New to Teaching Bioscience in Higher Education
Online Workshop, 15th January 2021

On January 15th, the Early Career Lecturers in Biosciences group hosted the first online New to Teaching Bioscience in Higher Education themed workshop in collaboration with University of Hull’s Teaching Excellence Academy. This event was centered around specific needs of early career academics that are new teaching in higher education. The program was structured in four parts. Before starting, Dr Cristina Sisu, gave a welcome address and presented a short introduction to the ECLbio. The first saw two plenary talks by recipients of the Royal Society of Biology Higher Education Teacher, Dr David Smith and Dr Katerine Hubbard that focused on highlighting key tips for engaging with the students both in a face to face and online setting, as well as reminding us that in order to teach the students we need to adapt to the student needs not just require for them to adapt to us. The second part of the day allowed the new lecturers to showcase their experience, do’s and don’ts, in teaching during a pandemic. Here we listened to talks from Dr Rafaela Vasiliadou, Dr Raha Pazoki, and Dr Prachi Stafford. The short talks were informative and highlighted the new lecturers as fantastic teaching innovators in time of need (and not only). The third session brought to the audience an extraordinary panel of speakers, Dr David Smith, Dr Katharine Hubbard, Dr Lesley Morrell & Dr Dom Henri that addressed key teaching related questions.

Finally, the workshop was concluded with a special session focused on Education track academics that was lead and moderated by Dr Dom Henri. On the day we had a wide audience of 55 academics from HUBS member universities from all over UK that were engaged with the speakers and the set-up events. While we missed the enthusiastic coffee break networking opportunity from previous in person events, the numerous questions and the constant engagement from the audience showcased that our online event was successful. All recordings from the meeting will become available on the Advance HE connect platform.