

Poems by Graham Price (Expert by Experience) who has contributed to student learning at BCU for a number of years.

Celebration

Today we celebrate with a big hooray,
Since 50 plus years have passed,
When this unique learning place of stature,
Responded to the question being asked,
Where are those social workers of calibre?

There's far too few, far too few,
So began a momentous journey, the lack to fix,
In that time one that's attracted me and you,
As people with lived experience to add authenticity to the mix,
Co-production ensured it worked, so what's new?

In between time it's been a bit topsy turvy,
This unique place adopting a new status and name,
In 1992 born as a new university,
Retaining social work studies, the mould essentially the same,
Surely time for another big hooray.

Tentatively, in 2001 EBEs held in BCU embrace,
In recent times their numbers gathering pace,
The importance of diversity and inclusion faced,
To play significant roles and in student teaching,
This year adding co-leading on module development and delivery.

Who knows what cards the future holds,
Covid vanquished, this is a new beginning,
Another tranche of 50 years will rise from our footholds,
Goodwill and partnership providing the underpinning,
A known recipe for a bright joyful future modelled on the past,
It's etched there, no one doubts it will last.

Graham Price
January 2022

Reflection on a Celebration

Joined FACE a while ago,
That's where I met many of you, sadly the burn set low,
Then invited to join the social work EBE team,
Accepted but hadn't realised this lot had a hard work theme,

That was in October of the 2019 year,
Nothing short of miraculous I'm still here
Adding to the EBE mayhem if you please,
Dream on, I'll admit to it being a tease,

In truth I'm in a talented cohort,
Of inspirational staff and EBEs who with skill resort,
To waste no time in knocking me and you into shape,
To deliver teaching value, yes time for you and me to wake,

Apart from personal satisfaction there's more to think about,
Good social workers are needed, whatever the public shout,
It's a call to redouble our efforts to ensure they are delivered,

Locking in the prospect this 50-year celebration is repeated.

Graham Price
January 2022