RELIGION AND SECULARISM ON CAMPUS:
Examining how Universities Experience and Negotiate Diverse Beliefs

6th and 7th September 2018
Khalili Lecture Theatre, SOAS, University of London
https://www.soas.ac.uk/representingislamoncampus/conference/

#beliefoncampus

Day 1: 6th September 2018

09:30 to 10:00 Arrival and Registration

10:00 to 10:20 Introduction and Structure of the Day ¹, Professor Alison Scott-Baumann
Welcome, Professor Andrea Cornwall, Pro-Director of Research, SOAS

Chair: Professor Mathew Guest, Durham University, UK

Negotiating the Normative-descriptive Divide in "Secular" Islamic Studies: Reflections across the North Atlantic Anglosphere
Dr Usaama Al-Azmi, Markfield Institute of Higher Education, UK

Conceptualising Higher Education: Anglican theological reflections on being a university.
Professor Stephen Heap, University of Winchester, UK

Fighting for "Justice", Engaging the Other: Shi'a Muslim Activism on Campus
Dr Emanuelle Esposti, Cambridge University, UK and Professor Alison Scott-Baumann SOAS, UK

11:50 to 12:05 Break

¹ This conference is being run as part of the Re/presenting Islam on Campus - a three year project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) that explores the complexities of lived experience, representation and perception of Islam on UK University campuses. Our work highlights three specific areas: Gender, interfaith discourse and radicalisation. We bring new observations also on Islamic Studies. Each panel at the conference will also include presentations from the research team detailing the conference findings.
12:05 to 13:35  Panel 2: The Contemporary University in Historical and Institutional Perspectives  
Chair: Dr Kristin Aune, Coventry University, UK

*Historical Dissenting Christian Academies and Contemporary Muslim Educational Institutions: Contexts, Comparisons, Resonances and Contrasts*
Professor Paul Weller, Coventry University and Oxford University, UK

*The dangers of secularism in secularized Higher Education: evidence and reflections from a UK context*
Professor Clive Marsh, University of Leicester, UK

*Authorised Narratives in the Marketised University*
Professor Mathew Guest, Durham University, UK

13:35 to 14:35  Lunch

14:35 to 16:05  Panel 3: The Abrahamic Legacy on Campus  
Chair: Dr Ziad Amir

*Observations on learning about something different: Judeo-Arabic lessons for Muslims in the secular French academy*
Dr Sami Everett, Cambridge University, UK

*Sin and hope: Christian evangelical perceptions of the university*
Lennin Caro, University of North Carolina, USA

*Islam and Interfaith on Campus: Glimmers of solidarity in securitised and marketised contexts*
Dr Sariya Cheruvallil-Contractor, Coventry University, UK

16:05 to 16:25  Break

16:25 to 17:25  Panel 4: Feminism and Student Life  
Chair: Dr Shuruq Naguib, University of Lancaster, UK

*Inclusive Campus Environment: Perceptions of University Students on The Educational And Cultural Experiences of Muslim Covered Women*
Dr Fatma Nevra Seggie, Nagehan Pakdamar-Tüzgen and Humeyra Dincer, Boğaziçi University, Turkey

*Muslim women on campus: self-representation and the politics of dress*
Dr Aisha Phoenix, SOAS, UK

17:25 to 17:45  Break
Day II: 7th September 2018

09:15 to 9:45  Arrival and Registration
09:45 to 10:45  Panel 5: Curriculum developments
Chair: Professor Alison Scott-Baumann, SOAS, UK

Pedagogical Reflections on the Introduction of a ‘Law and Religion’ Module in the Traditional Legal Curricula of Law Schools in the UK
Dr Amin Al-Astewani, Lancaster University, UK

Re/presenting Islamic Studies: Old problems and changing contexts
Dr Shuruq Naguib, University of Lancaster, UK

10:45 to 11:05  Break

11:05 to 12:35  Panel 6: Researching Student Life
Chair: Dr Aisha Phoenix, SOAS, UK

Exploring how to research religion and non-religion on campus
Sarah Lawther, Nottingham Trent University, UK

Without Forgetting the Marja’: Evolution of Shi‘i Identity and Practice of Religious Authority on UK Campuses
Muhammed R. Tajri, Al-Mahdi Institute Birmingham, UK

Methodologies for researching campus life
Professor Alison Scott-Baumann, SOAS, UK

12:35 to 13:35  Lunch

13:35 to 15:05  Panel 7: Formation on Campus
Chair: Dr Sariya Cheruvallil-Contractor, Coventry University, UK

Cults on Campus – Promoting Informed Decisions
Dr Suzanne Newcombe, King’s College London, UK

University Chaplaincy in the UK: Christian, Multi-faith, Marginal or Central?
Dr Kristin Aune, Coventry University, UK; Dr Mathew Guest, Durham University, UK and Jeremy Law, Canterbury Christ Church University, UK
Mindfulness Meditation and the Modern University
Dr Alp Arat, Cardiff University, UK

15:05 to 15:25 Break

15:25 to 16:40 KEYNOTE, PROFESSOR SOPHIE GILLIAT-RAY, CARDIFF UNIVERSITY
Confusion, Contest, and Contraction: what does the provision for, and study of ‘religion’ at Cardiff University tell us about religion and secularism in the UK?”
Chair: Professor Jorgen Nielsen, University of Birmingham

16:40 to 17:00 Closing Comments

Conference Organisers
AHRC Re/presenting Islam on Campus Project Team
Professor Alison Scott-Baumann (SOAS), Professor Mathew Guest (Durham), Dr Shuruq Naguib (Lancaster), Dr Sariya Cheruvallil-Contractor (Coventry), Dr Aisha Phoenix (SOAS) and Mr Kareem Darwish (SOAS)