



— SRHE

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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Vice-Chair:

Professor Jacqueline Stevenson

Honorary Treasurer:

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SRHE Executive Team at 31 December 2024

Dr Clare Loughlin-Chow, Chief Executive Officer

Franco Carta, Finance Officer

Rob Gresham, Manager: Operations & Finance / Company Secretary

Mariam Ismail, Manager: Engagement and Development

Dr Rihana Suliman, Manager: Conferences and Events

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A MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL CHAIR



Financial year August 2023 – July 2024
Reporting year January 2024 – December 2024

I am writing this at the start of 2025 which is the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Society. This is an important milestone and one we will celebrate through 2025, culminating with the award of fellowships that will take place at the 2025 conference. Meanwhile, welcome to our Annual Report of activities for 2024.

For many of us the highlight of the year was the annual conference in Nottingham. This represented our second return to in-person conferences following the very successful 2023 event in Birmingham. It provided a super chance for everyone to get together, and provided us with excellent space to meet, network and plot future research plans. I was delighted that we also continued to retain space for those who were not able attend in person, with 80 papers presented online. Your feedback from both conferences evidenced your appreciation of this balance of online and face to face presentations, so we intend to keep both formats for the foreseeable future.

A major feature of work this year has been the start of implementing the Society's Strategic Plan 2024-2029. Please see the SRHE CEO's Introduction and the updates throughout this report for the details. The Plan has brought new members into the discussions and working groups, so we are able to make progress on new fronts, and it is further actioned through the Society's committees. The Publications, Research and Development and Governance committees are all pushing forward in their areas and their individual reports give you details. On a more regular basis, please look at the Newsletter and the Blog to keep in touch with activities and ideally let us know what you think and are doing through these forums.

Building our membership from all parts of the world, and broadening our appeal to postgraduates, faculty, and professional colleagues remains a high priority. I am very pleased to welcome two new Trustees to General Council, Professor Liz Bennett (University of Huddersfield) and Dr Joy Garfield (Aston University). In the normal cycle of representation, we will be looking for more Trustees this year. Are you interested? We are always delighted to get new members involved. Do please get in touch.

As always I am extremely grateful to the entire office team, to fellow Trustees, and the Officers for all their work for the Society this year, and especially to our CEO, Clare, for her expert collegial leadership. We are looking forward to an interesting anniversary year. I hope to see as many as possible at the Conference next December in Nottingham for a jolly 60th celebration.

Pauline Kneale, SRHE Council Chair

SRHE CEO'S INTRODUCTION



Financial year August 2023 – July 2024
Reporting year January 2024 – December 2024

I am delighted to present SRHE's 2024 annual report -- it has been another great year for the Society as we made a real start on our ambitious Strategic Plan 2024-2029. Working from a revised vision and mission, and a newly-articulated set of shared values, we've made excellent progress on our five main objectives of research, visibility, accessibility, sustainability, and influence.

It is a challenging time for the HE sectors in the UK and internationally, with funding issues at the forefront for many institutions. Our membership numbers have declined slightly, but we have seen reinvigorated network and professional development engagement, the funding of important SRHE award projects, steadily increasing open access journal outputs, a mid-contract revision of our publishing arrangements, and a well-attended and engaging academic conference. Our programme of events, grants, annual conference and journal and book publishing activities represent the Society's core activities, but within this context, we continue to look ahead, seeking new approaches in our activities and broadening our connectivity within higher education on a global basis.

Our 2024 annual conference featured explorations of timely and complex issues within the sector. The theme of Higher Education: A Place for Activism and Resistance? facilitated discussion of academic engagement with politically-charged discussions of a wide variety of issues. It provided a space to look at ways in which staff and students are, and have historically been, involved in various forms of activism, and posed questions about the future roles that higher education – and the people in it – might take. We continued to preserve online and in-person formats, with good attendance, including strong international participation.

The operation of SRHE as a registered charity and an independent self-funded small business, runs in parallel with and supports our academic activities. In 2024 we reviewed our governing documents, improved our guidance for trustees, and implemented formal sector updates to Council. As the Chair of Council has noted, we welcome those with an interest in participating in Society committees or standing for election to Council to get in touch – we welcome further engagement!

The Society's Executive team dedicates itself to supporting our membership and advancing the mission of the Society. This has been another very active year, and I'd like to thank the team for their commitment, support, and hard work, leading to the excellent results for the Society outlined in this report.

I very much look forward to working with colleagues, society members, and external stakeholders throughout 2025 and beyond, to act on our strategy to advance understanding of higher education through the insights, perspectives and knowledge offered by high-quality research and scholarship.

Dr M. Clare Loughlin-Chow, CEO

KEY METRICS



666

Members



245

Conference
presentations



Conference delegates

210 182

in-person online



93%

delegates rated
Conference
excellent or good



35

events held

1161

attendees



4

books published

289

articles published



1.4M

article downloads



Awards

9 6

research awards Accolades
(worth 59K) recipients



1

Consultation response

STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2029

Our Vision

Higher Education research is valued, supported, and promoted worldwide, and is used to advance knowledge, enhance practice, and inform policy.

Our Mission

To advance understanding of higher education, through the insights, perspectives and knowledge offered by high-quality research and scholarship. SRHE supports and promotes research, aiming to be the leading international higher education learned society.

The 2024 calendar year represents the first full year of the Society's 5-year strategic plan, established by Council and the CEO to guide and develop the Society's activities from 2024-2029. We have striven throughout to keep the Society's refreshed vision and mission in the foreground, and to work in line with its shared values centring around knowledge, rigour, criticality, engagement, EDI, integrity, and sustainability.

Ultimately we aim to develop research capacity and enhance support for research and researchers, better promote our activities and resources to an increased membership, foreground EDI in all that we do, work to safeguard our future as a society, and enhance our relevance more widely and effectively in the higher education sphere (both in the UK and internationally).

The plan is therefore organised into a series of strategic objectives with a subset of priority actions designed to drive the objectives forward. What follows is a summary of key activity that has taken place across Year 1.

STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE 1

Research: Developing Research Capacity and Enhancing Support

Publications

The Society continues to develop its Open Access (OA) support and capacity. The CEO participates in the British Academy Forum on Open Access, and drafted the Society's response to the REF 2029 Consultation on OA (see under [Objective 5 – Influence: Enhancing our Relevance](#)). We have seen an increase in our OA research outputs via the SRHE journals *Studies in HE* and *Policy Reviews in HE*, as well as in *Higher Education Quarterly*, published in partnership with Wiley. This latter journal is now entirely online, with its print version discontinued at the start of 2024. See under [SRHE Publications](#) below for more detail.

Also in 2024, at the mid-point of its 10-year contract with Taylor and Francis, the Society initiated a mid-term review, and renegotiated terms to secure additional support for its editorial teams. This has supported a re-structure at *Policy Reviews in Higher Education*, additional editorial staff at *Studies in Higher Education*, and a temporary editorial assistant for *Abstracts in Higher Education*. *Policy Reviews in HE* has reviewed and updated its editorial board, and *Studies* plans to engage a similar exercise in 2025.

Conference

The Society has continued to revitalize its annual international conference, which remains a vital source of developing research capacity and enhancing support. We have retained a mixed provision of in-person and online elements to facilitate participation from international members and those with caring responsibilities or access restrictions. Additional EDI provision was also made at the 2024 conference. A revised conference survey has been implemented with additional promotion and incentives for participation. See under [SRHE Conference 2024](#) below for more details.

Fellowships

The Society has re-introduced its fellowship programme following a ten-year hiatus. Revised criteria were approved by Council and the fellowships programme re-launched at the 2024 conference, with the opening of the [Call for Nominations](#). Awards will be made in 2025 as part of the Society's 60th anniversary celebrations.

STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE 2

Visibility: Promoting our Activities and Resources

Social Media and Mailings

Our marketing and communications sub-strategy was developed over the course of 2024 and underpins increased activity on social media in promoting our activities, conference, publications, awards, and membership benefits. We have focused upon expanding and enhancing our presence on LinkedIn from 1 January 2024 with increased activity on our organization page and on that of the CEO.

We have seen excellent results in growing our presence on this increasingly important platform. Our followers are steadily increasing (1.7K at 31 December), as has our engagement rate (likes, comments, shares, clicks). In line with developments in the HE and Charity sectors, we have scaled back our activity on Twitter with a planned expansion onto Bluesky in 2025. Our newsletters and member mailings have been reformatted to be more visually appealing.



[LinkedIn Profile](#)



[@srhe.bsky.social](#)

Our increased engagement with external organisations with allied interests has resulted in cross-promotion of events and conference across other memberships. Organisations who have promoted our events to their memberships across 2024 include: the Academy of Social Sciences (AcSS), the British Educational Research Association (BERA), WonkHE, the Global Centre for Higher Education (GCHE), the Association of Higher Education Professionals (AHEP), and the UK Council for Graduate Education (UKCGE).

We have expanded our database of mailing lists to promote the Society and its resources directly to global Higher Education Study Centres, relevant degree programmes, HE professionals, postgrad societies for writing support and development, EDI organisations (including BAME, LGBTQI+ etc). In 2024 we focused on updating our existing lists and compiling new contacts, primarily for promotion of the Society's conference. We will continue to develop these in the coming years.

STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE 2

Visibility: Promoting our Activities and Resources (cont.)

Network Activity

Across 2024, the Executive Team has worked with network convenors to encourage and support advance network planning to allow for improved advance promotion of events. We have also supported network events online and outside of London, the latter particularly seen in the activity of the new Multilingual University Network.

SRHE Networks

- Academic Practice
- Digital University
- Employability, Enterprise and Work-based Learning
- Higher Education and the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Higher Education Policy
- International Research and Researchers
- Learning, Teaching And Assessment
- Multilingual University
- Newer Researchers
- Postgraduate Issues
- The Student Access and Experience Network

60th Anniversary

The Society established a limited-life working group to develop plans to celebrate the Society's anniversary in 2025. SRHE's website and publications have been updated with its 60th anniversary branding. As noted above, the fellowship programme has been revived, and the editor and members of the group are considering topics and potential authors for a series of 60th anniversary blogs.



STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE 3

Accessibility: Foregrounding Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

EDI Working Group

This limited-life working group, chaired by Omolabake Fakunle and Jacqueline Stevenson, was established via a call to the membership for expressions of interest in summer 2024. The group has established its remit, terms of reference, and strategic priorities. In 2024 the Society established an EDI page on the website: [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion | SRHE](#), designed to highlight the work of this group and including a “virtual suggestion box”, which was also promoted at conference.

The working group also advised on additional EDI-related provision at conference (pronoun stickers for name badges, a quiet room), and reviewed and advised on revisions to the post-conference survey to enhance the questions on EDI-related concerns such as diversity of speakers, and accessibility.

Conference Speakers

One of the criticisms arising from the 2023 conference referred to a lack of diversity amongst plenary speakers and panel members. Specific and targeted attention was paid to this element in the planning for the 2024 conference, with consultation at the

Research and Development Committee, on representation of other under-represented and marginalised groups in future exercises.

Outside engagement

The CEO is a member of the AcSS working group on EDI issues, and regularly promotes activities and events to the working group members. EDI WG members have attended sessions and training offered by AcSS and other learned societies.

Publications

The Society produced an analysis of the Editorial Board for Studies in HE with a focus upon geographical spread and expertise. This is being used in a consideration of updates to the board composition. Policy Reviews editorial engaged in a similar analysis and updated its board composition and increased its membership, ensuring wider and more extensive international coverage and expertise. Higher Education Quarterly also updated its Editorial Board and created a new supplementary Early Career Research Board to develop editorial expertise.

STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE 4

Sustainability: Safeguarding our Future

Income Generation

Over the course of 2024, the Society has made inroads into additional fundraising and income generation. We have implemented a “Support Us” webpage with options for general donations, support via the “easyfundraising” platform, and guidance on setting up legacy donations.

The “Support Us” option is prominently displayed on the header of the website, with a button taking interested parties to the website. “easyfundraising” is an organisation which partners with retailers to donate part of your spend when online shopping to a cause of your choice, at no additional cost to the consumer. We have gained 11 supporters and have raised a total of £253.15 which will be used to help initiate a fund to support students and early career researchers to participate in the SRHE annual conference.

The Society also successfully applied for a grant from the [Directory of Social Change/ The City Bridges Foundation](#) which provided c. £4,000 worth of training and books to the Society free-of-charge in the areas of management, strategy, income generation and HR, as well as a year-long subscription to [FundsOnline](#).

Governance and Leadership Review

In 2023/2024, the Society established a cycle of governance assessment, engaging in a Council Effectiveness Review, and setting up initiatives resulting from that review’s recommendations designed to improve the way in which the Society operates. The Society has enhanced its trustee induction programme, and has established a skills audit, to allow us to identify underrepresented areas of expertise and highlight these during the Council election cycle.

The EDI working group is formally liaising with committees and Council over ways to improve representation in our governance structures. And Council receives regular updates on developments in the HE and Charity sectors relating to governance. Council Effectiveness Reviews will take place every three years and the skills audit is refreshed following every election.



Scan to visit
the Support
Us page

STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE 4

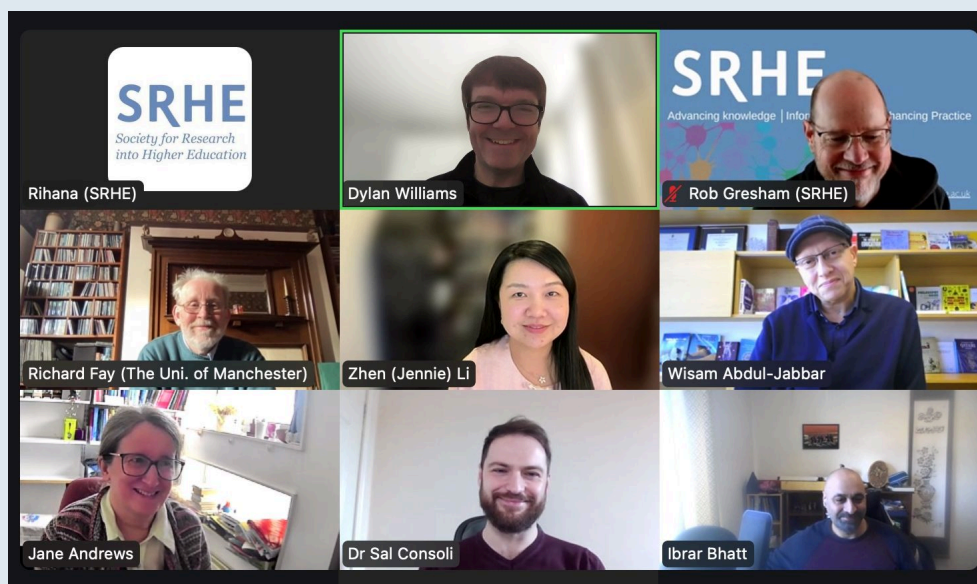
Sustainability: Safeguarding our Future (cont.)

Environmental Sustainability

The Society continues to support remote attendance and mixed-model delivery of events/conference. These options minimise environmental impact while also increasing international engagement and accommodating members with access issues and/or caring responsibilities. As universities develop and enhance their own green policies, restrictions on funding for our members' domestic travel make these options additionally important.

Accountability

The Society continues to develop and improve upon its reporting processes for both internal and external audiences. The enhancement of this year's Annual Report represents one step in this direction, as does additional material uploaded to the public website, including our consultation responses.



STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE 5

Influence: Enhancing our Relevance

Increased External Engagement

We have increased our outreach to organisations including the AcSS, the British Academy (BA), BERA, WonkHE, HEPI, the GCHE, AHEP, and the UKCGE. We have established regular attendance at other organisations' conferences (with a mutual waiving of registration fees where possible), in order to encourage better networking and awareness of the Society and its research outputs. The CEO has initiated (or re-initiated) contact with the directors of several of these organisations with a view towards greater policy engagement and research-informed influence.

Policy Reviews in Higher Education

Across 2024, this journal engaged in a refresh of its editorial team, its submission guidelines, and its Editorial Advisory Board (which now has additional practical policy expertise represented in addition to academic specialisms). These innovations are designed to further increase its submission pool and its impact factor. See [Policy Reviews in Higher Education](#) below for more details. There are also forward plans to expand dissemination of the research findings presented in published articles via more popular means such as blogs and other social media platforms.

Consultation responses

The Society has re-engaged in public and governmental consultation responses, beginning with its response to the REF 2029 Consultation on Open Access, which was submitted to the consultation panel in June 2024, following input from members of Council and from the chairs of Publications Committee and the Research and Development Committee. It can be viewed at: [SRHE Governance | Consultation Responses](#)



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Membership benefits

- Reduced rate delegate place at the in-person 2024 SRHE Annual Conference (4-6 December) plus free place at the online conference (2 December)
- Free attendance at all SRHE Seminars and SRHE supported events
- Free subscription to Research into Higher Education Abstracts, including on-line access to the current issue and the full on-line archive of Abstracts
- On-line access to Higher Education (HE) journals such as Teaching in HE, Assessment & Evaluation in HE, European Journal of HE, Innovations in Education and Teaching International, Journal of Marketing for HE, Perspectives: Policy and Practice in HE, and Quality in HE
- Reduced rate print subscription to Studies in Higher Education (over 50% reduction on subscription rates) and free on-line access to the journal archive
- Free copies of SRHE News, providing an international review of all that is current in research into HE
- 30% discount on all books published by Routledge/Taylor and Francis
- 20% discount on all books and journals published by Wiley Publishing
- The opportunity to apply for SRHE's annual research grants
- Application Library: Access to a member-only resource of detailed examples of previously successful applications for SRHE Award funding
- A reduced Article Processing Charge (APC) for Gold Open Access publication in Studies in Higher Education and Policy Reviews in Higher Education

Membership rates

In response to rising costs, from 1st August 2024, membership rates were increased by roughly 10%, the first such increase since 2019. We have kept the increase as low as possible, and have benchmarked it against the rates of other learned societies. We have also retained our reduced rates for those based in countries in receipt of Overseas Development Assistance (ODA).

Membership Categories 2024	Rates 1 Jan—31 July	Rates 1 Aug—31 Dec
Standard membership	£110.00	£120.00
Retired (annual subscription)	£70.00	£77.00
Retired (lifetime membership)	£300.00	£325.00
Student	£50.00	£55.00
ODA	£27.50	£30.00
ODA Student	£12.50	£15.00

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Membership category breakdown

The table below shows the membership mix across the 3 main categories over the past 3 years

	Individual	Student	Retired
2022	*75%	*17%	8%
2023	*73%	*18%	9%
2024	*73%	*17%	10%

*Including ODA members

Membership Numbers (in comparison with the previous year)

Member Group	as at 31/12/2023	as at 31/12/2024	% Change
Individual	498	449	-10
Retired	64	66	+3
Student	117	116	-1
From ODA countries	32	35	+9
TOTAL	711	666	-6

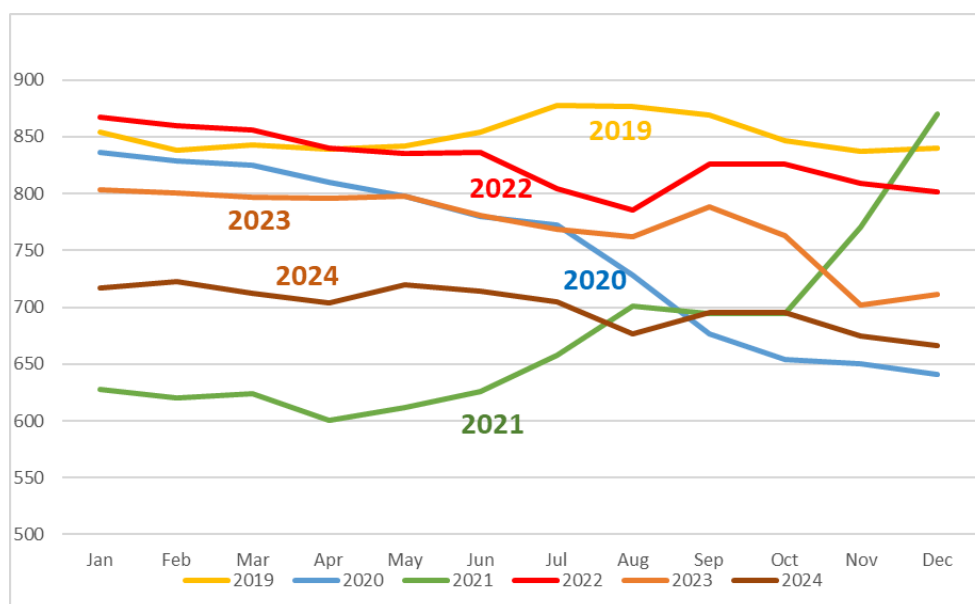
We have once again experienced a decrease in the number of members in 2024, but we do not attribute this to the modest increase in membership fees. Anecdotal evidence from members and from the conference delegates survey indicates that contributing factors include the ongoing cost-of-living crisis and a decrease in funding from institutions (the latter has particularly affected early career researchers).

The Strategic Plan recognises the importance of increasing our membership community and outlines several approaches that we've been taking to encourage growth, including increased promotion of the Society's events and conference, and membership benefits. From 1 August 2024 the Society reimposed a charge for non-members' attendance at online events – these had been offered free-of-charge to non-members during COVID, and we believe reduced the incentive towards membership. During the six months of implementation we have seen a reduction in the number of no-shows, but we require at least a full year in order to report on any impact on membership – this will be included in next year's report.

The table below of memberships from 2019 to 2024 gives a more detailed picture of membership fluctuations. 2020 shows a dip that can be linked to the COVID-related

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

cancellation of the annual conference that year, with fewer membership renewals made in the latter part of 2020. In 2021, memberships recovered in line with the lifting of COVID restrictions and the annual conference being scheduled again (albeit online). Following this, however, membership numbers have displayed a downward trend over the past few years.



SRHE has an international membership, with members based in 45 countries. According to addresses provided at registration, the majority of members are based in the UK (77%), followed by Asia & Oceania (9%), Other Europe (8%), North America (4%), Africa (1%), and Central and South America (1%).

Membership Income

In net cash terms, the Society received £53,237 between 1st August 2023 and 31st July 2024. This is just below the budgeted figure for the year of £55,000 and slightly below the previous year's figure of £55,476 for 2022/23. As membership payments are always made in advance, the audited figure for membership income over this same 2023-4 period is slightly higher at £56k but much lower than the equivalent figure of £74k for the previous year (2022-23). Taking into account the variations relating to the timing of actual membership payments, the overall trend is a fall in income membership. The financial climate remains difficult for SRHE and other similar membership organisations, who have reported similar falls in numbers, so the team are constantly looking at different ways to attract new members and retain existing members too.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Membership Survey

Our first holistic member survey was held in July 2022, and was issued to gain insights that would inform our strategic planning and improvements to our member offerings, enhancing our activities and developing new ones, and identifying which areas of growth are of particular importance to our member community. The member survey formed a key resource in establishing the objectives and priority actions of the Strategic Plan.

We have previously reported our progress on members' comments in a "You Said: We Did" table focusing on initiatives such as the development of an onboarding pack for new members, a library of successful award proposals to provide more support for funding applications, the continued provision of online and in-person events/conference, the development of our "Getting Involved" process on the website, the initiation of our Accolades programme, and an increased emphasis on policy engagement in the Strategic Plan. We have also enhanced and promoted more regular opportunities to hear from members and allow them to help shape our future trajectory – this includes our conference survey and feedback forms on events.

In line with our plan to re-issue the survey every 3 years, we will be conducting another survey in 2025. In addition to asking for input in similar areas, we also plan to assess our members' views of progress on our strategy, and to identify further areas for development. The EDI Working Group will also be consulted on the survey questions in 2025 with an EDI lens to encourage members to speak to this aspect of the Society's provision.

Rob Gresham
Manager: Operations and Finance

SRHE CONFERENCE 2024

Higher Education: A Place for Activism and Resistance?
2 December (online) and 4-6 December (in person, East Midlands Conference Centre, University of Nottingham, UK)

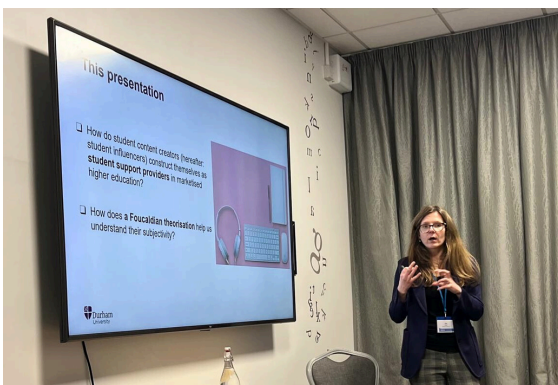
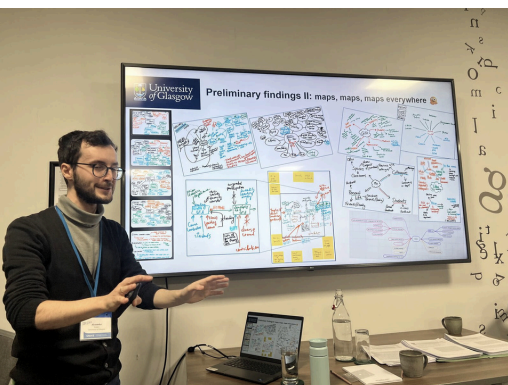


The 2024 conference invited contributions on HE's engagement with society's "wicked issues", with academics consciously engaging with or being drawn into politically-charged discussions about a wide variety of issues including climate change, human rights, migration, nationalism, conflict and war-torn societies, medical ethics, resource scarcity, or economic issues (both global and country-specific). It sought to explore the ways in which staff and students are, and have historically been, involved in various forms of activism and ask questions about the future roles that higher education – and the people in it – might take.

These topics were discussed in depth by a diverse range of keynote and plenary speakers:

- The Captive Mind and Anti-Colonial Thought Professor Syed Farid Alatas, National University of Singapore
- Institutional and Epistemic Forms of Resistance: Lessons from History Professor Kathleen Lynch, University College Dublin and Professor Bernie Grummell, Maynooth University
- Aspirational Thinking for Resistance and Change within the Shrinking World of Higher Education Professor Jan McArthur, Lancaster University
- The Contemporary Spheres of Academic Freedom and Freedom of Speech: Sex, Racism and Neocolonialism Dr Laila Kadiwal, Professor Alice Sullivan, Dr Michelle Shipworth, University College London

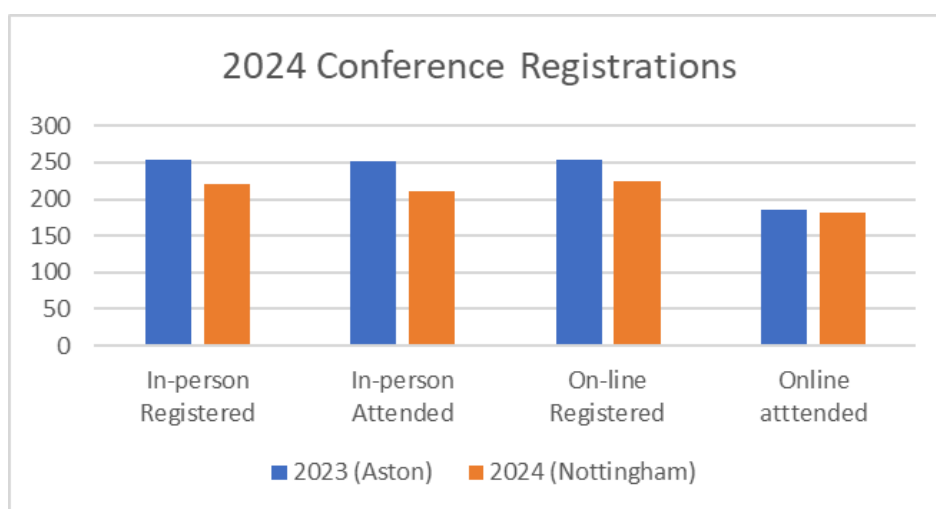
Watch the online conference presentations here:
[2024 Plenaries and Recorded Presentations](#)



SRHE CONFERENCE 2024

245 submissions, including 14 symposia, and 12 posters were accepted for presentation at the 2024 conference across a range of research domains and from authors at a variety of career stages.

As illustrated in the table below, 221 delegates registered for the 2024 in-person segment of the conference (253 in 2023) and 210 delegates attended (251 in 2023). In 2024 the online conference had 224 registrations (245 in 2023) and 182 online delegates (185 in 2023).



445 of conference registrants were from 37 countries*, with the UK the largest percentage (71% of delegates), Europe (13%), Asia and Oceania (8% each), North America (5%), South America (2%), and Africa (1% each). *based on home institution at registration.

We're very pleased to congratulate Chengzhe Yao (Glasgow) on winning the judges' poster prize for "To be a loser: The frustrated graduates in the highly competitive labour market of China" ([view here](#)) and Dr Glen O'Grady (RMIT) for winning the delegates' vote poster prize for "Transforming University Teaching: Integrating Conscientization and Problematization" ([view here](#)).

We owe thanks to all authors and delegates for making the 2024 conference such a vibrant and enjoyable event, as well as our invaluable teams of moderators, reviewers and session Chairs, without whom these events would not be possible.



SRHE CONFERENCE 2024

Conference Feedback Survey

The post-conference survey had a 24% response rate (up from 20% in 2023). The survey has been analysed in detail by the R&D Committee, and new EDI-related questions examined by the EDI Working Group.

The survey revealed that 93% of respondents rated their overall experience as excellent (60%) or good (33%). Overall, delegates were very satisfied with the quality of the papers and there was positive feedback on the venue. The conference attracted a good number of new delegates; 47% of respondents indicated this to be their first SRHE conference experience. Delegates gave their main reason for attending as: to present or co-present a paper (72%), to find out about current research (11%), and to network with colleagues (12%).

Delegates commented on the increased diversity of panel members from 2023, but noted that there is more work to be done in this regard, and called for more space for discussion, particularly on the more controversial panel sessions.

The variety of presentations and symposia this year was excellent. There were fascinating presentations that really led to enriching conversations. Paper sessions were very well put together.

Sessions were very well-planned with brave and engaging material, and thoughtful and provocative sessions.

There were positive comments on the Society's efforts to make the conference more inclusive, with the online segment continuing to offer an alternative to those unable to attend in person, and new initiatives launched at the in-person conference (eg. a quiet room, and optional pronoun stickers for badges, and a revision of the survey questions to include more EDI material allowed for more specific feedback which will inform next year's conference).

I have a chronic illness which makes in-person attendance at conferences hugely challenging, even with accommodations. I very much appreciate that SRHE has continued to offer an online element to the conference when so many other events have (disappointingly) returned to all in-person, even though Covid19 showed that it is entirely possible and less ableist to do so. THANK YOU! Also the calibre of speakers, organisation, hosting/chairing were all excellent - one of my favourite days of the year.

SRHE RESEARCH AWARDS

Following peer review, selection panel discussion and consensus, the Society made the following awards in 2024:

- Four Member-only awards of £10,000 each for research focused on any aspect of higher education
- Two Scoping awards of £5,000 each for the exploration of any new or emerging area of higher education research, leading to a plan for further research. Scoping awards were open to all and applications were received from members and non-members of the Society.

Research Awards 2024: Four awards of £10,000 each

Navigating Microaggressions and EDI Initiatives: Lives Experiences of Chinese Academics in England

Professor Ming Cheng, Sheffield Hallam University

The role of cultural institutions in the UK's higher education research system

Dr Ning Baines, University of Leicester & Dr Federica Rossi, Birkbeck, University of London

Exploring the experiences of students originally from the EU newer member states in Eastern Europe in UK Higher Education

Professor Charlotte Chadderton, University of Derby & Dr Agnieszka Bates, Bath Spa University

Surveillance imaginaries among Chinese postgraduate students studying in the UK

Dr Anna Wilson, University of Glasgow

Scoping Awards 2024: Two awards of £5,000 each

Understanding and Developing Deliberative Approaches to University Governance

by Professor Jeffrey Kennedy, McGill University & Professor Simon Pek, Gustavson, University of Victoria

'I'm an impostor! Get me out of here!': Mapping the impostor phenomenon and sense of unbelonging among minoritised university students

by Dr Orkun Yetkili & Dr Deborah Husbands, University of Westminster

[Further information on the Society's Awards is available on our website](#)

AWARDS UPDATE

Research Awards 2023	Status
Gatekeepers of knowledge production on higher education: journal editorial board networks and working practices <i>by Rita Hordosy and Martin Myers, University of Nottingham</i>	In progress
Locating women in the Sinaporean higher education sector: challenges, knowledge gaps and future directions <i>by Sarah Aiston, Teesside University</i>	In progress
Class-Based Disablism in Higher Education <i>by Alison Wilde, Leeds Trinity University</i>	In progress
Measuring the relationship between institutional diversity and student equity in Latin American countries <i>by Prof. Maria-Ligia Barbosa, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro</i>	In progress
Scoping Awards 2023	Status
Learning to manage rejection? Investigating the lived experiences of former professional male athletes who have engaged in higher education <i>by Vicky Hunter, University of Sheffield</i>	In progress
The Marginalisation of Teacher Education in Higher Education Institutions <i>by Lizana Oberholzer, University of Wolverhampton</i>	In progress

Research Awards 2022	Status
Transitions to, through and beyond higher education: An exploration of care experienced students in Wales and England <i>by Dr Ceryn Evans, University of Swansea</i>	<u>Read full report</u>
Governments harnessing the power of data to get 'value for money': Simulation studies evaluating England's Office for Students B3 Proceed Metric <i>by Dr Alexander Bradley, University of Portsmouth</i>	<u>Read full report</u>
Doing the dirty work of academia? Ancillary staff in UK Higher Education <i>by Prof. Marie-Pierre Moreau, Anglia Ruskin University</i>	<u>Read full report</u>
Measuring the relationship between institutional diversity and student equity in Latin American countries <i>by Prof. Maria-Ligia Barbosa, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro</i>	<u>Read full report</u>

AWARDS UPDATE

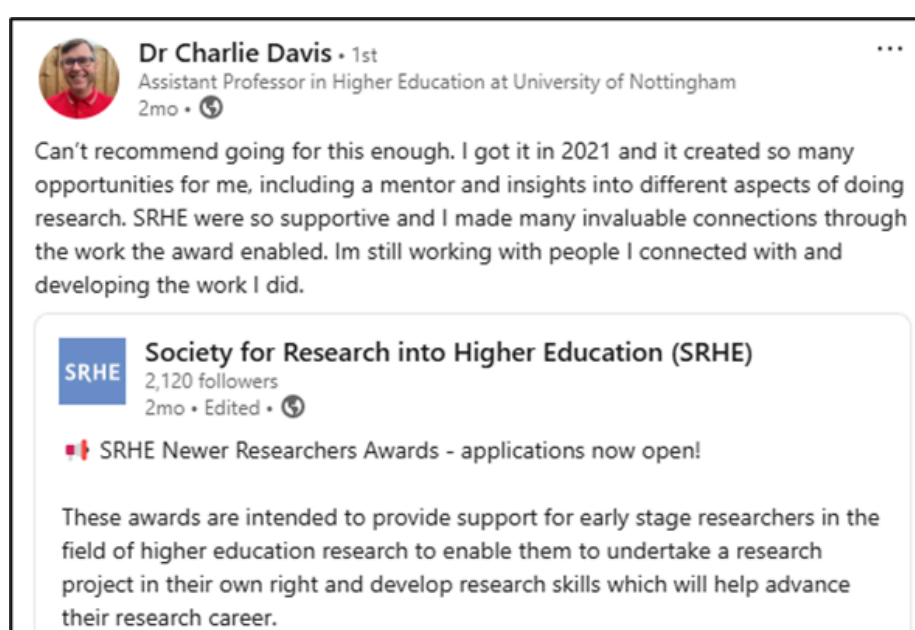
Scoping Awards 2022	Status
Decolonising UK universities: a systematic review of improvements and challenges in decolonising activities and initiatives in UK higher education <i>by Dr Jawiria Naseem, University of Birmingham</i>	<u>Read full report</u>
Sustainability literacy in non-STEM higher education programmes: a multilingual systematic review <i>by Dr. Erika Kalocsanyiova, University of Greenwich</i>	<u>Read full report</u>

Scoping Awards 2020	Status
Investigating how socio-economic background influences music students' aspirations, sense of identity and belonging within UK conservatoires <i>by Kirsty Devaney, Birmingham City University</i>	<u>Read full report</u>

As an example of the impact that our funded research can have, we point to Maria-Ligia Barbosa's project above, which contributed to the award of a Chair at the Brazilian College of Advanced Studies (URFJ), inaugurated on 25 June 2024. As Professor Barbosa noted "This institutional path was made possible thanks to [SRHE's] commitment to our work."

NEWER RESEARCHER AWARDS

SRHE's Newer Researcher awards provide funding to Newer Researchers intending to pursue a career in higher education research, with which to undertake an initial research project. Successful award holders are provided with the support of a mentor, and are invited to become a member of the Society's Research and Development Committee which enables a wider involvement in higher education research developments.



In 2024, the Society was delighted to make three awards of £3,000 as follows:

Avoiding Peripheralisation: Swiss and British HEIs Participation in the European Universities Initiative

Agata Lambrechts, Università della Svizzera italiana

Agata has been a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Institute of Communication and Public Policy at the Università della Svizzera italiana (USI) in Lugano, Switzerland since 2021.

In this SRHE funded project, together with Antonin Charret, a Visiting Researcher at USI, Agata will explore the complex motivations driving Swiss and British HEIs' participation in the European Universities Initiative (EUI), considering the specific environmental factors present. The project aims to shed light on how the Swiss and British HEIs are navigating the challenging environment to manage their legitimacy and maintain their international standing and engagement with European partners.

NEWER RESEARCHER AWARDS

What counts? Who counts? Ethics in access and participation evaluation

Ruth Squire, Leeds Trinity University

Ruth is an evaluator-researcher at Leeds Trinity University, working in the Office for Institutional Equity. Having worked in Widening Participation for 15 years, and in evaluation work for 8, Ruth brings their experience as a practitioner and evaluator to their research and is particularly interested in the translation of policy into practice(s).

In this SRHE-funded project, Ruth will be exploring what evaluation practitioners in widening participation understand by 'evaluation ethics' and how they negotiate these in their work. The aim is to develop an understanding of how ethical considerations are negotiated in context and to explore together what this may mean for future development of widening participation evaluation.

From Highlands to Urban Higher Education: A Participatory Narrative Exploration of Rural Tibetan Undergraduates' Transitions

Tongyu Wu, Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Tongyu Wu has been recently awarded a PhD in Education from the University of Bristol and is currently transitioning from doctoral studies to an early career researcher. Tongyu holds a BA in Chinese Language and Literature, and an MRes (Distinction) in Education.

In this SRHE-funded study, Tongyu will focus on the lived experiences of students transitioning from western rural Tibetan backgrounds into eastern urban universities in China. The research will examine the complex interplay between rurality and ethnicity and its influence on students' learning trajectories towards higher education. It is expected that this study will provide insights into the lived experiences of rural students from minority backgrounds by examining educational inequalities, cultural conflicts, and epistemic justice, and how these elements intertwine with their rural and ethnic identities.

[Find out more about this year's Award Winners on our website](#)

AWARDS UPDATE

Newer Researcher Awards 2023	Status
Towards a Community-Informed Model for PhD research? A place-based exploration of attitudes to doctoral research programmes in Nottingham <i>by Rachel Handforth, Nottingham Trent University</i>	In progress
Migrant doctoral supervisors learning to supervise in UK institutions – an inclusive perspective <i>by Bing Lu, University of Warwick</i>	<u>Read full report</u>
Conceptualising and envisioning the ‘sustainable teacher’ within the postdigital university <i>by Vily Papageorgiou, University of Surrey</i>	<u>Read full report</u>

Newer Researcher Awards 2022	Status
Exploring awarding gaps for British Black students at university through participatory visual ethnography <i>by Laura Barnett, University of Surrey</i>	<u>Read full report</u>
UK’s International Research Collaborations in the Post-Brexit Era <i>by Yusuf Ikbal Oldac, Lingnan University, Hong Kong</i>	<u>Read full report</u>
Narrative CVs – evaluative storytelling and the construction of academic value(s) <i>by Dr Justyna Bandola-Gill, University of Birmingham</i>	<u>Read full report</u>

PUBLICATIONS



Studies in Higher Education

Published by: Taylor & Francis

Frequency: Ten issues per year plus two special issues

Studies in Higher Education is a leading international journal publishing research-based articles dealing with higher education issues from either a disciplinary or multi-disciplinary perspective. Empirical, theoretical and conceptual articles of significant originality will be considered. Manuscripts are expected to be grounded in the higher education literature and contribute to it through substantive new empirical findings or novel insights.

Editor in Chief: Professor Creso Sá, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto.

Senior Editor: Professor Maria Slowey Higher Education Research Centre (HERC), Dublin City University.

Associate Editors:

Dr Johanna Annala, Faculty of Education and Culture, Tampere University, Finland.

Professor Molly Lee, School of Educational Studies, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, Malaysia.

Dr Giulio Marini, Department of Economics and Business, University of Catania, Italy.

Professor Stephen Wilkins, British University in Dubai, Dubai.

Special issues Editors:

Associate Professor Jens Jungblut, Department of Political Science, University of Oslo, Norway.

Professor Sarah O'Shea, National Centre for Student Equity in Higher Education, Curtin University, Australia.



180
articles published



3.7
impact factor
10.2
CiteScore

ranked
45 / 760
Education and Educational
Research category



51%
articles published
Open Access



1.2M
downloads*

49 / 1543
Education category

*most downloaded article: *Human-AI collaboration patterns in AI-assisted academic writing*

PUBLICATIONS



Policy Reviews in Higher Education

Published by: Taylor & Francis

Frequency: Two issues per year

Policy Reviews in Higher Education (PRiHE) is an international peer-reviewed journal publishing high-quality policy-focused and in-depth articles on higher education and related postsecondary and tertiary education. It encourages authors from a range of national and disciplinary backgrounds to analyse higher education from fresh perspectives, including by drawing on concepts and theories from other academic fields and disciplines. Authors are urged to evaluate the implications of their findings for the development and implementation of policy and policymaking.

Joint Editors (January—June 2024):

Professor Ellen Hazelkorn, Higher Education Policy Research Unit (HEPRU), Dublin Institute of Technology

Professor William Locke, University College London

Consulting Editors (January—June 2024):

Professor Hamish Coates, Tsinghua University, Beijing City, China

Professor Hans De Witt, Centre for International Higher Education, Boston College, USA

There was a restructure of the editorial team in July 2024, with Professor Locke stepping down, and Professors Coates and De Witt becoming joint editors with Professor Hazelkorn. On 1 September 2024 Dr Tessa Delaquil joined the editorial team as Associate Editor.



62%
articles published
Open Access



3.8
impact factor
9
CiteScore

ranked
41/760
Education and Educational
Research category



43.9K
downloads*

*most downloaded article: [University professional staff roles, identities, and spaces of interaction](#)

69/1543
Education category

PUBLICATIONS



Higher Education Quarterly

Published by: Wiley

Frequency: Four issues per year

Higher Education Quarterly (HEQU) is an international educational research journal publishing articles on policy, organization, leadership, governance, management and the professions in higher education. It aims to develop our understanding of higher education and its current challenges from a diversity of approaches and in an international context. It welcomes all research methodologies (quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods) and all forms of scholarly contributions (empirical, conceptual, and methodological) which contribute to contemporary debates and have potential to impact policy and practice.

Editor in Chief:

Dr João M. Santos, Instituto Universitário de Lisboa (ISCTE-IUL), Portugal

Associate Editors:

Dr Debananda Misra, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, India

Dr Bariş Uslu, Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University, Turkey

Dr Weiyan Xiong, The Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK), Hong Kong

Dr Lili Yang, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong



96

articles published



2.8

impact factor



174.8k

downloads



56%

articles published
Open Access

PUBLICATIONS



Research into Higher Education Abstracts

Published by: Taylor & Francis

Frequency: Three issues per year

This publication and its associated database exist to propagate knowledge about, and encourage discussion of, significant research into higher education. It provides a regular survey of international periodicals relevant to the theory and practice of higher education and also offers a selective coverage of books and monographs. More than 600 abstracts are produced each year.

Editor:

Dr Roz Collings, University of Wolverhampton, UK

Associate Editor:

Dr Shweta Mishra, Deutsches Institut für Interdisziplinäre Sozialpolitikforschung (DIFIS), Universität Duisburg-Essen, Germany

Additional temporary resource was provided to the team in 2024/2025 to address a backlog that has arisen, and three issues were published in 2024. The editorial team aims to be back on schedule by the end of 2025.



18,960
abstracts on
database

Research Into Higher Education Abstracts has seen a positive trend in international reach, with a distribution of users across the globe.

PUBLICATIONS

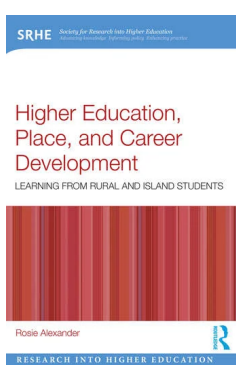
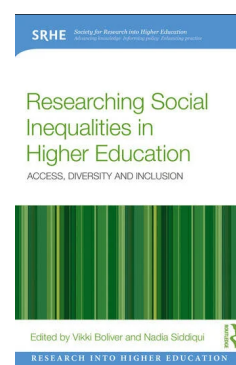
SRHE/Routledge Book series

2024 Titles

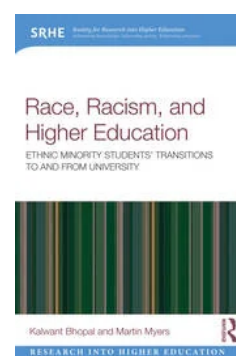


Sandra Acker, Oili-Helena Ylijoki, Michelle K. McGinn (eds).
The Social Production of Research Perspectives on Funding and Gender (May 2024)

Vikki Boliver and Nadia Siddiqui (eds) *Researching Social Inequalities in Higher Education: Access, Diversity and Inclusion* (September 2024)



Rosie Alexander. *Higher Education, Place and Career Development* (November 2024)



Kalwant Bhopal and Martin Myers. *Race and Higher Education* (December 2024)

PUBLICATIONS

SRHE/Routledge Book series

The first book in the SRHE/Routledge series was published in February 2012, and by the end of 2024 a total of 34 books have been published. An additional five titles are in development. The series editors' book is also available via open access, and we hope that this will encourage more authors to consider OA options for books in the series. Three books in the series were sent out for review in 2024 with a view towards a second edition.

Sales of published books remain encouraging, and we continue to see a broad geographical spread. Older titles in the series continue to sell too – particularly in e-format. Designing Effective Feedback Processes in Higher Education (2019) from Winstone & Carless continues to be the bestselling title in the series, with over 1,800 copies across all formats. Other high performing titles include Blackmore & Kandiko Strategic Curriculum Change: Global Trends (2012) with sales of over 1,500 copies across all formats, and several other titles have surpassed 1,000 copies, including: Macfarlane, Freedom to Learn: The threat to student academic freedom and why it needs to be reclaimed (2016) Brown and Carasso, Everything for Sale? The Marketisation of UK Higher Education (2013) and Whitchurch, Reconstructing Identities in Higher Education: The rise of 'Third Space' professionals (2012).

Submissions to the SRHE Series

The publisher and the series editors are keen to have as wide a spread of authorship as possible and encourage Society members to promote the series to their colleagues to submit proposals for it. As the series develops critical mass, increased visibility can help encourage academics to write for the series. We welcome submissions from single authors, co-authors, and editors of collections.

Initial enquiries on possible submissions may be addressed to the series editors:

Professor Rachel Brooks
r.brooks@surrey.ac.uk

Professor Sarah O'Shea
sarah.oshea@curtin.edu.au

Publisher: Sophie Ganesh, Routledge Books Sophie.Ganesh@tandf.co.uk

PUBLICATIONS

SRHE News and Blog



SRHE News is an in-house, quarterly publication, which is sent electronically to all members of the Society. It provides a comprehensive overview of higher education research and policy in the UK and beyond, features contributions from members across the globe, and promotes upcoming events as well as reports on recent activities. Back issues are available from the members' section of www.srhe.ac.uk.

Editor:

Professor Rob Cuthbert, University of the West of England
Rob.Cuthbert@uwe.ac.uk

The SRHE blog www.srheblog.com, launched in January 2014, has grown significantly in terms of articles and readership over the past ten years. It features short, topical articles on issues from policy to learning and teaching to the student experience and beyond, written by SRHE members as well as from further afield.

The Blog published 59 articles in 2024 (as compared to 43 in 2023). Overall the blog has now published 483 posts since its founding and now has 607 dedicated followers.

The most viewed posts published over the past 12 months were:

- [The Secret Lecturer: What Really Goes on at University](#), by Rob Cuthbert, May 2024 (1,059 views)
- [The increasing pressure on students after Covid-19](#), by Caroline Jones and Huw Bell March 2024 (620 views)
- [Unmasking the complexities of academic work](#), by Inger Mewburn, July 2024 (515 views)

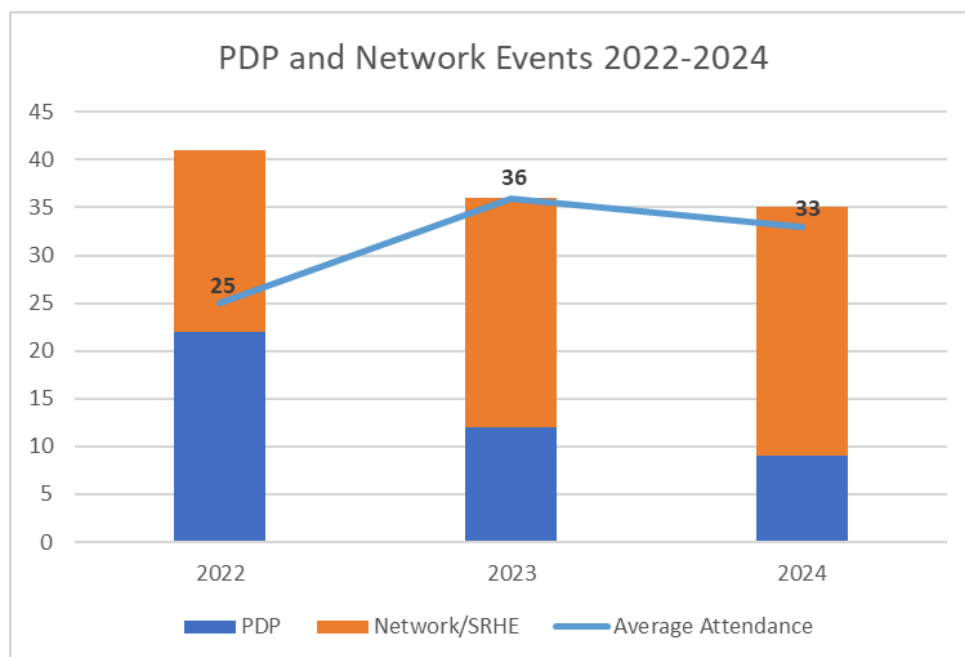
Editor:

Professor Rob Cuthbert, University of the West of England Rob.Cuthbert@uwe.ac.uk

SRHE EVENTS 2024

The Society's programme of special interest networks and its professional development programme are key elements in its provision for members and its support for research and researchers into Higher Education. During the pandemic, the Society took the step of offering all of its events online, and offering these for free, not just to members, but to anyone who wished to attend. A revised events strategy was implemented mid-2024, as it was no longer sustainable to continue to offer these events free to all, given the rising costs involved in online and hybrid provision. From 1 August 2024, we therefore introduced an online guest fee of £45. In addition to addressing the rising costs of online/hybrid events, this also has had the effect of reducing "no-shows", that is, those who have registered but who do not attend the event. We are hoping that this may also represent an incentive to membership, as it represents a more economical option than repeated non-member attendance.

Over the past calendar year (1st Jan – 31st Dec 2024) SRHE hosted 9 Professional Development Programme events, and 26 Network and SRHE events (35 in total). A total of 1161 delegates attended these sessions, an average of 33 per event. While the number of PDP events has decreased, we continue to attract good numbers to our events, and we will be looking at PDP offerings again in 2025.



SRHE EVENTS 2024

Network and SRHE Events

895 delegates attended our 21 Network events in 2024 (43 on average) across 10 Networks. 5 events listed as SRHE were events devised as part of the SRHE seminar programme led by other partners and individuals in the SRHE community. Further details of our past and forthcoming events are available from <https://www.srhe.ac.uk/events/>.

Event title	Date	Network
Changing Assessment in an Age of Artificial Intelligence	24/01/2024	Academic Practice
In the age of AI, how do we know what students know? Making assessment fit for purpose	11/03/2024	
Social Media in Higher Education: Current perspectives and practices	29/04/2024	Digital University
Exploring graduate outcomes: do we need to look beyond earnings and occupation?	30/01/2024	Employability, Enterprise and Work-based Learning
Rethinking Graduate Employability in Context	13/03/2024	
Higher Education staff experiences during the pandemic: perspectives from Europe	26/01/2024	Higher Education and the COVID-19 Pandemic
Student Experiences during and beyond COVID-19	05/06/2024	
Degree Apprenticeships in English HE: how do they fit in the system and can they contribute to widening access and participation?	16/07/2024	Higher Education Policy
Doing the dirty work of academia? Ancillary staff in higher education	09/10/2024	
The role of social media in facilitating international student migration	14/10/2024	International Research and Researchers
Artificial Intelligence and the Impact on Learning, Teaching & Assessment	28/02/2024	Learning, Teaching And Assessment

SRHE EVENTS 2024

Event title	Date	Network
Academic Freedom: Pedagogic tensions and possibilities for the higher education classroom	03/07/2024	Learning, Teaching And Assessment
AI tools for Newer Researchers	29/01/2024	Newer Researchers
Newer Researcher Work in Progress Webinar 1	18/03/2024	
Newer Researcher Work in Progress Webinar 2	22/04/2024	
Newer Researcher Work in Progress Webinar 3	16/05/2024	
Newer Researcher Work in Progress Webinar 4	18/07/2024	
Newer Researchers Meet-Up for 2024 SRHE Conference	22/11/2024	
Doctoral Assessment: Fit for Purpose in the 2020s and Beyond?	22/02/2024	Postgraduate Issues
The benefits of international collaborations to postgraduate and early career researchers (PGRs & ECRs)	30/10/2024	
Understanding Graduate Experiences of Indebtedness in England and Scotland	20/06/2024	Student Access and Experience
Newer Researchers Awards 2024: Webinar/Q&A	22/01/2024	SRHE
Creativity in Education: International Perspectives	13/02/2024	
Higher Education's Language Problem: Navigating Multilingualism in Contemporary Universities	12/04/2024	
Book launch: "Gendering the Massification Generation: Higher Education Access & Choice in India"	17/05/2024	
Book Launch: Poetry and Pedagogy in Higher Education	06/06/2024	

SRHE EVENTS 2024

Professional Development Workshops 2024

The Society's professional development events are designed to support student and postgraduate researchers, and to help build capacity in higher education. Below is a list of the 9 workshops offered during 2024, which were attended by 109 delegates, an average of 12 delegates per workshop.

For more information about our forthcoming programme visit <https://www.srhe.ac.uk/events/>

Title	Date
Using Diary Method in Social Research	02/02/2024
Constructivist Approaches & Methods of Research	09/02/2024
Learned words: using poetry to reflect on practices in higher education	26/04/2024
Virtual Writing Retreat	03/05/2024
Guided Practice of Constructivist Research Techniques	24/05/2024
SRHE AcWriMo (Academic Writing Month)	
Space to Write: SRHE AcWriMo 2024 (1:4)	06/11/2024
Space to Write: SRHE AcWriMo 2024 (2:4)	12/11/2024
Space to Write: SRHE AcWriMo 2024 (3:4)	18/11/2024
Space to Write: SRHE AcWriMo 2024 (4:4)	21/11/2024

ACCOLADES

The SRHE Accolades are range of awards recognising the contributions of our members to the field of Higher Education, to the academic community, and to SRHE itself. These awards recognise a range of exemplary work by members at multiple career stages and in a variety of professional roles.

Accolade Winners 2024

Contribution to the field



Professor Patricia Kennon

Associate Professor in children's and young-adult (YA) literature and culture, Maynooth University, Ireland

Contribution to the field



Dr Michelle Morgan

Dean of Students,
University of East
London, UK

Contribution to the field



Professor Sarah O'Shea

Distinguished Professor and
Dean, at Charles Sturt
University, Australia

Contribution to the field



Professor Nidhi S. Sabharwal

Associate Professor, CPRHE,
National Institute of Educational
Planning and Administration,
New Delhi, India

Academic Citizenship



Dr Jenna Mittelmeier

Senior Lecturer in International
Education, at the University of
Manchester

Academic Citizenship



Dr Charlotte Verney

Head of Assessment, University
of Bristol

[Find out more about our Accolade Winners on our website](#)

FELLOWS

Our fellows represent a way in which the Society can formally recognise significant contributions of its members in the field of research into higher education. Fellows have a reputation of substance in the field, and act in an advisory capacity for the Society, consulting on its activities, strategy and development. For various reasons, fellowships have not been awarded in some time, and over the course of 2024 the CEO has worked with Council, committees, and Society members on updating the criteria and re-establishing processes for the award of fellowships.

The next nominations round was announced at the December 2024 conference, as part of the Society's 60th anniversary celebrations across 2025. A number of fellowships will be awarded at the December 2025 conference, and following this, the Society will revert to an annual award scheme, alongside Accolades.

Name	Affiliation	Appointed
Professor Marcia Devlin	Federation University Australia	January 2014
Professor Lee Harvey	Copenhagen Business School	January 2013
Professor Monica McLean	University of Nottingham	January 2013
Professor Patrick Ainley	University of Greenwich	January 2012
Professor Carole Leathwood	London Metropolitan University	January 2012
Professor Jeroen Huisman	University of Ghent	January 2012
Professor Lynn McAlpine	University of Oxford/ McGill	January 2012
Professor Rob Cuthbert	University of West of England	January 2011
Professor Claire Callender	University of London, Birkbeck & UCL	January 2011
Professor Paul Trowler	Lancaster University	January 2011
Professor Ian McNay	University of Greenwich	January 2011
Professor Rosemary Deem	Royal Holloway, University of London	January 2010
Professor Kerri-Lee Krause	Avondale University	January 2010
Professor Robin Middlehurst	University of Kingston	January 2010
Professor Ulrich Teichler	University of Kassel	January 2009
Professor Angela Brew	Macquarie University	January 2008
Professor Gunnar Handal	University of Oslo	January 2008
Professor Dai Hounsell	University of Edinburgh	January 2008
Professor Louise Morley	University of Sussex	January 2008
Professor Michael Shattock	UCL, Institute of Education	January 2008
Professor Mantz Yorke	Lancaster University	January 2008
Professor John Brennan	Open University	January 2006
Professor Oliver Fulton	Lancaster University	January 2006
Professor Malcolm Tight	Lancaster University	January 2006

FELLOWS

Name	Affiliation	Appointed
Professor Simon Marginson	University of Oxford	January 2004
Professor Gareth Parry	University of Sheffield	January 2004
Mr John Skelton	Open University Press	January 2004
Professor Noel Entwistle	University of Edinburgh	January 2002
Professor David Dill	University of North Carolina	January 2001
Professor James Ratcliffe	Pennsylvania State University	January 2001
Ms Harriet Croft	University of the West of England	January 2000
Dr Peter Maassen	University of Oslo, Norway	January 2000
Professor Ronald Barnett	UCL Institute of Education	January 1998
Dr Marianne Bauer	University of Gothenburg	January 1997
Professor Ingrid Moses	University of Canberra	January 1996
Professor Sheldon Rothblatt	University of California	January 1996
Professor Sinclair Goodlad	Imperial College London	January 1993
Professor Ference Marton	University of Gothenburg	January 1992
Professor David Boud	Deakin University	January 1991
Professor John Pratt	University of East London	January 1991
Professor Sir Peter Scott	UCL Institute of Education	January 1991
Professor Alan Smithers	University of Buckingham	January 1991

Honorary Fellows		
Professor Christine Musselin	Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris	2014
Professor Jurgen Enders	University of Bath	2011
Professor Michael Peters	Beijing Normal University	2010

HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT



The accounts of the Society for the year ending 31st July 2024 confirm that the Society is in good financial health mainly thanks to an increase in royalties from our main journal package over 2023 and prudent management by the SRHE team. Membership decreased slightly in 2023-24 (averaging 727 members in comparison to 798 in 2022-23) generating £56k for the Society. This reflects the broader difficulties for membership organisations such as SRHE in the current UK higher education economic climate.

In December 2023, the Society hosted its flagship annual conference in a successful mixed format, with one day held online, and three days in-person at Conference Aston. The return to an in-person event was very popular, and the post-conference survey indicated an appetite for continuing with this format. In December 2024, therefore, the Society's conference was held both online and in person, with 221 registrations for the in-person event in Nottingham and 224 registrations for the online segment. Whilst the online event is low cost, the in-person conference often requires subsidy: this was around £30K in 2024. The subsidy is designed to keep delegate price levels as low as possible given the pressure on university budgets, particularly in the UK. Whilst this level of subsidy is currently manageable for the Society, looking ahead to 2025 measures have been put in place to try to reduce this level of support, although much will depend on demand, sponsorship available and other external factors.

Seminars and workshops remain a key membership benefit and a platform for dissemination activity and these continue to run both in online and in person formats. Participation levels – particularly for in person events – remain lower than we would ideally prefer, so growing engagement here remains a key priority for 2025.

In keeping with SRHE aims to support new research, £49k of funds were disbursed to advance these endeavours. The main source of income (c.£500k) comes from periodicals and associated royalties. The Society is very conscious of changes within academic publishing around open access, including transformative agreements/read and publish arrangements, and is working with its publishers to ensure there is resilience in this funding stream.

Over the 2023-24 session the Society's investments continued to show modest improvements as the new management arrangements for these funds bed in, although the broader economic outlook for the next 12 months remains somewhat uncertain.

The accounts, in terms of alignment with annual budget, are regularly reported on to the Society's Management and Finance Committee and this allows SRHE to be responsive should this be required. £300k of reserves remains the contingency should there be a need to wind up operations.

The annual audit of the SRHE accounts confirmed that these were compliant with the requirements of financial reporting and gave no ongoing concerns about the Society's financial stability. As stated at the outset the Society continues to be in a healthy financial position, and one which enables it to deliver on its objective of 'the advancement of understanding of higher education through the support and dissemination of research and scholarship'.

Andrea Cameron, Honorary Treasurer

SOCIETY FOR RESEARCH INTO HIGHER EDUCATION
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies		15,063	-	15,063	15,000	-	15,000
Charitable activities		791,044	-	791,044	582,547	-	582,547
Investments		12,430	869	13,299	11,562	340	11,902
Total income		818,537	869	819,406	609,109	340	609,449
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds		5,899	-	5,899	765	-	765
Charitable activities		668,695	-	668,695	688,656	-	688,656
Total expenditure		674,594	-	674,594	689,421	-	689,421
Net gains/(losses) on investments		20,007	-	20,007	(58,871)	-	(58,871)
Net movement in funds		163,950	869	164,819	(139,183)	340	(138,843)
Fund balances at 1 August 2023		397,150	57,608	454,758	536,333	57,268	593,601
Fund balances at 31 July 2024		561,100	58,477	619,577	397,150	57,608	454,758

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

SOCIETY FOR RESEARCH INTO HIGHER EDUCATION
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 JULY 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets			1,839		3,629
Investments			513,504		352,834
			<u>515,343</u>		<u>356,463</u>
Current assets					
Debtors		118,864		47,928	
Cash at bank and in hand		282,808		363,493	
		<u>401,672</u>		<u>411,421</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		<u>(297,438)</u>		<u>(313,126)</u>	
Net current assets			104,234		98,295
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>619,577</u>		<u>454,758</u>
Net assets excluding pension liability			<u>619,577</u>		<u>454,758</u>
			<u><u>619,577</u></u>		<u><u>454,758</u></u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds			58,477		57,608
Unrestricted funds			561,100		397,150
			<u>619,577</u>		<u>454,758</u>
			<u><u>619,577</u></u>		<u><u>454,758</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 25th October 2024



Professor Pauline Kneale - Chair of the Governing Council

Trustee



Ms Andrea Cameron - Hon Treasurer

Trustee

Company registration number 868820 (England and Wales)

STANDING COMMITTEES

(as at 31 December 2024)

Governance and Appointments Committee

Chair: Professor Jacqueline Stevenson

Vice-Chair Governing Council

Committee members:

Ms Harriet Barnes

Medr, Commission for Tertiary Education and Research

Dr Omolabake Fakunle

University of Edinburgh

Mr Sol Miah

University of Cambridge

Dr Simon Pratt-Adams

Anglia Ruskin University

Management and Finance Committee

Chair: Professor Pauline Kneale

University of Plymouth

Committee members:

Ms Andrea Cameron

Honorary Treasurer Governing Council; Abertay University

Professor Camille Kandiko Howson

Chair, Research & Development Committee; Imperial College

Professor Jacqueline Stevenson

Vice-Chair Governing Council

Publications Committee

Chair: Professor Rob Cuthbert

University of the West of England

Committee members:

Professor Rachel Brooks

Editor: SRHE/Routledge Book Series, University of Oxford

Dr Roz Collings

Editor: Research into Higher Education Abstracts, University of

Wolverhampton

Dr Karen Gravett

University of Surrey

Professor Susan Harris-Huemmert

Ludwigsburg University of Education

Professor Ellen Hazelkorn

Editor: Policy Reviews in Higher Education, TU Dublin

Professor Ian McNay

University of Greenwich

Professor Anna Mountford-Zimdars

University of Exeter

Professor Creso Sá

Editor in Chief: Studies in Higher Education, University of Toronto

Dr João Santos

Editor-in-Chief: Higher Education Quarterly, UCL IoE

Professor Maria Slowey

Associate Editor (UK & /Ireland): Studies in HE, Dublin City University

Professor Gina Wisker

University of Bath

Research and Development Committee

Chair: Professor Camille Kandiko Howson

Imperial College London

Vice-chair: Dr Anesa Hosein

University of Surrey

Committee members:

Professor Dina Belluigi

Queen's University Belfast

Dr Ibrar Bhatt

Queen's University Belfast

Dr Rachel Handforth

Nottingham Trent University

Professor Neil Harrison

University of Exeter

Professor Emily Henderson

University of Warwick

Professor Sam Illingworth

Edinburgh Napier University

Dr Jennifer Leigh

University of Kent

Dr Bing Lu

University of Warwick

Dr Joanne McDowell

University of Hertfordshire

Dr Justine Mercer

University of Warwick

Professor Chris Millward

University of Birmingham

Dr Vily Papageorgiou

University of Surrey

Professor Namrata Rao

Liverpool Hope University

Mr Steve Woodfield

British Academy

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