

# Broadcast from the Centre for Teachers and Teaching Research

## June 2024



Welcome to the end of year 2024 update from the [Centre for Teachers and Teaching Research](#). It has been a very busy year with new and ongoing research reflecting a range of pressing issues for teachers and their work to reduce inequalities in schools. Mark Hardman, Claire Pillinger, Becky Taylor, Sal Riordan and Caroline Daly are delighted to welcome new staff members to the team to work on our portfolio of research projects.

### NEW STAFF

#### Francesca McCarthy – Research Fellow



Francesca is a former secondary school music teacher and senior leader and completed her PhD at IOE in 2023. Francesca's research interests include methodological approaches which centralise lived experience to explore issues related to social injustice. Francesca has previously been awarded an IOE Early Career Impact Fellowship and also works as a visiting lecturer at Roehampton University, teaching at undergraduate and Masters level.

#### Kusha Anand – Research Fellow



Dr Kusha Anand is a Lecturer in Education and Citizenship. Her work spans various interdisciplinary projects that delve into the complex relationships between identity, education, and the social and healthcare experiences of ethnic minoritised groups in the UK. She frequently disseminates her findings to local communities, local authorities, frontline practitioners, policymakers across the UK. Her primary research interests lie in the realms of agency and voice.

## Laurens van Loenen – Intern



Laurens is a masters student in Educational Psychology at Erasmus University Rotterdam. His previous study in Applied Psychology and his work as a youth counsellor has sparked his interest in research in the education sector. In his internship at the CTTR he aims to gain experience in all aspects of working in a research centre in an international environment.

## **NEWS IN BRIEF**

- [Mary Bousted joins the CTTR as Honorary Professor.](#)
- We're excited to announce that CTTR Research Fellow Claire Pillinger is seconded part-time to the University of Surrey to work on an ESRC-funded project that was developed in the Centre: **Conceptualisations of Neurodiversity and Barriers to Inclusive Pedagogy for Early Career Teachers (ConNECT)**, ESRC with University of Surrey.
- Read Sal Riordan's latest provocative blog about the challenges for schools of working with evidence to inform practice: <https://theconversation.com/schools-are-using-research-to-try-to-improve-childrens-learning-but-its-not-working-226348>
- We were delighted to host Katie Strom from California State University as a visiting scholar last Autumn. Katie worked with colleagues and held a public event around critical complexity <https://www.iop.org/events/critical-complexity-and-education-research>. We are hopeful of further collaboration between CTTR in London, and colleagues in California, Massachusetts and Toronto on a new project – watch this space!



*Dr Katie Strom, Honorary Associate Professor with CTTR and Dr Shakhnoza Kayumova (University of Massachusetts Dartmouth) at the CTTR Critical Complexity and Education Research event.*

- CTTR are working with colleagues in the IOE Centre for Education Policy and Equalising Opportunities to conduct a large-scale evaluation of how Universal Primary Free School Meals for 7-11 year olds are influencing children, families, schools and communities in London.

- In December, CTTR hosted a lively panel discussion including Caroline Daly to launch '[Teacher Education in Crisis. The State, the Market and Universities in England](#)', chaired by editor Viv Ellis, with discussant Rory Gribbell (now Director of Strategy and Engagement, Ofsted).
- The CTTR evaluation report for the pilot Grassroots anti-conflict programme, funded by Youth Endowment Fund, will be published in July. Keep an eye on the YEF website for more details: <https://youthendowmentfund.org.uk/funding/who-we-fund/behavioural-insights-team/>
- UCL Press have agreed to publish a new book being co-edited by Mark Hardman: "Bringing powerful knowledge into classrooms. Subject teachers as recontextualising agents." The book reflects a longstanding collaboration with colleagues in Sweden and Finland and should be published in late 2025.
- CTTR is working with IOE Initial Teacher Education colleagues to investigate the IOE piloting of the DfE *Intensive Training and Practice* initiative, a significant government intervention in teacher education that is mandatory for all teacher education programmes from September 2025.
- CTTR has been awarded UCL Knowledge Exchange funding to develop an Initial Teacher Education Innovation Network in 2024-25, working with the National Association of School Based Teacher Trainers. The network will collaborate with diverse stakeholders in teacher education to review the implications of our research findings for schools and future teacher education policy and identify priorities for innovation within the English system.

## CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS

CTTR's current projects reflect the Centre's commitment to advancing equalities in schools and agency within the teaching profession. Find out more details in the links below:

- [Grassroots: empowering pupils to reduce conflict by positively influencing their peers](#), Education Endowment Fund/Youth Endowment Fund
- [Evaluation of SMART Spaces](#), Education Endowment Fund
- [Evaluation of KEEP Teaching: Physics Teacher Retention Project](#), Education Endowment Fund
- [Student Grouping Study](#), Education Endowment Fund
- [Working Lives of Teachers and Leaders](#), Department for Education
- [Creativity Collaboratives](#), Anglian Learning (Arts Council England)

## SUMMER TERM CTTR EVENTS

- **26th June**, 10.30-12.00 in 675. Educating Teachers Matters seminar, **Exploring dissonance as an opportunity for teacher learning in initial teacher education**, led by Dr Polly Glegg. No registration required.

- **15th July, 1.00-2.30 pm in 675. Addressing our history: Designing a California Secondary School Black Studies Curriculum**, led by Dr Travis Bristol and Dr Tolani Britton, University of California, Berkeley (please register using QR code).



#### JOIN OUR PRESENTATIONS AT THE BERA CONFERENCE, MANCHESTER 2024:

- **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September**, 12:45 - 14:15 'Grassroots: findings from a pilot evaluation of an anti-conflict intervention in English secondary schools', presented by Becky Taylor. With Mark Hardman, Sal Riordan, Keri Wong, Nicola Abbott, Claire Pillinger and Victoria Showunmi.
- **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September**, 15:30 - 17:00 'Why bother? Pupils' stories of academic disengagement'. Symposium presented by Francesca McCarthy alongside Laura Quick & Emma Simpson (IOE).
- **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September**, 09:00 - 10:30 'Engagement, action and sustainability: A workshop on the opportunities and challenges presented by research with participants'. Workshop led by Francesca McCarthy, Juliette Wilson-Thomas (Manchester Metropolitan University), Mick Chesterman (Manchester Metropolitan University) & Emily Lau (University of Kent).
- **Wednesday 11 September**, 16:00 - 17:30 'The Student Grouping Study: Integrated Mixed Methods in the Implementation and Process Evaluation of a Naturalistic Experiment', presented by Becky Taylor. With Jeremy Hodgen, Laurie Jacques (IOE), Antonina Tereshchenko (Brunel University), Maria Cockerill (Queens University Belfast) and Rosa Kwok (Hong Kong University).

#### A new programme in the department of Curriculum, Pedagogy and Assessment

- **"Youth, Society and Sustainable Futures" BA Programme Launches in 2025.** A new trailblazing and innovative BA programme is being launched at IOE, UCL Faculty of Education and Society, with sustainability at its core. The BA "Youth, Society and Sustainable Futures" will launch in September 2025. For further information about this multi-disciplinary programme, see the prospectus below and use the open days link for registering.
  - **Prospectus:** <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/undergraduate/degrees/youth-society-and-sustainable-futures-ba>

- **Open day page for booking sessions:** <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/open-days/youth-society-and-sustainable-futures-open-day>

Wishing you a wonderful summer break from the CTTR team and looking forward to keeping in touch about CTTR activities in 2024-25.