

The background of the entire page is a close-up photograph of several green leaves. The leaves are in various shades of green, from a vibrant lime green to a deeper forest green. The veins of the leaves are clearly visible, creating a complex, organic pattern. The lighting is bright, highlighting the texture and color of the foliage.

PREPARING FOR SENIOR STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP

Innovation
Resilience
Empowerment

Inspiring
Leadership

**Leadership
Foundation**
for Higher Education

Preparing for Senior Strategic Leadership has been designed for operational managers who want to gain insight into the development of major strategic decisions in higher education institutions. The programme, which has been devised to be both challenging and empowering, emphasises innovation and creativity as a means to implement effective and sustainable change.

About PSSL

PSSL aims to develop the personal resilience, emotional intelligence and creativity needed by those operating at a strategic level in higher education. PSSL will enable you to reflect upon and develop your leadership style and understand how to draw on your strengths and values to act authentically as a senior leader.

You will be learning with a group of colleagues from across your sector with whom you can share experiences in a safe, confidential setting. A variety of facilitated exercises and discussions will allow you to test your ideas in a supportive environment and receive feedback specific to your situation. Expert speakers with first-hand knowledge of the challenges of strategic-level leadership in higher education will provide insights and discuss their own personal leadership stories.

Key elements of PSSL include actively exploring realistic and challenging scenarios and developing techniques for:

- Leading change
- Making decisions
- Negotiating
- Understanding organisational culture
- Working with stakeholders
- Dealing with difficult situations

After the programme, you will have the continued support of your peers and the opportunity to further develop your leadership through the Leadership Foundation Fellowship process.

www.ifhe.ac.uk/fellowships

Who is PSSL for?

You will be an experienced head of school, department or be a newly appointed dean of faculty or aspiring to such a role. If you have an academic background you will be leading a teaching, research or knowledge transfer department.

Alternatively, you may be leading an administrative or a professional services section – for example human resources, finance, estates, marketing, knowledge, information services/information technology or student support services.

You are likely to have already attended our Head of Department programme or a similar programme run by your own institution.

PSSL objectives

By the end of this programme, you will have had the opportunity to:

- Discover tools for change planning and implementation and apply these to specific initiatives.
- Identify factors that are critical to, and determine capability for, achieving change programme objectives.
- Explore models of organisational culture and consider their relevance to your institution.
- Consider strategies for effective influence and negotiation skills, and practise and review the skills involved.
- Examine the nature of power and develop narrative skills to communicate strength of leadership.
- Explore models of emotional intelligence to enhance your awareness of yourself and others.
- Reflect on the issues involved in handling sensitive situations at work.
- Work in small groups to discuss specific leadership issues and plans for personal development.
- Gain a cross-institutional understanding of leadership practice in UK higher education institutions.



Special features

- 360-degree diagnostic which will help you to understand your approach to leading and managing.
- Practical exercises, tools and techniques related to the strategic challenges facing higher education institutions.
- A safe and supportive environment in which to acquire knowledge and practise skills.
- A workshop on leadership and the power of narrative.
- Action-learning sessions to address organisational outcomes.

PSSL has its own online resource environment, containing all course materials, accessible to you before, during and after your programme.

Find out more

Want to discuss this programme further? Talk to **Doug**.

T: 01590 640 492

E: doug.parkin@ifhe.ac.uk

Programme directors



Doug Parkin

Doug is the Programme Director for the three leadership development programmes: PSSL, the Future Leaders Programme and

Leading Across Professional Boundaries. Prior to joining the Leadership Foundation as Programme Director in January 2013 he was Head of Staff and Educational Development at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (University of London). This was a wide-ranging senior role that included responsibility for academic development, educational development, leadership development and core workplace skills.

Doug has worked in adult learning and development for over fifteen years. With experience across a range of organisations and sectors, he has explored and considered leadership from a wide range of perspectives: academic leadership, educational leadership, medical leadership, the leadership of public services, leadership in the arts, and leadership in a not-for-profit, voluntary sector environment.

Programme structure

PSSL has a range of start dates throughout the academic year and you can choose to do the two modules over a two to three-month period or to take them together as one block. Pre-programme work involves reading and interacting with other participants. The two modules are:

Unpacking Strategic Leadership: This intensive two-day module focuses on planning for change and emotion and power in the organisation.

Strategic Leadership in Action: In this final session of PSSL you will be taken through influencing and negotiating, narrative skills, and personal development planning.

How to book

Find the dates we run PSSL, along with application deadlines and booking conditions, online at www.ifhe.ac.uk/pssl



Rebecca Nestor

Rebecca is regional co-ordinator for the south east and eastern regions of England and an international associate for the Leadership

Foundation. She is also an honorary associate of the Oxford Learning Institute, University of Oxford.

Rebecca has particular interests in equality and diversity issues, environmental sustainability and the role of values in leadership. She has an MBA from the Open University, is a chartered fellow of the CIPD and is qualified in the use of the personality preference tools Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and Team Management Profile for individual and team development. She has undertaken projects for us on succession management, leadership in small and specialist institutions, the leadership of sustainability and the careers of those who have taken part in the Top Management Programme. As well as being programme co-director for PSSL, Rebecca is one of the facilitators for the Leadership Foundation's new women only program Aurora.

If you would like more information about PSSL contact the programme coordinator:

Jade Francis

T: 020 3468 4830

E: jade.francis@ifhe.ac.uk

What they say about Preparing for Senior Strategic Leadership programme:

"Take this course if you want to be challenged, if you want to identify the skills you might improve, and if you want to learn from experts as well as peers about leadership and the higher education context."

Ed Wilding, Cardiff University

"A very worthwhile four days. Chance to learn about and reflect on your leadership style."

John Kirk, Birmingham City University

"It was an excellent opportunity to meet colleagues from other HEIs and discover that we are all dealing with the same problems - the Learning Development Groups were genuinely really useful in thinking about problems/issues from different perspectives in a supportive environment."

Dr Liz Charman, London Metropolitan University

"It does what it says on the tin: 'prepares you for senior strategic leadership.'"

Dr Keith McLay, University of Chester

"An excellent course that really helps you to think about your leadership style and improve the way you manage others."

Dr Patricia Eaton, Stranmills University College

Contact us at

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