



HR Equality and Opportunities

Tim Wess
Cardiff University



Game changing?

- Equality issues in different countries
- Room for conflict?
- Ways to improve quality of life?



Issues

- Gender equality within hierarchies
- Racial representation reflecting local area
- Age profile and assumptions
- LGBT openness in different societies.
- Work/life balance and the risk of burnout
- Family friendly policies.
- Mental health issues on increase.



A typical national context? The UK Equality act

- Updates on the Disability Discrimination Act in 2010 supports people with multiple cases of discrimination
- Tightens cases for bullying and indirect discrimination based on home life, etc.
- Considers hidden disabilities



Athena SWAN

- A charter and award for UK science to foster gender equality in STEM subjects.
- Embraced by few in 2008, then in 2011 a statement by Sali Davies that all entities applying for funding from NIHR need Athena SWAN silver award by 2014
- Scramble!



Solutions?

- Awareness raising
- Implementation of legislation
- Lines of reporting
- Action plans for equality
- Mainstreaming of equality issues