



Influence. Integrate. Impact.

SDF Festival of Learning and Development

Shaping strategic voice,
connected practice, and
meaningful change in
Higher Education

Will be held on
9 to 11 November,
2026

About the SDF

The SDF is a non-for-profit charitable organisation. It aims at developing people and organisations to realise their potential.

The SDF is a space for creativity, connection and co-creation. Our values are collaboration, innovation and sharing practice.



Monday 9 November

1

**9:00-9:50
HUMAN EXPERIENCE IN THE AGE OF
AI: FROM INSTRUCTION TO
TRANSFORMATIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Nick Shackleton-Jones, Shackleton Consulting

2

**10:00-10:50
HOW TO BUILD RESILIENT TEAMS:
ORGANISATIONAL RESILIENCE IN
A HYBRID WORKPLACE**

Jo Keeler, Belbin

3

**11:00-11:50
SKETCHES OF THE FUTURE
ORGANISATION - HUMAN, AI, AND
THE SPACE BETWEEN**

Julian Stodd, Sea Salt Learning

4

**12:00-12:45
DEVELOPING COACHING SKILLS IN
HE ROLES: A CONVERSATION
ABOUT WHERE AND HOW THIS
COULD WORK IN YOUR HEI**

Andry Anastasis-McFarlane, The Learning Moment

5

**2:00-2:55
FROM FRAMEWORK TO PRACTICE:
CO-CREATING WHAT HE NEEDS
NOW**

Hannah Fromageau, AdvanceHE

6

**3:00-3:45
THE STORY OF PERKIN**

Mark Crabtree, Mark Stephen Crabtree Consulting

7

**4:00-4:45
STOP ASKING FOR A SEAT AT THE
TABLE. BUILD THE TABLE.**

Charles Jennings, Duntroon Consultants



Tuesday 10 November

1

9:00-9:50
AI WILL NOT REMOVE WORK; IT
WILL MOVE WORK: HUMAN-
CENTRED AI POWERED
LEADERSHIP IN THE HE SECTOR

Danny Mirza, Coventry University London

2

10:00-10:50
BETTER CONVERSATIONS SO YOU
CAN INFLUENCE, INTEGRATE AND
IMPACT

Eszter Molnar Mills, Formium Development

3

11:00-11:50
BREAKING DOWN SILOS WITH
RELISH

Paul Gentle, Invisible Grail

4

12:00-12:45
YES, BUT HOW? (WHEN IT COMES
TO ADOPTING AI INTO HE)

Katie Steen & David Weller, WorkSmart AI

5

2:00-2:55
STOP WAITING FOR PERMISSION:
INFLUENCE, VOICE, AND A SEAT
AT THE TABLE

Rachel Reeds, Think Bold

6

3:00-3:45
RANDOM THE KEYNOTE

Matt Ballatine, Equal Experts

7

4:00-4:45
PURPOSEFUL LEADERSHIP IN
AN AGE OF DISRUPTION

Clive Wilson, Clive Wilson Consulting



Wednesday 11 November

1

09:00-09:50
MIND THE GAP! BUILDING AN
INSTITUTIONAL PEOPLE MANAGEMENT
FRAMEWORK WITH PEOPLE AT ITS
HEART

Madiha Sajid, Imperial College London

2

10:00-10:50
WE CAN ALL BE RELATIONAL
PRACTITIONERS

Clementina Quinn, Open University

3

11:00-11:50
THE INTERSECTION BETWEEN LEAN
AND CHANGE MANAGEMENT

Linda Spinks, University of Cambridge
Luke Phillimore, De Montfort University

