

## **Inclusion: The New Normal – Ochan Kusuma-Powell and the NFI Design Team**

The Team at The Next Frontier Inclusion has spent many years supporting schools on the road towards inclusive practices, sharing proven ways to support managed numbers of students with a wide range of learning profiles. In this interactive session we'll be providing a practical overview of what we have learned, including the need to define 'inclusion'.

We'll start with, 'Why?', not only focusing on the professional imperative to serve our whole community, but also sharing reasons why inclusive schools are better schools, both operationally and morally. We'll also tackle the issue of 'Why not', unpacking the reluctance some may feel towards 'going inclusive'.



**Ochan Kusuma-Powell**, Co-Founder of Education Across Frontiers and NFI, has more than 25 years experience in international education and is actively involved in supporting international schools to become more inclusive of students with special needs. Ochan has worked as a consultant to international schools in the areas of differentiated instruction, developing teacher emotional intelligence, collaboration and coaching.

**Kevin Bartlett** has held school leadership positions in the UK, Tanzania, Namibia, Austria and Belgium. He was a member of the Founding Board of CIS and served as Chairman for four years. He is a writer and trainer in the field of leadership for learning for the Principals' Training Center. As a curriculum designer he was the initiator and early leader of the IB Primary Years Program. In addition to NFI, Kevin is also the Co-Designer and Co-Leader of the successful global initiative, The Common Ground Collaborative, a curriculum project for international and national schools.



**Kristen Pelletier** holds a BS in Special Education and an MA in K-12 Educational Administration and brings 27 years of experience teaching and leading inclusive programs. Early career experiences included teaching in public school in Maine, and working in residential adult development programs. She taught at the International School of Brussels from 1998, where she was the Director of Student Support Services for 11 years. Kristen is a founding Director and Design Team Member of the Next Frontier Inclusion collaborative and a trainer for the Teacher Training Center and Education Across Frontiers. She is an independent educational consultant, coach, trainer and collaborative co-creator. Her work is driven by a mission of supporting international schools along their journey toward exemplary inclusive cultures that support the learning of individuals, and organizations.  
**Redefining Access - Creating Opportunities for Inclusion to Thrive!**

**Simon Gillespie** is the Head of School at International School of Uganda. Prior to Uganda, Simon was Director at The American School of Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Simon began teaching Elementary School in Canada and then moved to Dresden International School becoming the Primary School Principal. He then moved on to International School Manila as the Elementary Principal and then Middle School Principal.

