



INVITATION

You are cordially invited to the Inaugural Lecture of
Professor Kristine Mason O'Connor

**Out of Gloucestershire: reflections on the legacies
of Beatrice Webb and Albert Mansbridge for
21st century Higher Education**

Tuesday 17 March 2009, 6pm
University of Gloucestershire, TC014
The Park, Cheltenham GL50 2RH
Followed by light refreshments at 7.15pm.
For directions, go to: www.glos.ac.uk/directions

Image: Terence O'Connor

INAUGURAL LECTURE SERIES



RSVP: Inaugurallecures@glos.ac.uk
PLEASE REPLY BY MONDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2009

*Please include number of places requested and
postal address. Please indicate if you require
reserved disabled parking.*

Inaugural Lectures, Room 213, Fullwood House

Professor Kristine Mason O'Connor is Professor of Higher Education Development at the University of Gloucestershire. In July 2008 she was appointed Fellow of the University's Centre for Active Learning, a nationally recognised Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. In this role she is researching 'the scholarship of engagement'- how universities engage with their local communities and the implications for curriculum development and student learning. Prior to this appointment Professor Mason O'Connor served as the University's Dean of Teaching and Learning Development. The primary purpose of the role was to work collaboratively with University staff to develop, research, disseminate and put into practice innovative approaches to teaching, learning and assessment which empower students to become confident lifelong learners.

Nationally Professor Mason O'Connor has contributed to advancing the comparatively new field of higher education development through her membership of the Executive Committee of the Staff and Educational Development Association and during her term as its elected Co-Chair. Internationally she contributes through her work with the International Consortium for Educational Development. In 2008 her teaching and support for student learning was recognised by the award of a National Teaching Fellowship.

After graduating with a degree in Sociology awarded by the University of London, Professor Mason O'Connor qualified as a teacher at Garnett College. Since then she has taught in further and higher education including two years in Cameroon with International Voluntary Service.



Her qualitative research in the sociology of education for her Master's Degree, awarded by the University of Bristol, and her Doctorate, awarded by the University of Aston, focused on the educational experiences of marginalised groups. This research interest has been sustained and reflected through her teaching in sociology, education and women's studies and her work in educational development.

In her inaugural lecture Professor Mason O'Connor reflects on lessons for higher education development in the 21st century deriving from the work of Beatrice (Potter) Webb and Albert Mansbridge. Both were born in Gloucestershire in the nineteenth century - one the child of a timber magnate the other the child of a carpenter. Several sources inspire the focus of Professor Mason O'Connor's inaugural lecture: her teaching and research relating to accessible high quality lifelong learning; 'The South West' chapter she was commissioned to write for 'The Leftie Guide to Britain'; her biography of Joan Maynard, and the recent marking of the County of Gloucestershire Millennium.

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