



Wednesday 21st February

- 09:00 Check-in opens
- 09:30 Welcome to STEM, LGBTQ & You 2024 & Keynote Chloe Orkin
- 10:00 **Alex Moylett**
Effective Methods For Dealing With Noise
- 10:30 **Daniel Whitt**
How An IGR Rugby Team Supports Me In The STEM World
- 11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:30 **Robin Horton**
Chemistry, Community, and Catalysing Change
- 12:00 **Will**
My Journey Through Physics, Gender and Fibre
- 12:30 Lunch Break
- 13:15 Afternoon Welcome & Sponsor Presentation
- 13:30 **Kai Wilschnack**
Finding What You Are Looking For: Contaminants and Identities
- 14:00 **Madeleine Moore**
A personal perspective on transitioning as a lecturer in STEM
- 14:30 Coffee Break
- 15:00 **Jamal Kinsella**
Making STEM Queer: Cultivating Inclusive Spaces in Research and Beyond
- 15:30 **Liam Cini O'Dwyer**
#QUEERSCIENCEMAGIC: Exploring Issues of Exclusion and Participation for LGBTQ+ Youth in Science Education
- 16:00 10 Minute Break
- 16:10 **Panel Session:**
The Rainbow Stethoscope: LGBTQ+ Perspectives in Medicine
with Dr Robyn Plowright, Dr Chloë Rogers, Syd Marshall & Aryam Marafi
- 17:20 Closing Session
- 17:30 End of Conference - Social at Kilder bar



Alex Moylett

(they/she)

Effective methods for dealing with noise

There is a lot of noise in modern life: auditory noise, LGBTQ-phobic noise, and noise affecting quantum computers, just to name a few examples. In this talk Alex will share their experiences working as a queer person across academia and industry, and offer some advice for how you can deal with noise yourself.

Daniel Whitt

(he/him)

How An IGR Rugby Team Supports Me In The STEM World

Within my presentation, I would like to introduce you all to the world of the IGR (International Gay Rugby). Inclusive rugby teams, along with other sports, are becoming more frequent around the world, especially in the UK, and are safe and supportive spaces for people within the LGBTQ+ Community and our allies. During my postgraduate education, I felt the urge to 'try' something, but I also wanted to find something new that would allow me to open up more. There was something I could not understand within me and could not express. By chance, I decided to join my local IGR team (The Hull Roundheads). I had never played rugby before in my life and had never had the enticement to do so, but I decided to see if it would help. Since then, IGR rugby has worked with my disabilities and my mental challenges to support my studies and help me develop. I did not realise the way that I felt within the Hull Roundheads could be so supportive and changing, that could see me improve my work, see my studies excel, and my morale shift. I would like to present this to you all and talk about how my academics and rugby team have worked for me and allowed me to grow in the world of STEM.

Robin Horton

(they/them)

Chemistry, Community, and Catalysing Change

I'm a second-year PhD student at the University of Cambridge. I'm spread between the departments of chemistry, physics and biochemistry, studying photosynthesis and how we can use photosynthetic organisms for energy production. I'm going to talk a little about my experiences of coming out as trans as I started my postgraduate studies, and how I finally found (and helped build) a community in the chemistry department. I'll also talk in depth about our campaign for gender-neutral toilets in the department, and how (not) to try and change things in a system that's rather resistant to change.

Will

(they/he)

My journey through physics, gender and fibre

As a current PhD student at the University of Bath, I will be talking about my journey to where I am now in both my STEM career and my gender. I will be talking about my struggles coming from a working-class background, growing up as a woman in physics, and then navigating gender changes alongside studies. I aim to share my experience of things that helped me through difficulties and raise awareness of the lack of visibility for LGBTQ+ people in physics. As well as this, I will share a bit about my research, using optical fibres for quantum technologies!

Kai Wilschnack

(they/them)

Finding what you are looking for: Contaminants and Identities

I research pharmaceuticals as contaminants in the environment. My method allows me to determine up to 68 pharmaceuticals in wastewater and rivers. However, with targeted analysis, you can only find what you are looking for. I will also talk about how growing up in a binary world, I didn't have the words to describe my identities. And without knowing my options, I couldn't find who I am.



Madeleine Moore

(she/her)

A personal perspective on transitioning as a lecturer in STEM

This talk will discuss my experiences as a transgender woman and, in particular, transitioning as a lecturer in Mathematics at the University of Hull. I came 'out' as transgender a year after taking up my first permanent position at Hull, so that in my first year, I taught and researched as my old self, before transitioning to my true self in my second year. Given this somewhat unique situation, I undertook an autoethnographical research project as part of my Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Practice into my experiences transitioning and how it affected my teaching practice, my interactions with students and colleagues, and my own mental state. This talk will touch upon the results of the project, with particular focus on three key topics:

- Self in the teaching environment. How does being 'out' impact teaching and, in particular, alter the 'performance' of the lecture?
- Student familiarity. How do my experiences differ between students who I have / have not taught previously?
- What wider problems can be identified for a transgender lecturer in the wider University?

Jamal Kinsella

(he/him)

Making STEM Queer : Cultivating Inclusive Spaces in Research and Beyond

Jamal will explore how he, like many queer folk, often needed to shape inclusive space directly, by starting projects and activities. After 12 years of building inclusive communities, Jamal will share his many mistakes and lessons learned, but also the unique successes and opportunities that emerge in Libraries and SciComm.

The talk will invite the community to reflect on what spaces they have found inclusive, and what qualities make it so. Jamal will reflect with the community on how we can support the creation and development of inclusive spaces without additional demands on our practical and emotional labour. How can we get our allies to do more of the heavy-lifting in creating inclusive spaces?

Sharing grievances and successes we've seen in our careers will be encouraged, and everyone should be able to reflect more on how their own space could be made more inclusive, whatever that space means to them.

@JamalKinsella



Liam Cini O'Dwyer

(he/him)

[#QUEERSCIENCEMAGIC: exploring issues of exclusion and participation for LGBTQ+ youth in science education](#)

This presentation depicts the findings from a pilot study conducted for a PhD thesis exploring issues of exclusion and participation of queer youth (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, and other non-cisgender-heterosexual identities) in secondary school science education. To date there is very little research on queer youth/children; there is also very little research of queer experiences in science education. Certainly, there is no research of queer youth's experiences of science education. As Hughes states, there is a "dearth of literature on sexual minorities in STEM" (Hughes, 2018, p. 385). The research behind this presentation seeks to redress this gap using a critically realist paradigm to ask: 'what are the causal mechanisms which act as tendencies for queer youths' exclusion or participation in science education?'

From what little research there is; what is known is that queer undergraduate students are less likely to remain in STEM subjects, particularly gay men dropping out at a higher rate than other social minorities (Hughes 2018). Also, that pervasive prejudicial cultural norms and perceptions of competence in STEM: limit queer youths' opportunities to succeed, result in a significant additional academic and emotional effort, leads to academic and social isolation (Cech & Waidzunus, 2011). This study seeks to build on this research using a modified biopsychosocial identity development theory as a lens to view and understand queer youth's reasons for continuing or not with science education.

A qualitative methodology was employed for the pilot study at a UK university, conducting semi-structured interviews with four undergraduates and nine postgraduates. Thematic analysis was enacted, and findings presented as a composite prose poem. The pilot study findings revealed many interesting insights, however, what appears to be most telling in response to the research question is the importance for queer youths' sense of belonging as the causal mechanism which acts as a tendency in their exclusion or participation in science education. The presentation ends with limitations, implication, recommendations, and next steps.

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The Rainbow Stethoscope: LGBTQ+ Perspectives in Medicine

A Panel Discussion

Dr Robyn Plowright

(she/they)

Newrotex, CSO

My background is chemistry and materials science. My PhD working was focused on using genetically modified spider silks for dental implants and have been working on using silks for biomedical application for 10 years. I am a real nerd for creating new applications for old analytical techniques.

Dr Chloë Rogers

(she/they)

16point6

Chloë Rogers (she/they) is a junior doctor in Public Health with special interest in LGBTQIA+ inclusive healthcare. They have developed @16point6lgbtq, providing workshops on trans-inclusive healthcare, LGBTQ+ patient self-advocacy, and clinical communication with LGBTQ+ patients. Check out the Trans Healthcare MOOC on Futurelearn to learn more! Outside of work, Chloë is a devoted plant parent and prolific knitter, currently working on a 124 year-old pattern for a cycling jumper.

Syd Marshall

(she/they)

I work in the Radiotherapy Physics department of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham as a Senior Dosimetrist.

Aryam Marafi

(she/her)

I am an AroAce and queer Kuwaiti refugee, a domestic violence survivor, and a medical student. I try my best to bring visibility and create a safe space for queer Arabs and queer Muslims like myself. I'm excited to join the panel to talk about the lack of representation of LGBTQ+ identities in medical education and learn from each other's experiences to ensure healthcare is accessible and inclusive of LGBTQ+ people, as well as other marginalised identities.