



SCHOOL OF ENGLISH
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG



Research and Impact Initiative on
Communication in Healthcare
醫療溝通研究及影響倡議



香港城市精神健康聯盟
City Mental Health
Alliance HK

HKU RIICH Webinar

Thriving in a Workplace: Insights for Graduates

Date: Tuesday June 4, 2024

Time: 4:00pm – 5:00pm

Venue: Zoom (<https://hku.zoom.us/j/95652905061>)

Abstract:

Graduates transitioning from university to the workplace have historically been considered one of the vulnerable demographic groups in the workforce, as they face many adjustments and changes. COVID-19 exacerbated many of the challenges for graduates. This webinar brings together academics, workplace practitioners and graduates to discuss the results of a large-scale project that focused on the educational, social and mental health impacts of the pandemic on graduates. Speakers will discuss topics related to essential skills, employers' expectations, graduates' preparedness, and how their mental health could be supported during the transition period. Implications for post-COVID workplaces will also be considered.

Acknowledgements:

This event is part of a project funded by the Research Grants Council Collaborative Research Fund (CRF), Hong Kong (The Educational, Social and Health Impacts of the COVID- 19 Pandemic on University Graduates Transitioning to the Workforce in Hong Kong; C7086- 21G).

HKU RIICH Webinar
Organizing Committee, Speakers and Participating CRF Project Members
June 4, 2024

Organizing Committee

Name	Post	Affiliation
Dr. Olga Zayts~ (Chair)	Associate Professor	HKU School of English
Dr. David Edmonds	Post-doctoral Fellow	HKU School of English
Dr. Zoë Fortune*	Assistant Professor Adjunct Assistant Professor	Heriot-Watt University Dubai HKU School of English
Mr. Angus Chan^	Project Manager Teaching Assistant	HKU School of English
Ms. Apple Kwok	Research Assistant	HKU School of English
Ms. Afina Nafisah Jasmine	Research Assistant	HKU School of English

Speakers from the CRF Project Team

Name	Post	Affiliation
Dr. Pauline Luk*	Lecturer	HKU Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine

Invited Guest Speakers

Name	Post	Affiliation
Ms. Hilleke van Osch	Managing Director	City Mental Health Alliance HK

~ Project Coordinator of the CRF Project

* Co-Principal Investigator of the CRF Project

^ Advisory Board Member of the CRF Project

HKU RIICH Webinar: “Thriving in a Workplace: Insights for Graduates”

Schedule

Time	Activity	Speakers
4:00pm – 4:10pm	Opening and Welcome	Dr. Olga Zayts
4:10pm – 4:30pm	Presentation on CRF project and key research findings	Dr. Olga Zayts Dr. Zoë Fortune Dr. David Edmonds
4:30pm – 4:35pm	Insights from university staff	Dr. Pauline Luk
4:35pm – 4:40pm	Insights from university staff	Dr. Pauline Luk
4:40pm – 4:45pm	Insights from workplaces	Ms. Hilleke van Osch
4:40pm – 5:00pm	Questions & Answers and Networking	

Biographical Sketches of Speakers:

Dr. Olga Zayts (Host)

CRF Project Coordinator

Associate Professor, School of English, The University of Hong Kong

Dr. Olga Zayts is Associate Professor at the School of English, The University of Hong Kong. She directs the Research and Impact Initiative on Communication in Healthcare (HKU RIICH). She is an interdisciplinary researcher who draws on her dual training in (socio)linguistics and public health. She has conducted extensive research in several medical and healthcare settings, including genetic counselling, cancer clinics, end-of-life care. Her most recent project, supported by funding from the Research Grants Council Collaborative Research Fund, focuses on the impact of COVID-19 on mental health of young adults (university graduates transitioning to the workforce). She is a Board Member of Mind Hong Kong, and an Advisory Group member of City Mental Health Alliance Hong Kong, a workplace mental health organization.

Dr. David Edmonds

Postdoctoral Fellow, School of English, The University of Hong Kong

Dr. David Edmonds is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the School of English, The University of Hong Kong. His background is in psychology and sociolinguistics and he applies these to the study of interpersonal communication. His current research centers on how different groups of people narrate their mental health experiences. He is also conducting research on social interaction between medical professionals and laypeople in different healthcare settings.

Dr. Zoë Fortune

CRF Project Co-Principal Investigator

Assistant Professor, School of Social Sciences, Heriot-Watt University Dubai

Adjunct Assistant Professor, School of English, The University of Hong Kong

Dr Zoë Fortune is Adjunct Assistant Professor at The University of Hong Kong and leads the Mental Health Communication research cluster at HKU RIICH. A mixed methods researcher by background, she combines research with work to support practical improvements in healthcare communication and delivery and has worked with projects across Asia, Africa, and the Middle East within charity, international development, forensic and healthcare settings. Her current research focuses on vulnerable populations in the workplace, an interest she developed while developing and leading the not-for-profit profit organisation, City Mental Health Alliance (CMHA HK) Hong Kong. She remains a member of the CMHA HK Advisory Panel, and is also a practising psychotherapist.

Dr. Pauline Luk
Lecturer, Faculty of Medicine, University of Hong Kong

Pauline Luk is a multidisciplinary scholar with a diverse research background in communication, medical education, and social change. She received her PhD from the National University of Singapore. Her principal research interests are medical education (professionalism, online learning, collaborative learning, and mental wellness) and health communication (alternative medicines, health information seeking, and health policy). She had worked on a variety of social justice-oriented health communication campaigns in Singapore. She taught at a university in Hong Kong and at NUS where she gained experience in teaching communication, public relations, and marketing.

Ms. Hilleke van Osch
Managing Director, City Mental Health Alliance HK

As Managing Director, Hilleke liaises closely with all CMHA HK team members, supporting them to deliver across our program areas of training, strategy and resource development, member engagement and events while leading on research, data collection and business development. She works closely with the CMHA HK Board Chair and Directors to set long-term objectives which will support our members and the broader Hong Kong business community enhance workplace mental health. Hilleke joined CMHA HK in 2020 with more than 15 years experience in health program management and evaluation in government and not-for-profit agencies in Australia. She holds a Master of Economics and has lived in Hong Kong since 2010.