



Robert Mears studied Sociology and Psychology at the University of Leicester and completed the MSc in Medical Sociology and Health Policy at the University of London. My PhD was on ethnic minority nationalism but my main interests now are in the sociology of health and illness and health policy. He has more than twelve key publications in his area. He was a member of the QAA Sociology Benchmark Panel and a Subject Reviewer for the Welsh Higher Education Funding Council. In 2003 he was a QAA reviewer of Foundation Degrees. He was a member of the British Sociological Association Professional Development Committee and he is currently Chair of the Sociology reference group and member of the steering group of the Higher Education Academy Centre for Sociology, Anthropology and Politics (C-SAP) at the University of Birmingham. In September 2003 he was Director of the ESRC/BSA Postgraduate Summer School held at Bath Spa. In 2005/06 he worked on a review of the QAA Codes of Practice and he was elected to the Executive of the British Sociological Association. In 2007 he chaired the National Benchmark Panel in Sociology.