

ARC 2023 Summit Presenters



Mel Ainscow is Professor of Education at the University of Glasgow. He is also Emeritus Professor at the University of Manchester and Adjunct Professor at Queensland University of Technology. A long-term consultant to UNESCO, he is internationally recognized as an authority on the promotion of inclusion and equity in education. Examples of his writing can be found in: *'Struggles for equity in education: the selected works of Mel Ainscow'* (Routledge World Library of Educationalists series, 2015).

Promoting inclusion and equity in education: Lessons from international research

The year 2016 saw the publication by UNESCO of the Education 2030 Framework for Action. This important international policy document emphasises inclusion and equity as laying the foundations for quality education. It also calls for a particular focus on those who have traditionally been excluded from educational opportunities, such as students from the poorest households, ethnic and linguistic minorities, indigenous people, and persons with disabilities. In this way, it is made clear that the agenda has to be about all children and young people. This presentation will consider what needs to be done to address this challenging agenda. Using examples from different parts of the world, consideration will be given to the implications for the development of classroom practice, school organization and leadership, the involvement of families and external partners, and national policies.



Marlen Faannessen is working as a consultant in the Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS Konsulent AS). Previously she has worked as a teacher, headmaster and municipal director of education for 16 years. As a consultant she is assisting leaders and municipal directors in education all over Norway in developing schools and kindergardens (Early education and care), and her interest is most of all to explore how individual and collective learning can be done in a systematic and systemic way. Marlen enjoys deep talks on learning, and to engage people on how we can co-create better solutions for improving the educational system. Recently she has led a Research – and Developing project on how to improve Student Involvement in Norway, and the work was published in a report in January 2023.



Fiona Forbes is a practicing school leader and the CEO and founder of Configured – an education transformation consultancy with a specific focus on school leadership.

ARC Talk: Lead Now - Lead Next: A journey of shared school leadership promoting inclusion. Fiona has over 30 years of experience and expertise in the leadership of schools from the early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary, and special education sectors. Fiona is Professor of Practice in the School of Education at La Trobe University Victoria, Australia, and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate at the Australian Catholic University (ACU) for services to special education in 2016. She is a life member, past President and Chair of the Board for the Australian Special Education Principals Association (ASEPA), and is a current Board Member of the Foundation for Education Development UK (FED). Fiona has been a foundation member of Atlantic Rim Collaboratory (ARC) since its inception in 2015, and in 2021 was made an Ambassador.

Fiona has a commitment to global education strengthened by her 6 years on the executive of the International Confederation of Principals (ICP), where she was elected President for 2 years - 2017/18. She was awarded life membership in 2019 for her services to global school leadership and education.

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ANDY HARGREAVES
President and Founder of ARC
*Visiting Professor, University of Ottawa
Brennan Chair, Lynch School of Education,
Boston College*



YNGVE LINDVIG
Founder of ARC & Summit Host
CEO of LearnLab



TORE SKANDSEN
**ARC Secretariat, Summit
Host & Facilitator**
*Senior advisor/ Executive
officer of international
relations, IMTEC*



STEVE MUNBY
**ARC Secretariat & ARC
Facilitator**
*Author, consultant & Visiting
Professor (University College
London)*



TRISTA HOLLWECK
**ARC Director & ARC
Facilitator**
*Research Fellow, University
of Ottawa*
Bio found [here](#)



