



# Open Doors – Open Minds: Engaging with Higher Education

Conference hosted by the 2012/13 cohort of the DMU  
Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education  
19<sup>th</sup> April 2013 Bede Island

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## **Keynote Speaker: Professor Colin Beard**

NTF, BSc. M.Ed. PhD. Fellow Royal Society of Arts, Chartered Fellow CIPD  
<http://colinbeard.co.uk>

Colin Beard is a **Professor of experiential learning at Sheffield Business School**. He holds a PhD in experiential learning. He is also been recognised in the award of a **National Teaching Fellowship** from the UK Higher Education Academy.

Colin works with and advises many global organisations on learning and development. An experienced practitioner in advising, designing and facilitating powerful experiential learning for a range of national and international clients, his expertise is recognised by leading corporate organisations and many now apply his experiential methods for more effective training and development.



## **Keynote Session: Student Engagement and Transformation: A Twin Track Approach**

Professor Colin Beard will explore student engagement from two extreme perspectives, namely that of utility and ambivalence towards knowledge versus deep engagement and meaning perspective change that supports transformation.

The talk will relate theory to practice with reference to a pedagogy called 'Walk the Talk' where epistemological development requires an understanding of the complex spatially related web of knowledge in order to grasp the essence of the evolution of the environmental movement.

However the recognition of a parallel ontological development track can help raise lecturer awareness and promote the generation of approaches that support the shift towards more transformative modes of student learning.

The role of the sensory and emotional intelligence in moving to transformational learning approaches will be highlighted, and the concept of the 'edge zone' will be introduced