



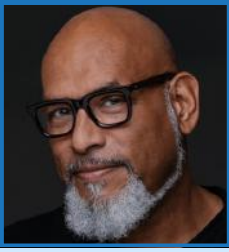
# KEYNOTES

## TECHNICAL CONFERENCE 2024

Lancaster University  
Tuesday 10th September

*Thank You to our Key Sponsors*





**Professor John Amaechi OBE, FIScT CSci**

**Morning Keynote Title:**  
*Professional Registration - What's in it for me?*

“Knowing yourself, knowing where you want to get, combining those things gives you the pragmatic steps”.

Ready to take your career to the next level? Join us for an eye-opening session on the power of professional development! Discover how investing in your skills can lead to new opportunities, increased job satisfaction, and potential higher earning potential. We'll explore practical strategies for continuous learning, networking, and staying ahead in a fast-paced tech landscape. Don't let your career stagnate—find out how professional development can enhance your expertise, boost your confidence, and set you on a path to success. Your future self will thank you!

**Keynote Technical Panel Members**



Jessica Fisher



Paola Foulkes



Annette Ryan



Richard Keogan



Natalie Kennerley



Dan Fower

**Introducing the Panel:**

**Jessica Fisher** is Chemical Engineering Technician at Lancaster University. **Paola Foulkes** is Laboratory Technician at Cardiff University. **Annette Ryan** is Senior Technician and Safety Officer at Lancaster University. **Richard Keogan** is Technical Specialist and Associate Lecturer at the University of York. **Natalie Kennerley** is Technical Services Development Manager at Manchester Metropolitan University and former Director of the National Technician Development Centre. **Dan Fower** is Head of e-Lab at OrganOX Ltd.

**Afternoon Keynote Title: Technical Careers Discussion**

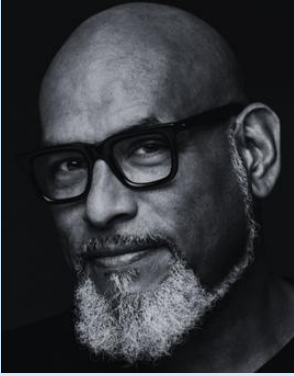
We are thrilled to present a new keynote technical panel at this year's conference, featuring a diverse group of professionals. These individuals have embarked on various career paths, including apprenticeships, technical roles, management positions, and have advanced to become heads and specialists in their fields. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions, gain valuable insights into their career journeys, and explore potential future directions.

**Delegates can take advantage of the valuable opportunity to meet with exhibitors attending the conference who will be in County South.**

**If delegates would like space away from networking or workshops, a room will be available on the day as a quiet space.**

**2024 Key Sponsors:**





## Professor John Amaechi OBE, FIScT CSci

There are many things to tell you about John. There's all the usual bio stuff: Professor John Amaechi OBE is a respected organisational psychologist, and the Leadership Transformation Expert at APS Intelligence LTD, the consultancy he founded in 2006. At APS Intelligence, John and his team of specialists' partner with businesses to build bespoke programmes focused on executive coaching and behavioural change that help create effective leaders and authentic and ethical cultures. This is what John believes leads to sustainable organisational growth and high performance while ensuring the dignity and well-being of all colleagues.

Recognised as an influential thinker in HR, John is a Professor of Leadership at the University of Exeter Business School in the United Kingdom and a Fellow of the Institute of Science and Technology. He's the author of the New York Times and the Sunday Times bestselling leadership book, *The Promises of Giants*, John draws on his early life in Stockport, near Manchester (UK), his career as the first Briton to play professional basketball in the NBA and deep psychological insights, to challenge and inspire others. In doing so, he continues to be driven by the words his mother once used to inspire him when she said that: "The most unlikely of people in the most improbable of circumstances can become extraordinary."

He is a non-executive director of a FTSE 250 company, was a 10-year director of the UK's largest healthcare organisation and a board adviser for several FTSE 100 organisations in the financial, legal and professional services, technology, publishing, engineering and retail sectors.

He is a LinkedIn influencer and has been a LinkedIn Top Voice since 2020. In 2023, John was nominated for and awarded the Sport's Industry, Integrity & Impact award.

But there are some more things it's important to know:

John is a mentor, a teacher, and always using his deep psychological insight combined with real-life experience to provide a touchstone for people and companies who want to thrive, achieve, and align their beliefs, values and ethics.

People who think facts and evidence should bow to opinion drive him crazy; he's passionate about Star Wars, is a self-confessed nerd & geek, a former NBA sportsman who has a voice like honey and is transported by music and loves nothing more than to eat decadent foods that are bad for him – especially pies!

So, while you're questioning everything you thought you knew, John will entertain you with his storytelling, confront you with uncomfortable truths, make you laugh and move you to tears (sometimes in the same minute) and ultimately inspire you to grow and develop in ways you couldn't possibly imagine...so that you can be a Giant too.



## Jessica Fisher

Lancaster University

Jessica Fisher is a Chemical Engineering Technician in the Lancaster University School of Engineering. Her main role is to oversee the health and safety of the chemical laboratories, support research by installing new analytical equipment, prepare practicals and the installation of compressed gases. She has also completed a variety of training courses such as a degree apprenticeship in chemical sciences, foundation level course in analytical techniques and IOSH health and safety.



**Paola Foulkes**

Cardiff University

Paola is a Laboratory Technician and clinical trial coordinator at the Wales Cancer Bank at Cardiff University School of Medicine. She holds an MSc in Cellular Pathology from Middlesex University and graduated from the University of York with a BSc (Hons) in Biology in 2019. She is skilled in frozen tissue processing, data analysis, communication and scientific writing.



**Annette Ryan**

Lancaster University

Dr Annette Ryan is a Senior Technical Manager and Departmental Safety Officer at the Lancaster Environment Centre (LEC). Her background encompasses three years working for the British Antarctic Survey in the Antarctic as a Meteorologist and Physicist, a PhD in Biosphere-Atmosphere Interactions, six years working as a Senior Research Associate in Atmospheric and Crop Sciences, and six years managing the Soil and Ecosystem Ecology Laboratories in the Lancaster Environment Centre. LEC is the largest department in Lancaster University. In 2007 Environmental Science, Biological Science and Geography were brought together to form LEC.



**Richard Keogan**

University of York

At University, Richard studied music technology at undergraduate and postgraduate level. He started working at the University of York in 2013, where he began as a Grade 3 technician officer with responsibilities for a cinema, five recording studios and a film equipment store. In 2015, he undertook a secondment as a lecturer in sound for film and after returning to his technical role, he continued to work as a lecturer which led to his current role as a technical specialist and associate lecturer.



**Natalie Kennerley**

Manchester Metropolitan University

Natalie is Technical Services Development Manager at Manchester Metropolitan University and former Director of the National Technician Development Centre. She began her technical career 30 years ago – her passion is to promote technicians as a skilled, valued and recognised sector – the “Hidden Heroes” of academia. In her previous role at the University of Sheffield, Natalie created the technician’s network “TechNet” which has now been rolled out as a national initiative. In her role, Natalie’s responsibilities include developing and delivering workforce development strategies and management of change initiatives for the University’s faculty-based Technical Services in support of the strategic objectives of the University.



**Dan Fower**

OrganOx

Dan is an experienced technician and perfusion practitioner, will more than 10 years’ experience in recovering and preserving organs for transplant. Recently, he has opened e-Lab, a division of OrganOx with a mission to discover the next advances in organ preservation towards OrganOx goal of making every donated organ count. Previously, Dan spent 5 years as a Clinical Specialist, responsible for training and supporting users in the use of OrganOx technology, and 4 years at Oxford’s Churchill Hospital, with a dual role in the histocompatibility and immunogenetics laboratory and also as part of the National Organ Retrieval Service, the arm of the NHS responsible for safe and respectful recovery of organs from deceased donors.

# About the IST Conference

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The IST has been supporting the technical workforce in the creative, digital, engineering and science technologies for over 75 Years.

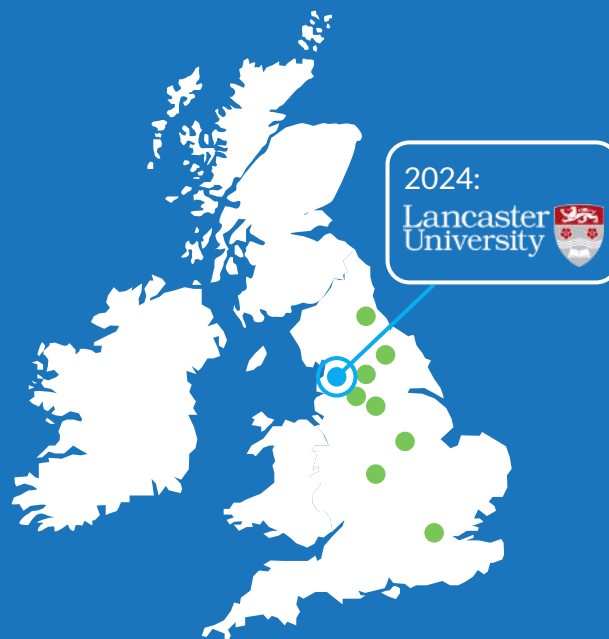
Our aim is to make the Institute all embracing and, in order to achieve this, help/advice networks, skills training, specialist forums, recognised qualifications, continuing career development opportunities and guidance will be available to the membership.

Recognition of professional standing is high on our agenda and, most importantly, expansion of the vibrant community of specialist, technical and managerial colleagues who will work together to help make a difference and shape the future.

Our Annual Conference plays a vital role in giving technicians the opportunity to network with other technical staff and managers from across the UK, as well as providing the chance to take part in a National event or deliver a presentations or talk.

## Previous Conferences:

- 2023 - London
- 2022 - York
- 2021 - Hybrid
- 2020 - Online
- 2019 - Birmingham
- 2018 - Newcastle
- 2017 - Leicester
- 2016 - Manchester
- 2015 - Leeds
- 2014 - Sheffield



We always aim to move around the country to give as many technicians the opportunity to attend our Conferences in future.

If you are interested in taking part in next years Conference, either being part of the organising committee, giving a talk or showcasing your specialist area, please contact us at [office@istonline.org.uk](mailto:office@istonline.org.uk).

**We hope you enjoy the day at Lancaster University.**