Valedictory Randomised Controlled Trials in the Social Sciences Conference 20th and 21st May 2025

YORK MEDICAL SOCIETY, YORK

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Tuesday 20th May

9:15 - 9:45 am	Registration and Coffee
9:45 - 10:00 am	Opening remarks: Carole Torgerson including introduction to Invited Speaker Ben Styles
Session 1	**Chair: Carole Torgerson**
10:00 - 11:00 am	**Invited Speaker: Ben Styles** Experimental education research: clarifying why, how and when to use random assignment
11:00 - 11:15 am	Tea and Coffee
Session 2	**Chair: Catherine Hewitt**
11:15 - 12:30 pm	Trial by Algorithm: An Ethical Audit of AI RCTs in Criminal Justice *Peter T Darch* ChatGPT in Lesson Preparation: A Teacher Choices Trial *Palak Roy, Helen Poet, Ruth Staunton, Katherine Aston, and David Thomas* Conducting RCTs in Early Years Settings: What RCTs and pilot studies tell us about participant engagement *Erin Dysart, Louise Tracey, Aimee Code, and Nathan Archer* Integrating impact evaluations and implementation and process evaluations in mixed methods research in education *Louise Tracey and Carole Torgerson* Discussion
12:30 - 1:45 pm	Lunch

Session 3	**Chair: Ben Styles**
1:45- 2:45 pm	Department for Work and Pensions Universal Credit Work Search Review Channels Trial *Angelo Valerio, Daniel Woodell, and Alison Cousley*
	Results from a randomized controlled pilot trial of a home-visiting intervention to reduce child maltreatment *Joakim Finne, Anne Grete Tøge, Kjersti Stabell Wiggen, Maria Ekre, Ira Malmberg-Heimonen, Maiken Pontoppidan, Jacinthe Dion, Truls Tømmerås, and Eirin Pedersen*
	A feasibility study and randomised controlled pilot trial of a multilingual support intervention for refugees *Anne Grete Toge, Ira Malmberg-Heimonen, Susanne Søholt, and Sigridur Vilhjalmsdottir*
	Poverty and perseverance: Power of personal connection *Seemanti Ghosh*
2:45 - 3:00 pm	Tea and Coffee
Session 4	**Chair: Gerry Richardson**
3:00 - 3:30 pm	Focused deterrence: crime prevention through carrot and stick a multi-site randomised controlled trial *Alex Sutherland*
3:30 - 4:00 pm	NELI scale-up evaluation *Andrew Smith*
4:00 - 4:05 pm	Short break
Session 5	**Chair: David Torgerson**
4:05 - 5:00 pm	**Invited Speaker: Peter John** The practical challenges of delivering field trials: how to reduce hassle and costs
5:00 pm	Close
Conference Dinner: York Castle Museum	
7:00 pm	Drinks Reception
7:45 pm	Dinner

Wednesday 21st May

9:00 - 9:30 am   Tea and Coffee

Session 6   **Chair: Ben Styles**

9:30 - 10:30 am   **Invited Speaker: Sheila Bird**
Platform for well-powered, well-chosen social science trials is NOW.

10:30 - 10:45 am   Tea and Coffee

Session 7   **Chair: Caroline Fairhurst**

10:45 - 11:15 am   Is it worth studying? The role of information on the school choice of foreign students in Italy. Results of a Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT)
Koray Aktas, Gianluca Argentin, Gian Paolo Barbetta, and Luca Colombo

11:15 - 11:45 am   Evaluation of an Early Language intervention programme for nursery practitioners in Greater London: A two-armed cluster randomised waitlist-controlled trial with split cohorts
Xiaofei Qi, Victoria Menzies, Rachel Oughton, Nadia Siddiqui, Akansha Singh, and Laura Chambers

11:45 - 12:15 pm   Promoting Parental Support of Early Child Language Development: An RCT to evaluate a text messaging service with BBC Tiny Happy People video content
Danielle Matthews et al

12:15 - 1:30 pm   Lunch

Session 8   **Chair: David Torgerson**

1:30 - 2:00 pm   Effects of a Matched Savings Program to Tackle School Dropout in Italy
Davide Azzolini

2:00 - 2:30 pm   The role of biased teachers guidance in the reproduction of education inequalities. Evidence from an RCT combined with a factorial survey experiment
Gianluca Argentin and Elisa Manzella

2:30 - 3:00 pm   Failure to replicate: Two trials of a parent and child early years reading programme. Where do we go from here?
Victoria Menzies and Helen Cramman

3:00 - 3:15 pm   Closing Remarks - David Torgerson

3:15 pm   Finish