Giving everyone a voice - All students in small groups want to say something!

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Do you sometimes find yourself with a small group of students where no-one wants to speak? Or where the silence is broken only by one or two students who go on to dominate proceedings for a whole term? Do you sometimes think that a student's nationality, or English-language background has a bearing on silence in seminars or group discussions? Are you concerned, in situations such as these, that not all students are being allowed or encouraged to reach their potential?

This workshop is based on a recent Higher Education Academy (HEA) Change Programme in which the University of York team worked on inclusive approaches to small group teaching. The aim of the workshop is to help participants develop a deeper understanding of the challenges facing students in small group work. The workshop will also help you to reflect on small-group teaching approaches which aim to develop an atmosphere of trust and to ensure the active participation of all group members, regardless of their cultural or linguistic background.

The workshop will share with you the results of the HEA project in an experiential way. During the workshop you will be integrated with a mix of home and international students where you will participate in an activity designed to model specific teach/learning approaches. Following this, you will have ample time to discuss with the students their and your response to the experience.