



Innovation and Human Connection: Harmonising the Future of Education

Tuesday 29TH April 2025
University of Strathclyde Technology and Innovation Centre, Glasgow

Programme schedule

08:30 - 09:00 Registration, refreshments and networking

09:00 - 10:00 Welcome and keynote address

10:05 - 10:55 Breakout Sessions 1

10:55 - 11:20 Refreshments and networking break

11:20 - 12:10 Breakout Sessions 2

12:10 - 13:30 Lunch and networking

13:30 - 14:20 Breakout Sessions 3

14:20 - 14:50 Refreshments and networking break

14:50 - 15:40 Breakout Sessions 4

15:45 - 16:00 Closing plenary

16:00 - 17:00 Drinks and networking reception

Please note all sessions are subject to change.

ENIC NORTH 2025 Conference sponsorship

In association with



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Conference programme

08:30 – 09:00 Registration, refreshments, and networking

09:00 – 10.00 Welcome and keynote session

ENIC NORTH 2025 explores the relationship between technological innovations in education and the impact these have on the personal experiences.

'EdTech' developments in education are well documented, including a growing awareness and application of AI, with innovations occurring at pace. But how do these changes affect the personal experience and how do they address the needs of learners? During a period of change, challenge and some uncertainty, ENIC NORTH 2025 will consider the role technology can play to improve learning experiences, enhance education provision and benefit learners.

Experts from across the education sector will explore this question throughout the day, bringing a diversity of experience and insight to address how technological innovation has an impact in their areas of work, and look to the challenges and solutions that technology may bring.

Opening welcome and keynote session

Catherine Winter, Chief Executive Officer, UK ENIC

Keynote speech and Q&A

Prof. Simon Thomson, NTF PFHEA ADE, Director of Flexible Learning, Office of The President and Vice Chancellor, University of Manchester

*Every conference delegate will be automatically registered for the start of day plenary.

Breakout sessions 1

10:05 – 10:55

Session descriptors

Fraud insights panel

Julie Hepburn,
ACCA Global

Do fraud policies, practices and processes have individuals at the centre of their considerations? How can counter-fraud activities keep student interests at heart, protect organisational integrity and integrate technological change?

Mervyn Adams,
International
Compliance
Manager,
City of Glasgow
College

Fraud is a constant, a challenge that evolves alongside technological advances. This cross-sector panel look at the policies and approaches to dealing with fraud. It provides an opportunity for attendees to listen to the challenges that exist, share experiences and reflect on the lessons that we can learn from each other.

This session provides plenty of opportunity for questions, discussion and interaction with our panel of speakers.

Password English Language Testing - Using English language testing to streamline admissions processes and elevate the student experience

Simi Kohli,
Head of Global
Partnerships and
Communication

English language proficiency is not just an admissions requirement, it is a key predictor of academic success, retention, and overall student experience. This session will examine how universities can integrate English language testing into their admissions processes to ensure students are fully prepared for the academic challenges of studying in the UK. We will discuss how effective language assessments can streamline admissions, improve student readiness, and enhance institutional reputation. Join us to explore the benefits of prioritising English language proficiency.

Shelley Vink,
Head of University
Partnerships

Pavla Drabkova,
Academic Program
Manager - Global
College,
Heriot-Watt University

Recognition of Microcredentials

Axel Dessen,
Research Operations
Manager, UK ENIC

Are microcredentials the future of education? How ready and available are micro qualifications amongst education providers? What do they mean to international students? And do they link to the needs of the world of work?

This session will explore what microcredentials are, what they offer learners, and how UK ENIC approaches evaluating them.

How to get the most out of your UK ENIC membership – a practical session

Beccy Lawrence,
Membership Operations
Manager, UK ENIC

This practical session focuses on UK ENIC's data and services, which can be used to support admissions and recruitment activities. This includes advice and tips on using our resources, including the Certificate Bank, Member Enquiry Service, institution listings and country files.

Ted Cernik,
Membership Account
Executive, UK ENIC

In this hands-on session, UK ENIC colleagues will guide attendees through key service and enquiry features, by using its renowned International Comparisons database.

The session should help demonstrate how UK ENIC membership can make day-to-day work easier for members. The session is practically focussed, with audience interaction, and using real-life examples from the databases.

Break and refreshments 10:55 – 11:20

Breakout sessions 2

11:20 – 12:10

Session descriptors

Shared Vision, shared success: Strengthening the student-Institution relationship

Jane O'Loughlin,
*University of Edinburgh
and STRATIS*

What are the fundamental needs of our international students?
How do institution staff and student representatives ensure those needs are identified, met and covered satisfactorily?

**UKCISA student
ambassadors**

This group discussion will present the perspectives of both student and institution, and reflect upon the variety of social, cultural and study-related needs from start to finish of students' individual journeys.

Education in India

Xènia Corominas,
*Membership Account
Executive, UK ENIC*

This session provides an overview of the most common school and undergraduate qualifications within the Indian education system.

Priscila Vibeke,
*Senior Information
Officer (Training and
Events), UK ENIC*

India is an important country in the recruitment of international students. The session has been scheduled following feedback from members asked to identify those countries important to them.

The AI Revolution in Admissions: an opportunity enabler or blocker?

Mónica Camino Moreno,
CEO, Dialexy

The conversation is no longer hypothetical. AI is here, and it's already reshaping the landscape of F/HEIs, from recruitment through credential evaluation to responsible internationalisation. The choice is: embrace or adapt?

Blaise Potard,
*CTO & Co-founder,
Dialexy*

In this engaging, practical session we will move beyond speculation to explore how AI can impact some of the admissions team's daily tasks and its rippling effect on the institution's students, teams and strategic objectives. Get ready to hands-on test drive Dialexy's purpose-built solutions for automatic document identification, multilingual translation, or intelligent data extraction. We'll confront the potential threats, explore the

exciting possibilities for increased efficiency, diversity and strategic impact, and navigate the crucial ethical considerations of automation.

Quality assurance and accreditation - a practical session

Jodie Duffy,
*Head of Research, Data
and Insights,*
UK ENIC

How do you know if an institution is accredited? Are processes of accreditation the same across the world?

Our Head of Research, Data and Insights leads this session, which will explore UK ENIC's processes for evaluating international qualifications.

Attendees will learn about the ways in which quality assurance is provided in different countries, how this can be challenging and the effect this has on our ability to evaluate awards.

Lunch and networking 12:10 – 13:30

Breakout sessions 3

13:30 – 14:20

Session descriptors

Responsible internationalisation

Nancy Cooke,
*Director of International
Development,*
University of Salford

What does responsible internationalisation mean? What does it look like? This session considers how governments, institutions and organisations can embrace responsible strategies to ensure the best international student experiences.

Robbie Willis,
*Head of International
and Postgraduate
Recruitment,*
**The University of
Edinburgh**

In a world of challenges, competition and financial limitations, this session will explore the importance and growing awareness of responsible internationalisation.

With expert insight from international consultancy, institutional recruitment and student perspectives, our panellists will consider how

Stuart Rennie,
AfaraEd

it is possible to find the right students for the right courses, through strategies underpinned by responsible internationalisation.

Harish Lokhun,
Head of Education
Scotland,
British Council,
Scotland

'Humanising' the education journey and experience through EdTech

Chris Gibson,
Sales Manager,
Gecko

From the first point of contact to post-graduation: (how) can technology facilitate the recruiter, institution and individual experiences along each stage of the student journey?

Jonny Richardson,
Head of AI,
Gecko

Regular UK ENIC conference speakers, Gecko, will provide an engaging, interactive and hands-on session. They will explore the power of technology, its accessibility and potential, and the value that EdTech can bring to the student and institution experiences.

Education in the Philippines

Ted Cernik,
Membership Account
Executive,
UK ENIC

This session will provide an overview of the most common school and undergraduate qualifications from the Philippines.

Based on the results of our member survey, a session on an emerging country of interest for attracting international students.

Jessiel Vasquez,
Information Officer,
UK ENIC

Discussion Hub

Our discussion hub provides you with the opportunity to discuss core and current issues with colleagues working across the international education sector. In this session, you have the opportunity to share your insights, reflect on the challenges you face and talk about the changes taking place. Through facilitated conversation this gives everyone a voice and a chance to listen and learn from others' experiences. Our discussion hubs are informal, in small groups and led by you!

Break and refreshments 14:20 – 14:50

Breakout sessions 4

14:50 – 15:40

Session descriptors

Beyond Buzzwords: Human-Centred AI in International Admissions

Cato Rolea
*Assistant
Director of
Digital
Transformation,
UK ENIC*

Cutting through the hype to explore practical, people-first uses of AI that enhance, not replace, human connection.

In a world flooded with AI jargon and shiny new tools, it's easy to get lost in the noise. This session invites international education professionals to refocus on what truly matters: people.

**Vangelis
Tsilikiris,**
*Professor of
International
Education,
Nottingham
Business
School*

We'll move beyond the buzzwords to unpack pragmatic, ethical, and human-centred uses of AI in student recruitment and engagement.

From intelligent automation that frees up time for real conversations, to tools that personalise at scale without losing empathy, this is a grounded look at how AI can support, not supplant, the human touch at the heart of international education.

You'll leave with:

- Practical AI applications you can implement today
- Strategies to keep empathy and cultural nuance front and centre
- A clear-eyed view of where AI adds value, and where it doesn't

Ready, steady, grades!

Jodie Duffy,
*Head of Research, Data
and Insights,
UK ENIC*

The UK ENIC International Grade Comparisons (IGC) database provides a wealth of data and information to help anyone who works with qualification grades.

From improving understanding of grade meanings, to evaluating applicant suitability and readiness, IGC provides an invaluable resource to help make informed grade-related decisions.

This session shows attendees how to use the database effectively and creatively.

Fraud and Verification - a practical session

Beccy Lawrence,
*Membership Operations
Manager, UK ENIC*

A practical, UK ENIC-led session to highlight the key tips and tricks for spotting problematic institutions and qualifications, with case study examples.

Oliver Pritchard,
*Senior Events and
Training Executive,
UK ENIC*

We will look at some of the key areas of educational fraud that members should be aware of, providing key characteristics to look out for on documentation and websites, and working towards a checklist to help determine the legitimacy of a qualification.

Investigating qualifications: Certificate surgery - a practical session

Xènia Corominas,
*Membership Account
Executive, UK ENIC*

Have you ever had a tricky qualification to deal with, but weren't sure where to start with it?

Priscila Vibeke,
*Senior Information Officer
(Training and Events), UK
ENIC*

In this workshop-style session, attendees can bring along problematic, challenging and tricky qualifications. UK ENIC staff will be on hand to give the prognosis, offer support, advise on database features to use and talk you through the appropriate diagnosis.

In this workshop, country and qualification experts from UK ENIC will review those problematic certificate examples.

Delegates are also encouraged to send their queries to UK ENIC, including documentation, ahead of the session. Our experts will endeavour to review and discuss as many of these as is practical during the session.

Trickier cases may need a referral.

Closing plenary 15:45 – 16:00

Drinks and networking reception 16:00 - 17:00

Please note all sessions, allocated rooms, and speakers are subject to change.