





Hydrogen Summer School 9-13 September 2024 - Speaker profiles (Day 1)

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| <p><u>Dr Kathryn North</u></p>  | <p>Kathryn is the Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor for Climate Change and Net Zero at Loughborough University and is also the Director of the Centre for Postdoctoral Development in Infrastructure Cities and Energy (C-DICE). She is skills lead for the HyDEX project and Head of Skills for the Energy Research Accelerator (ERA). Kathryn's interests lie in developing researchers at all career stages, and latterly in supporting the developing of high-level skills that we will need for achieving a decarbonised future, through C-DICE, ERA and HyDEX. Having supported researchers at Loughborough University since 2007, Kathryn has experience in creating innovative approaches to researcher development through the Doctoral College, leading the Research Leaders programme, and establishing the Institute of the Advanced Studies. Kathryn is currently leading Loughborough's strategy around hydrogen research and innovation.</p> |
| <p><u>Dr Thomas Steffen</u></p>  | <p>Thomas Steffen studied Electrical Engineering and Automation and Control at the Technical University of Ilmenau, and he continued with a PhD in Fault Control at the Technical University of Hamburg and Ruhr-Universität Bochum. He worked for three years at mBalance in Amsterdam on message-routing solutions for mobile phone networks. Thomas Steffen joined Loughborough University as a postdoc Research Associate in 2007, and the Department of Aeronautical and Automotive Engineering as a Lecturer in 2010. He is now Reader for Control Engineering and Open Research Champion for the School.</p> |
| <p><u>Dr Elizabeth Ashton</u></p>  | <p>Dr Ashton is a skilled chemist, and has expertise in materials characterisation, green growth economics, and electrochemistry.</p> <p>After completing her materials chemistry Ph.D. in 2021, she has continued hydrogen energy research as a postdoctoral research associate. She was part of the team, alongside Prof. Wijayantha, that delivered the Ten Point Green Growth plan for the Midlands Engine. In 2023 she joined the research group of Prof. Strickland investigating battery electrolyzers for green hydrogen production.</p> |
| <p><u>Dr Lennie Foster</u></p>  | <p>Lennie Foster is responsible for leading the development of Phase 2 of the ERA Learning Academy, growing the talent pipeline in Energy research, to include doctoral and post-doctoral researchers and beyond. Lennie joined Loughborough University in 2017, first as part of the Research Quality and Visibility Team, and then as a Research Development Manager in the Research Development and Support Team. Lennie gained a PhD in Systems Biology from the University of Warwick working with researchers in the Life Science and Computer Science departments.</p> |