

## **PERN Webinar 4: Start-up and entrepreneurial innovation led recovery (16/07/2020)**

### **SPEAKER AFFILIATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

#### **Chair: Dr Peter O'Brien, Yorkshire University**

Executive Director of Yorkshire Universities and senior research fellow at the Centre for Urban and Regional Development Studies (CURDS), Newcastle University, where he specialises in, and has published widely on, issues relating to urban and regional development and governance, and infrastructure funding and financing. Peter has worked at a senior level in local and regional government in the north of England during the past decade.

#### **Speaker: Dr Anne Velenturf, University of Leeds**

##### **Presentation: *Recovering towns and cities with a circular economy***

Anne Velenturf is a [Research Impact Fellow in Circular Economy](#). She works on the interface of academic research and knowledge exchange for a transition towards a sustainable circular economy. Anne specialises in governance, business model innovation, renewables, network analysis, and participation process management. She regularly advises government bodies such as DEFRA, ONS and DIT. She has a well-established national and international network of circular economy contacts in leading academic groups, industry, government and civil society. Anne led the [Resource Recovery from Waste programme](#) driving radical change for a circular economy in the UK. She designs and delivers participation processes to realise change, thereby shaping public dialogue on circular economy and influencing for example Industrial Strategy, the Resources and Waste Strategy, industry agendas, and the research and innovation landscape.

#### **Speaker: Professor David Devins, Leeds Beckett University**

##### **Presentation: *Entrepreneurship and regional recovery - is there a silver bullet?***

David Devins is Professor of Enterprise at Leeds Business School, Leeds Beckett University. David's research interests lie in the start-up and development of small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) and their network ties in the local economy. For more than twenty-five years he has

undertaken applied research commissioned by local agencies, government departments and the European commission helping to frame policy responses and design interventions to support small business leadership and management development. David's PhD investigated the connection between national skills policy and SMEs. His current projects include research underpinning the development of small business mentors, the development of integrated reporting in SMEs and the role of anchors in developing sustainability in the supply chain.

**Speaker: Professor Sarah Underwood, University of Leeds**

**Presentation: *SMEs, entrepreneurship and regional recovery***

Sarah Underwood is the Director of Executive and Professional Education at Leeds University Business School and Chair of Entrepreneurial Practice. Recently, she has led the formation of the [Centre for Executive & Professional Education](#), which offers blended solutions to professional individuals and organisations through a range of flexible and immersive courses from highly customised programmes to CPD courses and small business support. This includes the University's first level 7 Apprenticeship - [MSc in Senior Leadership](#).

As part of this role she has created several new business development programmes designed for SMEs (such as the SME Future Leaders programme and the Exceptional Non-Executive Director programme), acted as the academic lead for the [Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Programme](#) (2015-2020) & [Goldman Sachs 10,000 Women Programme](#) (2017-ongoing). Previously, Sarah was Director of the Centre for Enterprise & Entrepreneurship Studies. She was awarded a National Teaching Fellowship in 2017 in recognition of her contribution to developing innovations education.

**Speaker: Sherif Youssef, University of Leeds**

**Presentation: *Exploring the role of the UK public sector in supporting business start-ups and scale-ups: evidence from the Leeds City Region***

Sherif Youssef is a doctoral researcher at the Centre of Enterprise and Entrepreneurship Studies at Leeds University Business School and The Bauman Institute at the School of Sociology and Social Policy. Sherif is an Organizational Theorist with a background in marketing and public policy. His research focuses on Hybrid organisations such as social enterprises in the emerging markets, which aims to address societal challenges while creating

some financial revenues. He has a broader research interest looking at the economics of innovation, patient finance and economic growth. His research has been funded by Open Society Foundations, Economic and Social Research Council and UK Government.

**Speaker: Dr Leigh Morland, University of Huddersfield, 3M Buckley Innovation Centre**

**Presentation: *Creating opportunities for enterprising students***

Leigh Morland is Head of Student Enterprise Development at The University of Huddersfield. She has 25 years of teaching experience in the Business School and has developed enterprise and entrepreneurship curriculum for undergraduate, post-graduate and professional programmes. Her current role involves developing enterprise and entrepreneurship learning opportunities across the University, working in partnership with academic schools and support services to design and deliver interventions for all.

**Expert discussant: Nick Williams, University of Leeds**

Nick joined the University of Leeds in August 2015 from the University of Sheffield. His research mainly focuses on entrepreneurship and economic development, and he has particular interests in transition and post-conflict economies, as well as enterprise policy. Nick is committed to developing his teaching through research, so that student learning is based on cutting edge concepts and evidence. He encourages students to think critically and facilitates independent learning by empowering student engagement. Nick believes in learning that is theoretically and conceptually grounded with a clear empirical focus that is both accessible and relevant to students.

Nick's research interests focus on entrepreneurship and economic development, including entrepreneurship in crisis economies, new born states and transition countries. He is also interested in enterprise policy and economic resilience.

**Wrap up: Gary Dymski, University of Leeds**

I have published numerous books, articles, chapters, and studies on banking, financial fragility, urban development, credit-market discrimination, gender and racial inequality, the Latin American and Asian financial crises,

exploitation, housing finance, the subprime lending crisis, financial regulation, the Eurozone crisis, and economic policy. Some of this research has appeared in economics or political economy journals (and books), and some in geography journals (and books). Current research projects include the UK productivity paradox; the impact and governance of financial power in the global economy; the spatial aspects of financial instability; the post-crisis challenges of economic development in lower-income areas affected by subprime lending, discrimination, and redlining; the liquidity preference/investment crisis in South Africa; the integration of macroeconomic and financial logic into economic geography; and the challenge of creating more circular, equitable, and sustainable urban and national economies.

I co-led the University's Cities research theme (2016-19) ([https://www.leeds.ac.uk/info/130566/cities/603/cities\\_team](https://www.leeds.ac.uk/info/130566/cities/603/cities_team)). In that role I was also able to encourage the development of new cross-campus initiatives. I'm a member of the advisory board of Virtuocity (<https://uolds.leeds.ac.uk/facility/virtuocity/>) and have participated in various networks and initiatives on campus.

I'm currently playing roles in several exciting UK-wide research projects. I'm a co-investigator in the 'Self-Repairing Cities' project (EPSRC Grand Challenge) - <http://selfrepairingcities.com/>, and also am one of the co-investigators for the Productivity Insights Network (ESRC Network-Plus) - <https://productivityinsightsnetwork.co.uk/>. I also serving as a research hub co-leader for the Rebuilding Macroeconomics project (ESRC Network-Plus) - <https://www.rebuildingmacroeconomics.ac.uk/>. I was also co-investigator on the recently concluded ESRC-funded Socially Inclusive Cities project (2017-2019) led by Dr. Ghazala Mir of Leeds' faculty of medicine and health - <https://medicinehealth.leeds.ac.uk/dir-record/research-projects/979/socially-inclusive-cities>