**Equality Diversity and Inclusion Stream Proposal – Borders**

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**Education Beyond Borders**

This stream will explore issues relating to physical, social, political and cultural barriers to accessing educational opportunities, both as a student and as an educational professional.

It is envisaged that papers will explore a diverse range of issues that bridge the topics of education and borders in their broadest senses.

Immigrants and asylum seekers experience barriers in accessing educational opportunities, for example students are often used as pawns in political debates around immigration and asylum and academics face issues in pursuing their research when forced to flee persecution.

Identity (e.g. gender, race, sexuality) is also barrier to education, both as it affects a student’s perception of self but also as it manifests itself in the definition of what counts as knowledge. The stream will welcome discussions of how to challenge and re-define the boundaries of the white, male, heteronormative curriculum. It will also consider the relationship between approaches to delivery and exclusion.

There are those who wish to impose restrictions on the limits of education, censuring knowledge and the work of the academy. It is hoped that contributors will explore solutions to these obstacles.

The stream proposers recognise the value of rich narrative and critical approaches as research methodologies. We would welcome both papers that explore first-hand experiences of education in the context of facing and challenging boundaries and borders and those that celebrate the contributions of queer theory, radical feminism and CRT to education.