

Postgraduate Cultures in Challenging Times - Why connection and collaboration matter now

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Chair, UK Council for Graduate Education**

Welcome to UKCGE Annual Conference, Liverpool 2026

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Conference in numbers

14th Annual Conference

104 submissions in total

70 on the final programme

100 PGR attending yesterday's PGR day

180 colleagues attending the main conference

Delegates from UK, Ireland, Germany, Finland, Czechia, USA, Chile and Australia

Work of the Council

UKCGE exists to:

Connect the postgraduate community through trusted networks, events and collaboration.

Champion postgraduate education by influencing policy and advocating for the sector.

Generate insight through research, evidence, benchmarking and sector intelligence.

Support practice and professional development by sharing expertise.

Shape the future of postgraduate education through collective leadership and partnership.

New-Look UKCGE Resource Library

UK Council for
Graduate Education



Resource library



Addressing inequities

Creating equitable and inclusive environments, covering access and recruitment strategies, racial justice and support for underrepresented groups.

 69 resources



Digital technologies

Explore how emerging technologies and digital transformation are reshaping postgraduate education, from AI's impact on academic work to innovative online teaching methods.

 8 resources



Doctoral experience and assessment

Navigate the doctoral journey from recruitment through to examination, with resources supporting candidate wellbeing, professional development, and understanding of assessment processes throughout the

Prof Doc Report Launch, online

9th July 1-2pm

UK Council for
Graduate Education

Report Launch — Professional Doctorates

Report Launch

Doctoral experience and assessment

Teaching and learning

🕒 09 Jul 2026

📍 Online

💷 £0 Free to all

“The future of doctoral education is unlikely to be defined by a single model. Instead, it will depend upon our ability to recognise, value and support multiple routes through which doctoral-level knowledge, skills and impact can be developed. This report makes an important contribution to that discussion and provides a timely evidence base to inform future policy, institutional strategy and sector-wide debate.”

Speakers



Carolyn Wynne
Director of the Doctoral and Researcher College | Coventry University



Jennie Eldridge
Director of Postgraduate Provision | University Alliance

Report Foreword



Introducing our Board and the Council Team

UK Council for
Graduate Education



Image: Rebekah Smith McGloin.

We'll explore over the next two days

The **future** of postgraduate education in **challenging times**

Communities where every postgraduate belongs

Innovation in research education and researcher development

Partnerships that connect disciplines, institutions and sectors

Supervision that develops **confident and capable researchers**



Crosby Beach, *Another Place* by Antony Gormley. Photo: Chris Howells. Licensed under **CC BY 2.5**. Source: Wikimedia Commons. <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.5/>

PiGgy in the middle: a space in-between



Liverpool's smallest house Photo: National Museums Liverpool .

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