

## BLACK, ASIAN AND MINORITY ETHNIC ATTAINMENT AT UK UNIVERSITIES: #CLOSINGTHEGAP

This is a joint event held by the All-Party Parliamentary University Group and the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Students to act as a preview into the #ClosingtheGap report. The report is under **strict embargo** until 2 May.

### Agenda -

5:00pm	Paul Blomfield MP, Chair of the APPG for Students and Treasurer of the APPUG
c5:05pm	Baroness Valerie Amos, Director, SOAS
c5:15pm	Amatey Doku, Vice President (Higher Education), NUS
c5:25pm	Questions from the floor
c5:35pm	Networking
6:30pm	Meeting concludes.

“It’s important to know that BAME attainment is not solely a BAME issue. It’s a university-wide problem, and it shouldn’t just be left to the BAME community to fix.”

Adesewa, University of Huddersfield

In recent years, substantial progress has been made in widening university access and participation to disadvantaged and underrepresented groups of students, but not every student benefits equally from their UK university experience. Substantial inequalities persist throughout the student lifecycle between students of different socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds. Of the disparities that exist within higher education, the gap between the likelihood of White students and students from Black, Asian or minority ethnic (BAME) backgrounds getting a first- or upper-second-class degree is among the most stark – 13% among 2017–18 graduates.

Universities UK (UUK) and the National Union of Students (NUS) have consulted with students, staff and vice-chancellors to identify the fundamental barriers to racial equality. This report and its recommendations aim to break down these barriers and accelerate sector-wide progress towards eliminating BAME attainment gaps.

“I want to see our leaders have open discussions with their students and staff. They need to be sensitive, but also make an effort to learn, as well as educate.”

Amna, Aston University

The #ClosingTheGap report will be published on 2 May (Thursday) and is under embargo until then. During this meeting the key recommendations of the report will be shared with you, but please do not share these outside of this event or on social media until Thursday. However please do promote your attendance at this meeting on all social media platforms. We would greatly appreciate if you could include the @universityappg and @appgstudents twitter handles in any tweets.

On Thursday we would very much appreciate if you could show your support for the report’s recommendations on twitter. These are some suggested tweets to put out on the day –

- Great report from @universitiesuk and @nusuk on how to tackle the BAME attainment gap #ClosingtheGap!
- Fantastic to see the sector taking a lead and ensuring that all students are able to succeed at university. Must read report from @universitiesuk and @nusuk! #ClosingtheGap