

Call for Papers

SRHE International Conference on Research into Higher Education

5-7 December 2018

Celtic Manor, Newport, Wales, United Kingdom

SRHE Newer and Early Career Researchers Conference

4 December 2018

Coldra Court, Newport, Wales, United Kingdom

SRHE International Conference on Research into Higher Education 2018

The changing shape of higher education: Can excellence and inclusion cohabit?

Higher education is increasingly subject to competing demands, often appearing to come from very different, seemingly incompatible world views. The idea of the “knowledge economy” has emerged as a dominant way of framing the work of universities, represented in global league tables that privilege a particular view of excellence and its purpose. In many parts of the world, governments are reorganising their higher education systems to support the growth of “elite” institutions, whilst a growing number of private providers widen further the type of teaching provision available. There is thus a clear trend towards increasing stratification in many university systems whilst privileging economic ends over social ones.

Those of us engaged in higher education research are challenged by such developments, and may wish to ask difficult questions in observing the changing shape of higher education: Are these changes inevitable? Are they happening everywhere and in the same way? Is higher education becoming increasingly a means of social reproduction? We ask how we can avoid the disbenefits of current trends. What role can other beliefs and values play in challenging what are fast becoming unquestioned norms? Is it acceptable to let markets decide who gets access to what educational opportunity? Is there space for diversity and inclusion in an increasingly stratified system? To what extent can institutions develop and maintain a distinctive mission? How can higher education research contribute to understanding and managing stratification?

In a post-truth and post-Brexit world where economic and social norms are being tested to breaking point, this conference will seek to champion the breadth and depth of knowledge of which higher education research is so rightly proud. It will celebrate the diversity of theories, methods and approaches that characterise it, bringing them to bear on current higher education and future trends. The conference will take a comparative approach both at national and international level, seeking to show through comparison that there are choices that can be made.

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 a 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.

1. Submission Guidelines

Please note these guidelines are applicable to the SRHE International Conference on Research into Higher Education only. Please visit SRHE.ac.uk for information on how to submit to SRHE Newer and Early Career Researchers Conference.

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.

Assessment Criteria

All submissions will be judged by the following criteria:

Originality of questions addressed
Effective use and clear explanation of research methodology
Clarity of the research aims and objectives and outcomes
The extent to which the work is rooted in the relevant literature
Significance of the research and the contribution added to what is known about the area researched
The quality of the data (where applicable) and the reliability and significance of the conclusions

Empirical and scholarly research from a wide range of perspectives is welcome.

All research work invited for presentation in any format is subject to rigorous peer review.

Presentation Formats

You are invited to contribute to this conference in a variety of ways:

- Presenting an **Individual Paper**
- Participating in a **Panel Discussion**
- Contributing to a **Symposium**
- Presenting a **Poster**
- Submitting a **Lightning Video Presentation**

1.1 Individual Paper

Papers are invited for presentation under one of ten broad research domains (see Research Domains, listed at the end of this section). Each Individual Paper accepted will be allocated 30 minutes for presentation and discussion. A chair will be allocated to manage the session.

Authors are required to submit:

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 Paper: a maximum 1000 word paper (excluding references) to be included in the formal record of all accepted work and available at conference online.

The SRHE Annual Research Conference receives a high volume of papers, especially for the presentation of individual papers. Papers submitted as an Individual Paper and accepted after peer review may therefore be offered inclusion in a themed Panel Discussion. This enables the inclusion of a wider range of high quality submissions at the conference.

1.2 Panel Discussion

A Panel Discussion is comprised of 4-6 thematically linked papers. Each paper will be allotted 15 minutes for presentation within a 60-90 minute time slot, with 30 minutes dedicated to discussion of all of the papers presented.

Propose a Panel Discussion

To submit a Panel Discussion proposal, the Panel Lead is required to:

- Provide a maximum 1000 word paper outlining the nature of the discussion. This paper should include 2-3 prepared questions to be directed at attendees during the session.
- Invite at least 3 authors to contribute their work to the discussion. These authors may present shorter abstracts of up to 450 words if they so wish.
- Plan for at least 30 minutes discussion.

Contribute a Paper to a Panel Discussion

You may only submit a paper to a Panel Discussion if you have been invited to do so by a Panel Lead. Your paper will then be individually reviewed for its own contribution and how it relates to the Panel theme.

1.3 Symposium

Symposia provide the opportunity to present 4-6 related papers on a single theme during a 90 minute time slot. An individual proposing a Symposium (Symposium Convenor) will be responsible for inviting colleagues to contribute the aforementioned papers.

Propose a Symposium

A Symposium submission must include:

- 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.

Once the Symposium proposal has been submitted, the Symposium Convenor or the contributing authors can then submit each Individual Paper for review. The SRHE Conference submission system will guide you through this process.

If accepted for presentation it will be for the Symposium Convenor to decide how much presentation time will be given per paper and must allow enough time for audience engagement.

Contribute a Paper to a Symposium

You may only submit a paper to a Symposium if you have been invited to do so by a Symposium Convenor. Your paper will then be individually reviewed for its own contribution and how it relates to the symposium rationale. A symposium will not be accepted unless all papers are rated as good or excellent.

Contributing authors are required to submit:

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

1.4 Poster

Papers are invited for submission for presentation as a Poster. There will be a Designated Poster Session during which time all accepted posters will be exhibited.

In addition, accepted Posters may be recommended for presentation within other presentation sessions on related research themes and thus combined with other forms of presentation (eg panel discussions). Authors will be informed in advance when and in which type of sessions they are invited to present their poster.

Posters should be A1 in size (Portrait or landscape). For presenters travelling from abroad, we offer the facility to have your posters printed here for you. The cost of a colour A1 poster will be £25.00. Poster boards will be provided.

1.5 Lightning Video Presentation

SRHE recognises that participating in the conference in person is dependent on funding, geographical location and other factors. In order to be inclusive, this format is made available to showcase peer reviewed research work where such factors preclude personal attendance.

Lightning Video Presentations are 5-7 minute videos which allow authors to present summaries or overviews of their work. A dedicated space will be allocated for the looped screening of Lightning Video Presentations throughout the conference.

All submitters need to submit a 500-750 word outline by the deadline of 22nd June 2018 and if accepted you will be invited to send us your video via Dropbox by the 1st November where upon it will be peer-reviewed.

Please note: Lightning Video Presentations are **not** distance delivery presentations (i.e. Skype). This mode of presentation is not offered. Presentations using materials which contravene UK copyright law will not be screened

The deadline for submission of all proposals to the SRHE International Annual Research Conference is Friday 22 June 2018 12 midnight GMT. Visit www.srhe.ac.uk to submit.

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 experience (**SE**)

2. Conference Programme

The SRHE International Annual Research Conference will begin on the morning of **Wednesday 5 December 2018**. 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 7 December 2018 at 14.30**.

The Conference programme will include a varied range of contributions, networking opportunities and events :

- peer-reviewed paper presentations, symposia, panel discussion, posters and Lightning Video presentations
- plenary sessions addressing the main conference theme from a range of perspectives, with input from invited speakers of broad and international interest
- a forum for international delegates to discuss and share research knowledge and interests
- opportunities to network with colleagues engaged in related research areas
- 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 4 December 2018

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.**

Social and networking events 2018

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 5 December

Open to all participants at the conference, followed by the opportunity to participate at a buffet style dinner at one of four restaurants in the resort arranging to meet with specific colleagues or share tables with other delegates set aside for conference delegates. Dinner on this night is included in the residential conference fee. Non-resident delegates may also take dinner at the hotel on this evening for an additional fixed charge.

Drinks Reception on Thursday 6 December

There will be a pre-dinner drinks reception, open to all delegates, sponsored by Routledge/Taylor and Francis

Conference Gala Dinner on Thursday 6 December

There is an additional cost for the Conference Gala Dinner of £42 for a three course meal including wine and soft drinks

3. Conference Registration

Delegates are advised to register and book accommodation as soon as possible, as the SRHE Conference is very well attended and all available accommodation has been taken in the last few years. Registration as a conference delegate **by 28 September 2018** also allows presenters to take advantage of the early booking discounts offered. Once all rooms at the Celtic Manor Resort have been booked, accommodation may need to be at other nearby hotels. To register for the SRHE International Annual Research Conference 2018 and/or the Newer Researchers Conference please register online via the Conference website at <http://www.srhe.ac.uk>

Discounted delegate fees are available to SRHE members. A very limited number of subsidised places at student rate are also available to full-time postgraduate students.

SRHE Membership

Non-members of SRHE wishing to take advantage of member discounts for conference can join the Society at the time of registering by clicking on "Join us" at <http://www.srhe.ac.uk>

SRHE Membership offers a wide range of opportunities and important benefits; free attendance at SRHE Network and Professional Development events, our members-only digest of news, comment and analysis from around the Higher Education world (*SRHE News*, published quarterly), free on-line access to all SRHE journals and a wide range of other national and international higher education research journals, discounted printed 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.

The Celtic Manor conference resort is set in 1,400 acres of panoramic parkland in the Welsh Usk Valley. It is situated 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. Further details are available from www.celtic-manor.com

Residential Rates

Delegates choosing the residential package will have accommodation reserved for two nights, 5 and 6 December 2018. 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 6

December, only to accommodate special circumstances. This rate includes attendance at all sessions and plenary events, lunch, teas and coffees on this day only.

4. 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/conference2018

Please note that our conference registration and submission system is now managed by Firebird Conference Systems. Please ensure that the domain @firebird.systems is whitelisted to receive emails regarding your submission and registration.

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

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Conference Director: Helen Perkins Director, SRHE

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