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MON: (Keynote) Expanding our understanding of openness in the context of disabled students in higher education (Jane Seale)

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12 December 2017

In this presentation I will argue that if higher education is to be successfully opened up to disabled students, higher education institutions and personnel need to open up to the 'acceptability of otherness'. I will exemplify and justify my argument by focusing on three phenomena that present significant barriers to such acceptance: labelling; ableism and invisibility.

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As someone who does not work in HE/FE, I'll be watching with interest to hear your thoughts about the barrier of invisibility. I think this presents a particularly sticky problem in the corporate world, especially as it relates to the legal and moral requirements for accessible training and work-related learning experiences that sit alongside a worker's right to non-disclosure.

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I am also looking forward to your presentation as your notion does also apply to my current secondary school setting.

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