

Friday 9 December**11.30-12.30****Denbigh****The Ethics of Widening Participation (RS2)***Penny Jane Burke and Annette Hayton*

This event will bring together researchers, scholars, policy-makers, leaders and practitioners of widening participation (WP) in higher education to explore WP in relation to ethical questions and considerations. It will draw from the discussion points generated at the WP Network 2010-2011 (SRHE/UALL) seminar series on the 'Ethics of Widening Participation'. A brief overview will be given, summarizing the themes, issues and questions identified during the discussions at the seminar series as well as the key arguments made by the speakers. The aim of the event is to 1) build on our seminar discussions, focusing on the ethics of widening participation, 2) consider the emergent themes from these discussions in terms of research and policy agendas and 3) make explicit connections between theory, practice and ethics.

Key questions to consider will include:

- How are different groups differently and unequally positioned by the WP agenda and what are the ethical implications this raises? Whose 'voices' and experiences are heard, silenced, included, excluded, re/presented through WP agendas?
- In what ways might we develop an ethical framework for WP that addresses the complex and multiple challenges of confronting educational inequalities? Who participates in the development of such practices? How might we develop ethical practices in our work?