

2022 SRHE International Research Conference

5 – 9 December 2022 (virtual)

The **2022 International SRHE Research Conference** will take place **online from 5th – 9th December**. This year our call for papers invites researchers, practitioners, and postgraduate students of higher education to reflect on the theme of **Mobilities in Higher Education**.

In many ways, the higher education sector has never been so mobile. Our understanding of what constitutes educational mobilities has begun to expand in recent years, particularly as the internationalisation of higher education has come to occupy a central place on the agenda of policymakers across the world. Scholarship on the subject is growing in tandem with this development, with higher education researchers and practitioners offering critical perspectives on mobilities through the lens of spatial theory, social justice theory, and examinations of the neoliberal imperatives which drive some globalisation projects. Most recently, prominent discussions around mobility have ranged from a renewed focus on sustainability issues, to the relationship between student mobility and employability, to concerns around the lack of inclusivity and diversity throughout the sector despite its capacity for mobility.

The rapid shift to remote teaching and learning is now moving into an uncertain and uneven landscape of hybrid and in-person formats, presenting us with a variety of contexts from which to consider the mobility of higher education. With forms of virtual mobility proliferating over the last two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is an appropriate moment for us to examine the scale and geography of mobility within the higher education sector. How have changes in communication media and digital pedagogies affected staff and students' inclinations and abilities to be mobile – and what is the impact on those without access to the technologies which support this? Which elements of higher education's infrastructures are essential, desirable and sustainable, and what are the implications for mobilities? What are the ways in which spatial mobilities intersect with social mobility, and how does this impact on our methods of evaluating success, outcomes, and access?

Even in this highly mobile sector, educational experiences are rooted in particular spaces and times – in analysing these experiences, how can we incorporate transnational space? How do we account for the ways in which educational spaces are continuously and rapidly evolving? With transnational spaces and collaborations now taking new and different forms, what are the new and different challenges which HE researchers and practitioners must contend with? Throughout the conference, we invite discussion of the comparative methodologies which enable us to navigate boundaries of language, geography, and discipline in our studies of mobilities in higher education.

We invite analyses of mobilities, and barriers to movement, occurring at every scale of the higher education landscape and reflections on material and imaginative geographies of (staff/student) mobility. What are the possibilities and challenges for staff in moving across increasingly hazy boundaries between academic, non-academic, professional service, and management roles at once? What are the experiences and key considerations for those who occupy multiple personal and professional roles at once?

We encourage explorations of the wide-ranging implications for those for whom mobility is restricted, disrupted, or imposed. What is the relationship between mobility and different

knowledge economies, and how can we decolonise our understanding of (im)mobility as the sector becomes increasingly global? What are the common themes, assumptions, and norms around which discussion of (im)mobility tend to gather – and what are those themes which remain underexplored?

About the SRHE Conference

The SRHE International 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 closing date for submissions is 15th June 2022 (23:59 GMT+1).

Registration is now open for the conference – further details can be found on the booking page: [click here to open](#).

Research Domains

Papers are invited for presentation under one of ten broad research domains. This aids the organisation of a thematically coherent programme. Although many papers have the potential to fall under a number of domains, we ask that authors indicate their first preference. The final decision on the domain to which a paper is assigned will be made by the lead assessors as part of the peer review process. The ten research domains are:

- Academic practice, Work, Careers, and Cultures (AP)
- 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 Access and Experience (SAE)
- Technical, Professional and Vocational Higher Education (TPV)

Assessment Criteria

All submissions are subject to rigorous peer review and the selection of papers for presentation is based solely on quality. There is no requirement for submissions to directly address the conference theme. Empirical and scholarly research from a wide range of perspectives is welcome.

All submissions will be judged by the following criteria*:

Originality of the question(s) 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 (potential) contribution added to what is known about the area researched
<i>Where applicable</i> : the quality of the data and the reliability and significance of the conclusions

The quality of the argument/evidence presented, whether derived from empirical work or scholarly analysis

*The SRHE welcomes submissions from every stage of the research cycle – from projects recently underway to published findings. Reviewers will consider the stage of the research project when applying the assessment criteria.

Presentation Formats

You are invited to contribute to the conference in a variety of forms. The same paper must not be submitted to more than one strand:

- Research Paper
- Symposium
- Poster

We encourage presenters to share their work in creative ways and welcome different styles and formats – particularly those which maximise the digital format of this year's event – to encourage and stimulate discussion and engagement with session participants. To this end, you will find an optional field included in the submission form inviting you to propose an alternative, non-traditional, or experimental style of presentation should you wish to do so. Please note that proposing an alternative style **will not affect how your submission is assessed by our reviewers**. If your submission is successful, the SRHE team will review your proposed presentation style and work with you to explore how best to facilitate it.

Research Papers

Research papers may be:

- Papers which are advanced or complete, and where findings/analysis can be fully reported.
- Work in progress empirical/data-based studies. The work can be newly underway, and presenters may focus on theory, methodology, and conceptual framework rather than reporting on preliminary/final findings and analysis.
- Scholarly papers which are discussion pieces or work at the cutting edge of debate on policy and practice featuring novel arguments and exploring difficult questions.

Authors are required to submit:

- **Part 1 Summary:** a 150-word abstract which will be available online via the conference website.
- **Part 2 Paper:** a maximum 750-word paper (excluding references and figures), which will be available to download via the conference website.

Symposium

Symposia provide the opportunity to present 3 to 4 related research papers on a single theme. An individual proposing a Symposium (Symposium Convenor) will be responsible for the title of the session, for inviting colleagues to contribute their papers, and is expected to approve the papers from their invited authors before they are submitted.

A Symposium proposal submission must include:

- A 400-word rationale for the Symposium
- The names of the Chair(s) and if applicable, Discussant(s) of the Symposium
- The names and details of all contributing presenters

Once the Symposium proposal has been submitted, invited contributors will receive an e-mail prompting them to submit an abstract and attach it to your symposium.

Contribute a Paper to a Symposium

Only those invited by a Symposium Convenor can submit a contribution to a symposium. You will receive an e-mail from Oxford Abstracts prompting you to submit your paper and abstract once your Symposium Convenor has completed their symposium proposal.

Your paper will 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 Summary:** a 150-word abstract which will be available online via the conference website.
- **Part 2 Paper:** a maximum 750-word paper (excluding references and figures), which will be available to download via the conference website.

Poster (E-Poster)

Papers are invited for submission for presentation as a poster. Please note that all Newer & Early Career Researchers who submit a poster will be entered into our annual poster competition.

Our virtual platform will allow you to upload your poster (in PDF format) to the poster gallery – conference attendees will be able to view and post comments on your presentation throughout the entire conference. We will also have dedicated poster exhibition sessions within the conference programme, during which attendees will be able to discuss your poster with you.

SRHE will provide guidance to help you to upload and present your materials successfully.

Authors are required to submit:

- **Part 1 Summary:** a 150-word abstract which will be available online via the conference website.
- **Part 2 Paper:** A maximum 400-word outline (excluding references and figures) of the poster's research question, key ideas, methodology/techniques, and where applicable, preliminary or final results/conclusions, which will be available to download via the conference website.
- You are **not required** to submit your finalised poster at this stage. If accepted, you will be prompted to upload your poster at a later date (in advance of the conference).

Contact us

If you have any queries, please use our live chat (available at the bottom right-hand corner of any page on our website), or alternatively e-mail:

Dr Sinéad Murphy, SRHE Manager: Conferences and Events: sinead.murphy@srhe.ac.uk

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If your query relates to conference sponsorship or other forms of engagement, please copy **Katie Tindle**, SRHE Business Development and Engagement Lead: katie.tindle@srhe.ac.uk.