

Community Engagement Network in Research Education and Civic Engagement (CENTRE) Meeting

what is CENTRE's mechanism for connecting the uni with local societies?

- multi-faceted: through libraries, sport, curriculum, research

how would the think-tank fit in?

- policy research
 - Different public institutions have done surveys/focus groups, e.g., police.

Sonia is a GP, been at the Uni for a year

- professor of medical education
- she was at imperial university before
- interested in the university's social mission
 - role in health,
 - economics,
- leading a piece of work called CENTRE
 - to join the university and the external community
 - challenges of community become challenges of the uni
- student activists is great, but she would say:
 - research themes are intuitive, but ground the themes beyond the opinions and perspectives of the think-tank group. what are the actual challenges in the local area? she's uncomfortable that the theme's we've developed don't have great backing. if she were on the advisory panel she'd want to see some kind of in-depth reasoning behind why we chose the themes we chose.
 - approach is too late - by the time it's reached an academic it could already be flawed. tricky position if it's very flawed (for the academic). suggests we involve academics earlier on.
 - I said: other student think-tanks do this, to be fair
 - she responded: maybe that's what limits other student think-tanks

she mostly just emailed to make suggestions, has our emails to get us to join in CENTRE events.

left me with the question: "should the goals come from you or from the people you're trying to help"