



WATTLE

WOLLONGONG ACADEMY FOR
TERTIARY TEACHING &
LEARNING EXCELLENCE



UNIVERSITY
OF WOLLONGONG
AUSTRALIA

Valuing Diversity:

Supporting Neurodivergent Students at University

WATTLE EVENT

Join the discussion, share with colleagues, and learn how to better support our neurodivergent students as they navigate university studies.

16 FEBRUARY 2022

2.30-4.30pm via Zoom

Register at <https://wattle-neurodiversity.eventbrite.com.au>



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PROGRAM

- 2.30pm Welcome
- 2.45pm Introduction: What is neurodiversity and why do I need to know about it?
- 3.15pm S1: Principles of Inclusive Teaching, a focus on Universal Design for Learning
- 3.40pm Break
- 3.45pm S2: Bridging neurodivergent perspectives through information and communication
- 4.10pm Reflection and discussion



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Welcome

Professor Theo Farrell, Deputy Vice-Chancellor
and Vice-President (Academic & Student Life)

PRESENTERS



What is neurodiversity and why do I need to know about it?

Susannah Gregory

Susannah Gregory is the Manager of Student Accessibility and Inclusion at UOW.

Working in higher education over the last 12 years, Susannah has had a number of student facing roles including PASS Co-ordinator; as a learning support advisor; and has been a Disability Practitioner for 10 years at the University of Sydney & Navetas. At USYD, Susannah developed a program that aimed to increase engagement and completion rates for students on the Autism Spectrum and has shared her knowledge in supporting neurodivergent students at Disability Practitioner conferences, Sydney Ideas events, within Mental Health Practitioner community networks and across faculties at the University of Sydney.

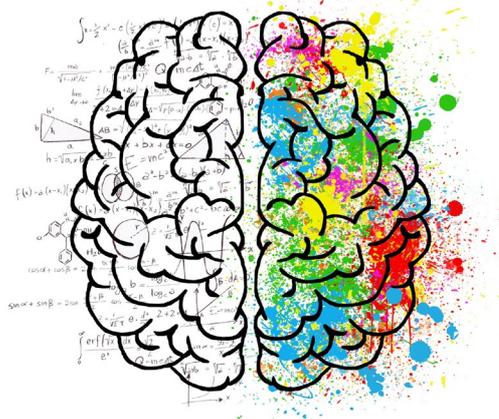


Principles of Inclusive Teaching, a focus on Universal Design for Learning

Dr Kimberley McMahon-Coleman

Dr Kimberley McMahon-Coleman is the Academic Director of Regional Campuses at UOW.

A former school teacher and Learning Development lecturer, she holds postgraduate degrees in Arts and Education, including a Master of Special Education from UNSW. Kimberley maintains a keen research interest in disability studies and popular culture and is the co-author of several books, including *Mental Health Disorders on Television* with Dr Roslyn Weaver, and *Teaching University Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Guide to Developing Academic Capacity and Proficiency* (Jessica Kingsley Publishers) with Dr Kim Draisma. Kimberley can be found in cyberspace at: <https://www.kimberleymcmahoncoleman.com/>



Bridging neurodivergent perspectives through information and communication

A/Prof Amanda Webster

Associate Professor Amanda Webster is the Academic Program Director for the Master of Autism, Graduate Certificate of Autism and Master of Education, Special Education at UOW.

In her programs she has developed a number of strategies to support neurodivergent students and to promote student voice. She has conducted research on experiences of neurodivergent students in higher education and is currently supervising a project on the ways that autistic students demonstrate self-determination skills in university settings. Prior to her academic career, Dr. Webster worked for over 25 years with autistic and neurodivergent students and their families in her roles as a teacher, school leader, program director and certified behaviour analyst. She has led the development of an association in which autistic adults, family members and service providers work together to identify factors and practices that influence their ability to exercise agency in different settings. This group is now developing a framework to support autistic individuals to demonstrate greater self-determination as they move from childhood through adolescence and into adulthood.

https://scholars.uow.edu.au/display/amanda_webster

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