

A closer look at our speakers...

Specialists in Universities

SUMS
Consulting

SUMS Annual Conference 2018: Global Perspectives on Achieving Growth

Thursday 22 November 2018

IET Birmingham Austin Court

80 Cambridge Street, Birmingham, B1 2NP

9am – 4pm

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With our Annual Conference arriving shortly in November, we are delighted to announce we have confirmed three key speakers for the day.

Professor Patrick McGhee is Assistant Vice Chancellor at the University of Bolton and a UK National Teaching Fellow. He is a qualified Cognitive Behavioural Therapist and works with organisations to improve well-being and effectiveness. In a world where universities are increasingly expected to treat students as customers, Patrick will explore what the implications are for learners, academic staff and society through the way courses are designed and delivered. Does treating students as customers make universities more effective and efficient?

David Wilkin is the Chief Finance Officer at Birmingham City University and has strategic responsibility for Finance, IT, Estates and Facilities. Previously Director of Resources at West Midlands Police, he will be reflecting on the importance of intelligent IT investment, VFM and efficiency, particularly highlighting the journey that Birmingham City University has been on in recent times along with its successes, pain points and lessons learned.

Bob Athwal is the former Pro-Provost Student Experience and External Relations at GSM London. He is a regular International conference speaker, specialising in Early Careers, Student Experience and Student Outcomes. In this interactive session, Bob will discuss his experience in achieving both financial growth and building on the student experience through supporting student employability. He will focus on how he created a different approach to help international students improve their employability by staying connected to their home countries. This session will ask attendees to re-think their approach to work-readiness and challenge existing pre-conceptions and will enable the audience to see what developments are ongoing in the UK and beyond.

Booking Information:

Attendance for SUMS members is free of charge. Non-members can book a place for £360 per delegate. Places are allocated on a first come, first serve basis, so please book early to secure your place and avoid disappointment. Please book [here](#).

