

SRHE Annual Research Conferences 2017: CALL FOR PAPERS

SRHE International Conference on Research into Higher Education

6-8 December 2017

Celtic Manor, Newport in South Wales, United Kingdom

SRHE Newer and Early Career Researchers Conference

5 December 2017

Coldra Court, Newport in South Wales, United Kingdom

Higher Education Rising to the Challenge: Balancing expectations of students, society and stakeholders

The Society for Research into Higher Education (SRHE) invites research contributions to this international higher education conference.

The SRHE Conference is the leading research forum in the UK that brings researchers together to share and to test some of the best ideas in higher education research today. Higher education research can illuminate this landscape, deepening our understanding so that policy and practice has a firm basis in evidence.

More is required of universities than ever before, as they contribute to economic growth through research that has impact and as they educate citizens who can contribute to society and the working world. Tensions are inevitable but change produces new opportunities.

Longstanding traditions of disinterested enquiry, of critique and of learning for its own sake may contribute to economic ends but may also be in tension with them. A drive towards excellence may produce beneficial change but may conflict with a wish for inclusion. Efficiency and effectiveness need to be tempered with a concern for wellbeing. Thus there are major challenges at system, institutional and individual levels to balance the many purposes of a university in the twenty-first century.

This year's conference provides an excellent opportunity to share our understandings of where we are today, to build for the future.

The Newer and Early Career Researchers conference will follow a similar theme with particular focus on how these issues impact on newer and early career researchers, their study, their research opportunities and their careers.

The SRHE Annual Research Conference attracts wide participation from researchers globally. It provides a stimulating international forum for papers of an empirical or scholarly nature relating to research into higher education, in the broadest sense, and from a breadth of different disciplinary perspectives. The conference is highly participative, promoting the dissemination and exchange of ideas in a variety of formats, across a range of research domains.

The **Society for Research into Higher Education** takes seriously its role of providing an international platform for wide-ranging academic discussion and bringing together researchers from around the world to share and debate knowledge and ideas. Its annual research conferences offer not just an opportunity for the presentation of current research work and ideas in a variety of formats but also a highly participative international forum in which researchers with a range of different perspectives and experiences examine and debate deeper theoretical and scholarly issues.

The information which follows refers only to the SRHE International Conference on Research into Higher Education. There is a separate Call for Papers for the SRHE Newer and Early Career Researchers Conference, which operates to a different format.

Important Dates

Call for papers Issued: 6 April 2017

Conference booking system opens 6 April 2017

Submission dates: 6 April to 23 June 2017

Peer Review period: 3 to 21 July 2017

Lead Assessors convention: w/c 14 August 2017

Notification of Acceptance to authors: 21 August 2017

Early registration rates end 30 September 2017

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Submitting a Paper

Submissions are invited on any research topic concerned with higher education. Each year the SRHE Research Conference has an overarching theme which it aims to address in the keynote speeches and associated discussions. Researchers are also invited to submit papers and symposia addressing aspects of the conference theme and, where relevant, to address aspects of the theme in individual papers but no preference is given in the peer review process in relation to topic. The selection of papers for presentation is based solely on quality. All submissions should reference the research methodologies relied on in the research undertaken.

Presentation formats

You are invited to contribute to this conference in a variety of ways: by presenting a paper, sharing in a symposium based on your own and others' research or scholarly work (including work of a conceptual or theoretical nature) or by organising a 'research directions seminar' on a specific area of research. Empirical and scholarly research from a wide range of perspectives is welcome.

Accepted posters form an integral part of the academic programme and sessions are included in the programme for poster presenters to talk about their work.

Submissions may be made in more than one category of presentation format, enabling delegates to present an individual paper and participate in a symposium or a round table for example.

Individual Papers (30 minutes including discussion and Q&A)

Papers are invited for presentation under one of ten broad research domains. Each paper accepted for an individual presentation will be allocated a minimum of 30 minutes for presentation and discussion.

Discussion Group Session (30 – 90 minutes)

This type of session is best suited for papers on completed research or scholarly work. Authors present summaries or overviews of their work, describing the essential features. The formal oral presentation of work should be limited to 10 minutes. Related presentations are grouped according to theme or perspective which may include 2 – 4 papers and presentation time allocated will be 30 or 60 minutes accordingly. Time is provided after all of the presentations for Q&A and group discussion and engagement. The timetabling of papers selected for Discussion Group Session is undertaken with the direction of the Research Domain Lead Assessors to ensure that papers relate well to each other and address related themes.

Authors may submit papers directly for a Discussion group Session. In addition authors submitting individual papers may be invited to present their work, along with other contributors, in the format of a discussion Group Session. The number of abstract submissions to the SRHE Conference is very high and in order to include the broadest range of high quality work submitted, acceptances on some individual submissions will be for presentation in the group discussion format.

Symposia (90 minutes)

Symposia provide the opportunity to present related papers on a single theme; the minimum number of papers is 4 and the maximum is 6 papers per symposium. Each paper will be individually reviewed for its own contribution and how it relates to the symposium rationale. A symposium will fail unless all papers are rated as good or excellent. Symposia will be allocated a 90 minute time slot no matter how many papers are submitted. It will be for the chair/convenor to decide how much time will be given per paper and allow enough time for audience engagement.

Symposia submissions can be made by one individual and all papers can be submitted together. Alternatively, a planned symposium can be set up and contributors may then add their papers individually using the online submission system. All papers submitted as part of a symposium must meet the quality criteria required for individual presentation for the Symposia to be accepted.

Symposia proposals must state clearly:

- the rationale for the symposium,
- the names of the convenor and/or the chair of the symposium,
- name of a discussant if appropriate,
- the names and details of all participating presenters plus the title of each presentation planned.

The symposium proposal must include an abstract and a paper for each presentation.

Round tables (30-60 minutes)

Roundtables are an excellent means of getting targeted feedback, engaging in in-depth discussions, and meeting colleagues with similar interests. Roundtables can facilitate the hands-on exploration of case studies or materials and are especially suitable for 'work in progress' submissions, providing a platform for discussion with other researchers working on related topics.

Proposals for roundtables must include an abstract and a paper and 2-3 prepared questions: questions need not only be for you as the presenter, they may also be directed to the attendees at the session, encouraging their participation, feedback, and the sharing of lessons learned. Each presenter is in charge of his or her presentation, but most will include an extended discussion component with ample time for questions.

Posters

Researchers are invited to submit poster proposals for current projects which are at the proposal stage, are work in progress, or which report on specific completed research projects. Poster proposals should include an abstract and a paper. If the proposal is accepted the abstract will be published in the conference proceedings and the Paper included in the formal record of all accepted work. Presentation of the work at the conference will take the form of a poster. Posters will be on display for the duration of the conference and there will be a timetabled slot for contributors to present their posters and discuss the research with conference delegates.

Abstracts & Outlines

To maintain the high quality of papers presented at the SRHE conference, and to ensure that the review process has access to a sufficient level of detail to take an informed view, submitting authors for all types of presentations are asked to provide a short paper for peer review in two parts.

Part 1 Abstract: a 150 word summary of the proposal which will be printed in the published conference programme and also included in the formal record of all accepted work made available at conference online.

Part 2 Outline: a maximum 1000 word paper (not including references) to be included in the formal record of all accepted work and available at conference online.

Please note that both parts are required at the point of first submission. There will be no subsequent call for fuller papers for accepted proposals.

The Society uses a bespoke electronic submission process for the Conference and all the data entered at the point of initial submission flows through to the final programme. Particular care should be taken on email addresses as these will be used for auto generated emails.

Authors are asked to ensure that their online submission:

- records important information correctly at the point of first submission
- includes the names of the submitting authors and their correct affiliations
- includes the name of the person or persons who will be presenting the work at the conference with the correct affiliations
- makes clear if any co-authors will also be presenting the work at the conference

Research domains

Papers are invited for presentation under one of ten broad research domains.

Submissions must be linked with one of the research domains specified to facilitate the development of a thematically streamed programme and authors should choose the domain which fits most closely with the content of the presentation.

It is not always obvious which research domain provides a “best fit” but authors are encouraged to submit proposals in the domain in which they would most like their paper to be timetabled.

Once papers have been accepted they may nonetheless be timetabled within a domain other than the one specified on submission if this creates the best thematic arrangement of papers for presentation.

Papers will be timetabled for presentation within the following 10 research domains:

- Academic practice, work, careers and cultures (**AP**)
- Access and widening participation (**AWP**)
- The Digital University and new learning technologies (**DU**)
- Employability, enterprise and graduate careers (**EE**)
- Higher education policy (**HEP**)
- International contexts and perspectives (**ICP**)
- Learning, teaching and assessment (**LTA**)
- Management, leadership, governance and quality (**MLGQ**)
- Postgraduate scholarship and practice (**PGSP**)
- Student experiences (**SE**)

Timetable for submissions

All proposals must be submitted electronically, via the SRHE website at www.srhe.ac.uk

Authors will find here all the instructions needed on what is required in making a submission.

The deadline for submission of all proposals for the SRHE International Research Conference is Friday 23 June 2017 12 midnight GMT

This submission date will enable all decisions on acceptances to be communicated to authors in good time for presenting authors to register for the Conference at early registration rates by 30 September 2017.

Conference Venue

Celtic Manor has gained the reputation of being one of the finest conference resorts in Europe and is set in 1,400 acres of panoramic parkland in the Welsh Usk Valley. **Although situated in the Wales on the border with England this location is easily reached by international delegates coming into London airports or main rail stations with a journey time to Newport of less than two hours and special low price rail fares available for SRHE Conference delegates.** For delegates who wish to extend their stay, the resort offers many leisure facilities and other activities details of which can be found on their website: www.celtic-manor.com

The Celtic Manor Resort in Wales is a world class conference venue which provides us with the space and facilities to bring together researchers from around the world to explore the key topics and most challenging issues faced today by the international higher education community.

This venue provides unparalleled networking space and guarantees conference participants the opportunity to meet and talk with colleagues engaged in higher education research throughout the event. Celtic Manor is only 90 minutes from London Heathrow, 45 minutes from Bristol and Cardiff-Wales International Airport and 5 minutes from the Severn Bridge (M4 Motorway). It is located close to inter-city rail services at Newport, with direct trains to Cardiff, London Paddington, and Birmingham.

Conference programme

The Conference programme includes a varied range of contributions:

- peer-reviewed paper presentations, workshops, symposia, round tables and posters
- plenary sessions addressing the main conference theme from a range of perspectives, with input from invited speakers of world renown
- a forum for international delegates to discuss and share research knowledge and interests
- themed research directions workshops exploring current research topics
- a linked one-day conference for postgraduate students and newer researchers in higher education to be held at the nearby Coldra Court venue on Tuesday 5 December 2017

Conference timetable and events

SRHE International Annual Research Conference is a participative event at which delegates presenting their own work also participate in the discussions in plenary sessions and at the presentations of the work of others. Time does not allow for sessions to be repeated. **The Conference programme is therefore planned on the basis that delegates will attend the whole event over the scheduled three days.**

The **SRHE International Research Conference** will begin on the morning of Wednesday 6 December 2017. Registration is open from 09.00 and the opening keynote session will commence promptly at 10.30. The Conference will end after lunch on Friday 8 December 2017 at 14.30.

Social and networking events

Networking with colleagues is an integral part of the SRHE Conference and social events are carefully structured to offer excellent opportunities for participants to meet and converse in a relaxed atmosphere. This year, there will be a number of events:

Welcome Drinks Reception on Wednesday 6 December 2017, open to all participants at the conference, followed by the opportunity to take dinner at one of four restaurants in the resort arranging to meet with specific colleagues, share tables with other delegates set aside for conference delegates or joining the SRHE Director's Welcome dinner arranged especially for international delegates and first time attenders at SRHE Conference. For resident delegates dinner on this night is included in their conference fees. Non-resident delegates may also take dinner at the hotel on this evening for an additional fixed charge.

Drinks Reception on Thursday 7 December 2017. There will be a pre-dinner drinks reception sponsored by Routledge/Taylor and Francis during which the SRHE Network Convenors will showcase the work of these special interest groups.

Conference Dinner on Thursday 7 December 2017. The additional cost of the conference gala dinner (£42.00) includes a three-course menu with wine. The senior overseeing chef at the Hotel is an award winning restaurateur who has been awarded a Michelin star for his associated restaurant nearby.

Conference Registration

Registration as a conference delegate by 30 September 2017 allows presenters to take advantage of the early booking discounts offered and have accommodation at the Celtic Manor Resort guaranteed. It will also enable international delegates especially the opportunity to take advantage of the best travel deals. SRHE Conference holds accommodation at the Celtic Manor Resort for a period but delegates booking after this date may need to be provided with bedrooms at nearby hotels of an equivalent high standard as the conference resort and the Conference organisers reserve the option to accommodate delegates outside the resort. Conference registration will remain open up to the date of the Conference.

To register for the SRHE International Research Conference 2017 and/or the Newer Researchers Conference please register online via the Conference website at <http://www.srhe.ac.uk>

Special discounts on delegate fees are available to SRHE members. Early registration also attracts discounts and guarantees accommodation at the Celtic Manor Resort. After the early registration deadline date accommodation may need to be at other hotels. A very limited number of subsidised places a 'student rate' are also available to full-time postgraduate students.

To obtain the 'early registration' discount and have accommodation at the Celtic Manor guaranteed you must register by 30 September 2017.

SRHE Membership

Non-members of SRHE wishing to take advantage of member discounts for conference can join the Society at the time of registering, or beforehand at:

Click on "Join us" at <http://www.srhe.ac.uk>

SRHE Membership offers a wide range of opportunities and important benefits; our highly valued SRHE NEWS (published quarterly) which provides a digest of news, comment and analysis from around the world, SRHE BLOG with regular posts at www.srheblog.com ; free and highly discounted journal subscriptions and access to research grants are just some of the many benefits.

Delegate Accommodation

Full details of all delegate fees and options can be found on the SRHE conference website. The conference is planned as a three day residential event and the fully inclusive residential conference package offers excellent value. The Society has secured highly preferential rates for delegates taking the residential conference package and we strongly advise Conference delegates to take this option as it will represent a substantial saving.

Residential Rates

Delegates choosing the residential package will have single occupancy accommodation reserved for two nights, 6 and 7 December 2017. This package includes breakfast, lunch, teas and coffees throughout the 3 day conference, the Welcome Reception, and dinner on the Wednesday evening, the pre-dinner evening drinks reception on the Thursday, attendance at all Conference sessions and plenary events and all conference proceedings.

Additional nights at the Resort, pre and post conference, can also be booked at special preferential rates.

Accompanying partners; Delegates who wish to bring partners are welcome to do so at a reasonable additional cost. Details can be found when booking on-line.

Non-residential Rates

Delegates not taking the residential package and requiring accommodation for the duration of the Conference will be responsible for making their own accommodation arrangements at prevailing commercial rates. The non-residential package includes attendance at all sessions and plenary events, lunches, teas and coffees and the Welcome Drinks Reception.

Day Delegate Rate

The Conference programme is planned on the basis that delegates will attend the whole event over the scheduled three days. A day delegate rate is made available for the middle day of the Conference, Thursday 7 December, only to accommodate special circumstances. This rate includes attendance at all sessions and plenary events, lunch, teas and coffees on this day only.

Further Information

For all abstract submissions, conference registrations, further information and updates on the Conference please access the Conference website at www.srhe.ac.uk/conference2017

If you require any further information or assistance, please contact the SRHE Conference team:

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