformation and curriculum development - Copperbelt University (2003), Namibia University of Science and Technology (2010), Wits University (2012)
- Introduction of digital technology applications in real estate valuations and appraisal - Argus Software (R) and Real Estate Financial Modelling in Spreadsheets
- Co-Investigator on the Tracing the Root causes Upstream of Unhealthy Urban Development (TRUUD) Real Estate Intervention

I am Zambian with over 20 years academic experience spanning four countries and two continents. I joined the University of the West of England in May 2016 and involved in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching including digital technology integration in real estate valuations. I am engaged in a multi-disciplinary Medical Research Council funded research project. I am also an external examiner at Wits University, South Africa and Namibia University of Science and Technology.



## Dr Nancy Siboe

### Senior Lecturer in Law and Programme Leader



- After my first month of my current role at UWE, Bristol (Senior Lecturer in Law), I was offered an added Programme Leader, Undergraduate Law role.
- I successfully brought collaboration between a UK higher academic institution (Southampton Solent University) and an African (Kenyan) higher academic institution (Moi University) with lasting student experience of both sides of the world.
- Worked as part of Senior Management team at Tourism Fund Kenya on drafting process, presentation for approval and management of over £13m budget and directly managing a £4m budget.

My name is Nancy, born and bred in Kenya. I am a holder of a Ph.D. in International Law the University of Portsmouth, UK, a Postgraduate degree in Law (LL.M, International Law) from the University of the West of England, Bristol, and a Master of Business Administration degree (MBA- Strategic Management) from Daystar University, Kenya. My undergraduate studies in law (LL. B) were undertaken in Moi University- Kenya. Professionally, I am a qualified attorney having been admitted to the Kenyan bar as an Advocate (both barrister and solicitor) of the High Court with over 13 years' experience.

A certified teacher possessing an Apex Pathway Foundation Certificate by the University of Portsmouth, the initial professional development towards Descriptor 1 of the UK Professional Standards Framework for teaching and supporting learning in Higher Education (UKPSF), I am on track to gaining a Fellowship of Higher Education Academy aligned to Descriptor 2 of the UK Professional Standards Framework. I am a member of the Society of Legal Scholars, UK. I also hold certification in Public Private Partnerships from the IP3 Institute in Virginia, Arlington USA. My work experience spans law firm practice, state corporation and academia. Presently I am Senior Lecturer in Law and Programme Leader for Undergraduate Law at the University of the West of England, Bristol.





## Olabimpe Adegbuyi

### Postgraduate Researcher



- Accomplished postgraduate with distinction in Health Technology at UWE, specializing in bio-sensing and rapid magnetic detection technologies for diagnostics.
- Dedicated advocate for diversity and inclusion, particularly in encouraging the progression of Black, Asian, and ethnically diverse staff in STEM and academia.
- Currently pursuing a doctorate, Olabimpe conducts groundbreaking research in magnetic cell detection and differentiation at UWE's cutting-edge Health Technology Hub.
- Mentor and tutor for postgraduate students, providing invaluable support in research projects and laboratory work.

Olabimpe embarked on her academic journey in 2021, excelling as a postgraduate student in Health Technology at UWE. Her master's research focused on bio-sensing and rapid magnetic detection technologies for point-of-care diagnostics, specifically targeting antimicrobial-resistant bacteria under the guidance of Prof. Richard Luxton. Beyond academia, she passionately champions diversity and inclusion, empowering underrepresented staff. Presently, Olabimpe pioneers magnetic cell detection technology in her doctoral research at UWE's Health Technology Hub, contributing to the advancement of health technology. As a postgraduate student tutor, she mentors and supports emerging health tech innovators. In her personal life, Olabimpe extends her passion for empowerment, serving as a beauty and skincare consultant, promoting self-care and inspiring personal growth. Olabimpe's journey is a harmonious blend of academic excellence, social advocacy, and beauty empowerment.

Olabimpe is a distinguished public health enthusiast with a postgraduate degree in Health Technology from UWE. She specializes in advancing rapid magnetic detection technologies for point-of-care diagnostics, particularly focusing on antimicrobial-resistant bacteria. Beyond her groundbreaking research, Olabimpe is a fervent advocate for diversity and inclusion, promoting the recognition and progression of underrepresented staff in academia and the STEM field. Currently engaged in pioneering magnetic cell detection technology during her doctoral research at UWE's Health Technology Hub, she continues to push the boundaries of health technology. Her journey is marked by academic excellence and a tireless commitment to empowering the next generation of health tech innovators.





## Oluwadamilola Racheal Okeyoyin

### PhD Researcher



Dami is passionate about Herbal medicine, and her research is funded by Pukka Herbs and UWE. Alongside her PhD, she is an associate lecturer, supervisor, and mentor to undergraduate and master's students. As a researcher, she has presented her research to both local and international audiences and is a published researcher.

Outside her love for science, she was the Treasurer of the UWE Doctoral Society 2022-2023; She is an advocate for educational change and advancement in higher education as she is a lead school representative, was the former UWE Vice President Education 2021-2022 where she was involved in policy making in higher education and is on the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) panel for the Office of Students 2022-2023.

She has an undergraduate degree in Biomedical science and a Master of Research degree in Applied science from UWE and from her early years in higher education, she has been passionate about helping other students as she was a Peer assisted learning (PAL) leader, PAL intern, student ambassador, Widening participation advocate and a Postgraduate student mentor during her master's degree.



She is passionate about neurodiversity and equity and has delivered a TEDxUWE talk on 'The Intersectionality between Racism and Mental Health'. Dami has also contributed to two issues of the UWE No More Silence Zine. She is the founder of Damioke Naturals, a sustainability focused Nigeria based non-toxic cosmetic brand focused on promoting self love. In her spare time, she loves to read, tend to her allotment, volunteer, travel, cook, watch Sci-fi, dance, and write.

## Paschal Anosike

### Associate Professor Knowledge Exchange and External Engagement



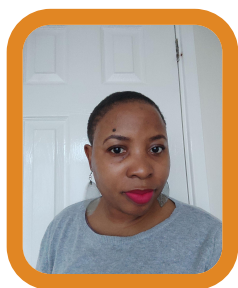
- In 2023: my Monograph Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development in Africa won the SAGE 2022 global Social Justice Book Award
- In 2020: I was elected Fellow of The Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce for work in enabling societal change and impact (FRSA)
- In 2019: I contributed to the United Nations catalogued Africa Prosperity Index metrics used by governments, policy makers, business leaders, researchers and development community to identify specific actions needed to strengthen pathways from poverty to prosperity in Africa

In my 13 years+ career as educator I have contributed to developing my subject, colleagues, and society. As African with a British nationality, my priority has been helping individuals develop skills to overcome inequalities through high-impact educational initiatives with a strong Sub-Saharan African focus. As such, much of my work has centred around using knowledge exchange to build innovation ecosystems in African countries, foster cross-border collaboration and advance scientific understanding in entrepreneurship domain. My research influenced the 2019 Africa Prosperity Index (API) report published by the London-based global think-tank Legatum Institute. At policy level, I have completed advisory missions for the African Union Commission, The Commonwealth, and the European Commission and shaped public debates as Keynote and panellist at different international events including the Westminster Higher Education Forum, Horasis and World Economic Forum.



## Patience Mutiti

### Lecturer in Occupational Therapy



- As Diversity Champion on the Occupational Therapy Programme, Patience has been working with her programme team to address the awarding gap.
- In addition to working in clinical practice in Zimbabwe and the UK, Patience has worked on disability, inclusion and rehabilitation projects in Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, India, and Sri Lanka where she has trained a diverse range of rehabilitation professionals.
- She is a founding member of mOTivate OTs, a global association of Zimbabwean OTs, which works in collaboration with the University of Zimbabwe to provide mentorship and career guidance to OT students.

Born in Zimbabwe, Patience graduated from the University of Zimbabwe with a BSc Honours Degree in Occupational Therapy. She migrated to the UK in 2005 and worked as a senior occupational therapist across different settings in the NHS, before specialising in wheelchair service delivery and postural management. In 2013, Patience took up a role in international development, working with Motivation Charitable Trust to develop professional wheelchair services and specialist rehabilitation services in Africa and South Asia. She has worked at UWE as an Occupational Therapy Lecturer since January 2022.



## Rachael Chidugu-Ogborigbo

### Senior Lecturer in Biological Sciences



- I have over 10 research publications in different multidisciplinary aspects of Biosciences including books and research papers on congenital malaria in newborns.
- My research on Sea sponges as sentinels for measuring uptake, fate and biological effects of environmental contaminants has developed key effect-based assays for biomonitoring, environmental risk assessments and to inform regulatory framework.
- I discovered for the first time a new sea sponge species in the Niger Delta area of Nigeria and have recently extracted bioactive ingredients from this sponge with proven anti-cancer effects.
- I am a former Commonwealth scholar and now an adviser for the UK Commonwealth Scholarship Selection Committee.
- I am an active researcher in Ecotoxicology, aquatic pollution biomonitoring and marine natural products therapeutics.

Prior to obtaining my PhD, I was a lecturer for three years at the Department of Animal and Environmental Biology, University of Port Harcourt. And a Project Manager for an Environmental Advocacy NGO for two years. After studying for a PhD in Environmental Toxicology, I held a postdoctoral role with the University of Birmingham and also worked as a Chemistry tutor and programme lead at the University of Coventry group of schools (A further Education).

My experience in teaching and research in HEIs and FEIs as well as my continuous personal development in academic leadership has largely underpinned my career trajectory. I have therefore grown from a Research Associate to a Science tutor, to a Lecturer in Biological Sciences before joining UWE Bristol in December 2019 as a Senior Lecturer in Biological Sciences. Module leader involved with designing, delivery, assessment, planning and revision of teaching and learning programmes for different student cohorts ranging from level 0-M.



## Dr Roger Griffith MBE

Associate Lecturer & Diversity and Community Engagement Advisor



- Recognised with awards locally and nationally with Bristol Lord Mayor's Medal and M.B.E.
- Lifelong Learning Champion leaving school without qualifications to honorary doctorate and Ted X 2023 Bristol Speaker - Writer and Author of My American Odyssey From the Windrush to the White House
- Social Entrepreneur building community businesses former Executive Chair of Ujima Radio and currently CEO of Creative Connex CIC

Dr Roger Griffith MBE is a consultant and CEO of his company Creative Connex. He is a writer, social activist, UWE Bristol lecturer, creative producer, broadcaster and former CEO/Chair and Broadcaster of Ujima Radio an award-winning community radio station. He has a passion for sharing cultural stories, global observations and insights on race, inclusivity and social inequality. He has been delivering race equality and diversity training for over 30 years.



## Samuel Abbey

Associate Professor



- Joined UWE as a Senior Lecturer in 2018, and made significant impact in teaching and research, and programme accreditations.
- Led the strategic development of community of PGRs in Engineering and delivered on their implementation.
- Appointed Associate Professor of Geotechnical Engineering and Sustainable Infrastructure in recognition of his established and growing records in research with impact.
- Appointed Associate Director and currently leading the strategic development and operational management of programmes in Engineering Practice & Management in the School of Engineering.

Samuel is an Associate Professor of Geotechnical Engineering and Sustainable Infrastructure, and Associate Director of Engineering Practice and Management. His work has shaped and influenced change around 'Ground Improvement' issues. Combining his skillset as Chartered Engineer, Educator, and Scientist, has given him a unique opportunity to understand and lead his academic discipline. He leads the strategic development and operational management of programmes in Engineering Practice & Management in the School of Engineering.



## Stephanie Jay

Researcher & Creative consultant



- Research contributions in oral microbiology
- Leadership in cultural development at St Georges
- Tedx talk on becoming a better leader
- Launch of Dance Articulate which explores alternative therapies for mental health issues.

Stephanie's multifaceted career is a testament to her dedication to both scientific advancement and artistic expression. As a Biomedical Science PhD candidate at UWE, she's at the frontier of innovative research through her partnership with Colgate-Palmolive. Beyond academia, she has been a key part of the Bristol creative scene since 2016, having founded SEPH Group to champion emerging talent, with her work showcased on prominent stages and media outlets, including the BBC and Channel 4. Her leadership extends to serving as a Director at St George's Bristol, where she's a pivotal voice for equality, diversity, and inclusion. Her pioneering "Dance Articulate" exhibition and compelling TEDx talk further illuminate her diverse contributions and accomplishments.

Stephanie, currently delving into innovative research at UWE as a Biomedical Science PhD candidate, collaborates with Colgate-Palmolive to explore oral microbial variances between Caucasians and Black Africans, aiming to enhance ethnic-specific treatments. Her artistic prowess is recognized widely, with contributions to prominent UK exhibitions like "I am Melanin", "African Queens" and collaborations with major platforms including the BBC. In 2016, she created SEPH group, a creative management focused on cultivating an array of creative professionals. Her leadership resonates in her roles at St George's and UWE's EDI committees, advocating for inclusivity. Her innovative "Dance Articulate" exhibition merges arts with therapy, underscoring her multifaceted impact.



## Samuel Monday Ikpe

### Artist/Student Support Advisor/TEDx Organiser



- Reinstated TEDx UWE
- Provided a platform for students and externals to create and showcase their abilities through TEDx, Amplify music competitions and in My Language campaigns.
- Being a Judge at the UWE Got Talents.
- A Role Model to students and creatives at UWE and in Bristol

Samuel Monday Ikpe (a.k.a. Sambee) is an Artist, Producer, Mechanical Engineer, TEDx organiser and a Student Advisor at UWE. He made waves with his first single GAOU in 2018, before releasing his debut album 1718. Recently released a heart-breaking project “X-FILES” and set to release a new project “BIG HEAD, Vol 1” in 2024. Samuel continues to improve student experiences as well as contributing greatly to the world through his music.



## Dr Sunny Atuba

### Senior Lecturer in Electrical and Electronic Engineering



- Chartered Engineer (CEng) with the institution of engineering and technology (IET) - Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy with Advance HE (SFHEA)
- In 2021, He won a research grant for Surface Plasmon Resonance Based Fibre Sensors for Rapid Screening of Covid-19.
- In 2019, He was the runner up lecturer of the year at Coventry University Scarborough.

Dr Sunny Atuba is a Senior Lecturer in Electrical and Electronic Engineering at the University of the West of England, Bristol. He holds a Diploma in Computer Engineering, a BSc. in Applied Physics (First Class), an MSc. in Electronics (Distinction) from the University of Benin, a PgCert in Teaching and learning in higher education from Coventry University and a PhD in Optical Engineering from the University of Aberdeen, Scotland. He recently completed a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the prestigious Aberdeen Business School in September 2023. Sunny has championed and collaborated with various industries on different engineering based projects that revolves around energy, telecommunication, medical/biosensors, control systems and instrumentation. He is a transnational education expert (TNE) and has facilitated and led teaching and learning activities across three continents: Africa, Asia, and Europe.



## Xavier Baker

### Mentor & Cohort Manager (Green Skills)



- Mentor and Cohort Manager for the national and international awarding-winning Green Skills programme.
- He completed his undergraduate Law (LLB) degree and Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Professional Practice (PGCAPP) at UWE and is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.
- Xavier is a coordinator of the BME Staff Forum and a strong advocate for racial justice. He has also hosted and featured on a range of panels and podcast episodes discussing themes of leadership, awarding gaps, decolonisation, sustainability and innovation.
- Xavier is a Trustee for a Multi Academy Trust with five primary schools.

Xavier is the Mentor and Cohort Manager for the Green Skills for Jobs & Entrepreneurship programme. This transformational initiative supports individuals from racially minoritised backgrounds to access employment and business opportunities in the sustainability sector. As well as helping to design and deliver the programme, Xavier facilitates group and one-to-one coaching sessions for learners. Before joining the Green Skills Team, Xavier worked as an Assistant Support Lecturer in the Law School at UWE for three years.



## Zainab Bakari

### Lecturer in Law



- Notable achievements: Awarded UKRI COVID-19 research grant in December 2021. Received 'Above and Beyond Award' from the University of Kent Student Union for going beyond and above expectation in teaching Contract Law, 2019 and 2020.
- Recipient of the University of Kent Vice-Chancellor Graduate Teaching Assistant scholarship 2018- 2021 and Kent Law School overseas scholarship 2018 – 2021.
- Recipient of Scholarship by VLIR-UOS and Ghent University Belgium to undertake Biotechnology course on late blight potato in East Africa, Sept 2016. Scholarship by the NEPAD for training on Biosafety for Lawyers at Makerere University, Uganda, May 2015.

Born and raised in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Graduated LLB from Tumaini University, Tanzania (2005); LLM Commercial Law from University of Cape Town South Africa (2007); PhD in Law at University of Kent (2023). Qualified Barrister (2011), a member of the Tanganyika Law Society and East African Law Society. Diverse international teaching experience. Joined Academia since 2007 before moving into the corporate world from 2013-2018. With my teaching and research passion, I returned to academia in 2018 at the University of Kent and started working at UWE Bristol in January 2023. Experience teaching and convening various modules, currently I teach LLB Law of Torts and Contract Law for undergraduate law; Intellectual Property law for LLM and Lead Business Law module for Accounts and Finance.



## **Professor Paul Olomolaiye**

As we celebrate the excellence of our colleagues in this booklet, we also want to celebrate the illustrious, long-standing successful career of Professor Paul Olomolaiye. Paul is retiring from UWE Bristol after fourteen years - in that time, Paul held many roles working across the University supporting the management of different Colleges and services.

In addition to leading the former Faculty of Environment and Technology, Paul was also able to step in and provide leadership to other faculties during his time at the University. There are few who could lead with such distinction across engineering, technology, environment, business and law, the arts, creative industries and education.



Paul took up a newly created role of Pro Vice-Chancellor for Equalities and Civic Engagement in September 2020. Paul provided support and leadership to drive forward our equality, diversity and inclusivity vision and delivery plans across UWE Bristol

Paul has been a leader, colleague, friend, mentor, and much more to the UWE Bristol community and we wish him the best as he takes on the new challenge of retirement.



**This booklet celebrates some of  
the excellent contributions and  
transformational projects of  
inspirational black professionals  
from the University of the West  
of England, Bristol**

**Thank you for reading their  
stories.**