# AGM 2025 HELOA Honorary Membership 8

# **Honorary Membership**

### Jonathan Atkinson-White

Jonny was the definition of HELOA. He passionately believed in supporting students through informed decisions and passionately supported our members to enable them to best support students. He took over as the North West & Northern Ireland Group Chair and reinvigorated the group, leading to record attendance and initiating award winning schemes. He took over as HELOA Chair just before COVID and led the charity through one of its most difficult periods. Thanks to his leadership our members still were able to access high quality training, but he also wanted wider fun events to support member's mental health during an uncertain time. He also helped build bridges with key partners which supported members.

Jonny has always looked at new ways of supporting students and fellow members. He still supports members today, offering insights online. He may have left working directly in the sector, but he still is involved in Higher Education and supporting students. It is my belief that he still is fulfilling our main goals as a charity, which is why I think he is a worthy nominee for Honorary Membership.

Andrew Cooper
University of Liverpool



# **Honorary Membership**

### **Gareth Oliver**

Gareth has worked in HE for around 30 years and has devoted his time to supporting a huge range of students to make informed decisions about their next steps. He has played a key role in widening participation in HE - working with schools and colleges across the UK throughout his career. Gareth is a supportive and proactive colleague, not just within the university, but in the 'circuit'. He is known up and down the country for his knowledge and genuine willingness to support others, building very strong relationships with other recruitment and HELOA members as well as teachers, advisors, parents and students across the country. As my line manager, he encouraged me to take part in HELOA programmes and particularly in me putting myself forward, and securing the role as Midlands Vice-Chair for Training and Partnerships. He is an advocate for HELOA and has always encouraged my participation - granting time off to work on associated tasks with my Vice-Chair role and other HELOA event support. It is for these reasons I am nominating Gareth for an honorary membership, but also because I know, although he is retiring - he will always have one finger on the pulse!! Thank you for your consideration.

Lewis Clarke
University of Lincoln