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#### **Voices of Change**

SU Student Rep Conference

February 19, 2025

David Knight, He/him Mallika Kanyal ,She/her Fotis Begklis, He/him Bach Nguyen, He/him Mia Marcondes Browning, She/her



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#### Aims of the session

- →To present student-led collaborative initiatives, providing insights into how student partnership can drive meaningful change in education.
- →We do this by presenting two related projects on student podcasts:
  - → Year 1 student representatives using podcasts as a collaborative medium to explore the themes of 'Living in London' and 'Neurodiversity' from the perspectives of their fellow students.
  - → Exploring student attainment from the perspective of student experiences through a student-led podcast, funded by LCC EDI Grant.



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#### Introducing the presenters

- →Year 1 Reps:
- →Bach Nguyen
- → Mia Marcondes Browning
- →Staff:
- →David Knight
- →Mallika Kanyal
- →Fotis Begklis









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#### Why work with Student Reps?

- → Student reps represent the best interest for their cohorts
- → Student reps serve as vital allies to staff, actively contributing to projects that promote transparency and open opportunities
- →Student reps work with students using methods and tools that may effectively capture their voices and provide opportunities for selfexpression in ways familiar to the students.





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# Year 1 BA (Hons) Film and Television student podcasts

- → How did they come about?
- → Why are they important?
- → How did we make them?





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#### Mia- How did I approach my podcasts?

How I prepared

Why I chose the topic of being a student in London at UAL.





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#### Mia's Podcast on 'Living in London'



Podcast 1: Being a student at LCC





Podcast 2: Living in London



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#### Bach: How did I approach my podcasts?

- Unscripted conversations surrounding the topic of neurodivergence.
- → Led by participants instead of host.
- → Casual banter with a friendly atmosphere.





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#### Bach's podcast on 'Neurodivergence'



Podcast 1: Lara and Avery on Autism





Podcast 2: Neurodivergent TV Characters

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# Student led podcast project on improving student attainment

- → Collaboration between students and staff- Core project team consisting of lead student podcaster, changemakers and staff participants. The core team agreed the overarching aim and themes for the podcasts.
- → The themes and project details shared with the School SLT for their input/collaboration.

- → Lead student podcaster and Changemakers host and record 5 podcasts with the Year1 students.
- → The Changemakers and the podcast lead, facilitate focus groups with Level 4 students, using recorded podcast episode as a stimulus for group discussion.
- →All participants draw an initial analysis from podcasts and focus groups.

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# Anticipated outcome(s)

Creation of pedagogical interventions aimed at supporting student attainment: actionable recommendations in the areas of pedagogy, subject content, assessment and feedback.

Staff and student guide representing the views, perspectives and experiences of students in higher education.



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#### Collaborative projects in education- questions for reflection?

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Which stakeholders to involve?

How hard is it to reject the traditional role between teacher and students

Implicit power relations may create new hierarchies

Construction of hybrid identity-'fee payer' to 'collaborator'

Privileging the already privileged

Participants may feel they 'lack knowledge'

Paradox of participation: 'more' is 'good' participation

Time and trust

Unquestioning reliance on the views of the participants

Risk of unequal participation and generation of false consensus

Cultural differences







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# Thank you for attending Voices of Change

Bach Nguyen, He/him
Mia Marcondes Browning, She/her

David Knight, He/him Mallika Kanyal, She/her Fotis Begklis, He/him Student Rep Year 1
Student Rep Year 1

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