



## MASTERY - Managing Sensitive Topics in Teaching and Research Confidently

# February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Summary of the EUniWell MASTERY Conference

by Dr. Sophie King-Hill

A powerful day at [@EUniWellMASTERY](#) conference on Managing Sensitive Topics in Teaching & Research. Huge thanks from me, [@katharkarcher](#), [@JoanneMcCuaig3](#), [@miacparkes](#) to all online & offline attendees/presenters. Massive thanks to [@EUni\\_Well](#) for making this possible.

We started off with a thought-provoking presentation from Stephanie Ng (in Hong Kong) whose presentation 'Part of the picture: considering researcher wellbeing in studies of mental health issues' gave consideration to the international perspectives of researcher well-being.

Next we had our wonderful Canadian colleague on the project, [@JoanneMcCuaig3](#) (who travelled from South Korea) presenting a model she developed which is a self-identification trauma map for researchers and students working with sensitive topics.

This was followed by Dr Sophie Hatchwell (From UoB) who focused upon teaching strategies in her presentation titled 'Using Co-authored Learning Agreements to teach challenging subject matter'.

Our fantastic keynote by [@stefwolff](#) (Prof of International Security at UoB) focused upon how important it is to be self-aware, on many complex levels, when working in difficult contexts. He highlighted the importance of protecting yourself - and those around you.

Dr Antonio Raimondo Di Grigoli (who travelled from the Uni of Florence). Unpacked the difficult issues and considerations when researching difficult issues in their presentation 'Education and support for academic scholars on non-normative sexuality issues.'

Sophie Eyssette (Who travelled from Uni of Rome) gave an interesting and insightful talk on 'Taboo Language and Incest in the Media: Epistemological Risks of not Breaking Taboos in Research'.

[@GilsenanAbby](#)

(Uni of Birmingham): Gave a thoughtful talk on how, as researchers, we negotiate difficult topics, personally and professionally. In her talk 'Researching Young People and Sex – Moving from Safe to Sensitive Topics'.

Amarachi Emeruwa (Uni of Birmingham) drew on her experiences of researching sexual violence in her valuable and considerate talk 'One with the Ugliness - Vicarious Trauma and the Qualitative Researcher'.

Dr Elliot Evan (Uni of Birmingham) then gave their talk which demonstrated the practical implications and value of working across international universities when considering issues of consent in their talk 'Promoting Consent on Campus'.

The conference ended with a talk from Jonathan Davis (Undergraduate theology student and lead for a male mental health society at Uni of Birmingham) who spoke about the fraught landscape young people have to negotiate in his talk 'Masculinity and sensitive topics'.

A massive thank you to all of the others involved, including Dr Manuela Nilsson (Sweden), Dr Chrissie Steenkamp (Oxford Brookes), Francesco Lavanga (Uni Florence) and everyone else that attended and made this cross specialist, international, multi-level conference possible.