Reshaping Higher Education

SRHE Annual Conference 2007
Tuesday 11 to Thursday 13 December
Brighton, Sussex

and

Postgraduate and Newer Researchers Conference 2007
Monday 10 December
University of Sussex

Call for Papers and Conference Registration
Dear Colleagues,

As chair of the Conference organising committee, on behalf of the Society, I would like to extend a very warm invitation to you to participate in the SRHE Annual Conference 2007 by presenting a paper, contributing to a symposium or debate and discussion based around your research or scholarly work, including work of a conceptual or theoretical nature, on any diverse aspect of higher education.

The SRHE Conference is a truly international event bringing together delegates and most especially contributors from over 30 different countries around the world.

Last year's conference was a great success and provided challenging and stimulating debates and discussions on research on boundaries around higher education nationally and internationally. This year we want to extend our knowledge and discussions about how global higher education is not just undergoing change and reform but is being reshaped, both internationally and locally.

This year's conference will explore higher education through this theme of 'reshaping'. The concept of 'shape' may be conceptualized in relation to 'space', 'place', 'patterns', 'configuration', 'unified', 'fragmentation', 'disjointed', 'coherent', 'fixed', 'fluid', 'connectedness'. In considering questions of contemporary higher education we want to address how these notions underpin or influence the future of learning and teaching.

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Last year's conference was a great success and provided challenging and stimulating debates and discussions on research on boundaries around higher education nationally and internationally. This year we want to extend our knowledge and discussions about how global higher education is not just undergoing change and reform but is being reshaped, both internationally and locally.

We hope therefore that researchers across the diverse forms of higher education globally and locally will contribute to making this conference an even greater success in stimulating international debates on the diverse forms and shapes of learning and teaching in higher education. We are offering opportunities for research that is examining the contemporary reshaping of higher education, across the broadest range of research activity internationally including funded studies of aspects of learning and teaching, such as those funded through the ESRC's Teaching and Learning Research Programme (TLRP) and/or other ESRC or HEA funded projects, or those undertaken for the EU, US bodies such as the National Science Foundation and those funded by other national research and charitable foundations.

We are also offering spaces for more critical thinking and reflection grounded in rigorous scholarship as to ways in which higher education might go on being further reshaped in the future. The themes of social diversity, difference and disadvantage or exclusion versus inclusion, as aspects of educational inequalities within and across higher educations are also important issues to consider, and may underpin the theme around widening access or participation in higher education and the diversity of institutional forms.

Empirical and scholarly research and research from a particular perspective such as critical, post-structural or feminist studies are very welcome in this conference. Questions of social justice and critical forms of pedagogy and practice are also to be considered as are issues of research-led and teaching-led curricula and practices. There is also the question of capacity building for the future of learning and teaching, and new forms of postgraduate research and training as well as student (whether undergraduate or postgraduate) and academic experiences and identities. Indeed, questions of identity, subjectivity and knowledge or skills acquisition and transfer all may influence and affect the reshaping of higher education for the future.

Professor Miriam E. David AcSS, FRSA, SRHE Conference Chair 2007
Associate Director (HE) ESRC’s Teaching and Learning Research Programme, Institute of Education, University of London

Conference Venue

For 2007 the SRHE Annual Conference will be returning to Brighton, Sussex to the same venue as the highly successful 2006 Conference. The main venue will be the Thistle Hotel, located centrally on the seafront facing Brighton Pier and backing onto the famous ‘Lanes’ shopping and cultural district. The Thistle Hotel offers excellent quality accommodation, fully equipped conference facilities and the Society is again pleased to be able to offer very reasonable residential rates for the full duration of the conference. All the conference plenary sessions and most of the parallel sessions will be held in the hotel, which also has a spacious atrium area excellent for networking and informal gatherings. Some conference sessions will also be held at adjoining hotels. Returning to this venue affords the opportunity to build on last year’s experience to improve further the overall quality of this conference.

Conference Programme

An important element of the conference programme will be contributions from outstanding keynote speakers of international renown. The opening and closing plenary sessions will take the form of symposia, offering presentations from two keynote speakers followed by discussion and the opportunity for conference delegates to participate in an interactive debate.
The invited speakers this year include:

Professor Jane Gaskell
Jane Gaskell is the Dean and Professor at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto, Canada. Her background is in sociology of education, and her research has explored the impact of feminism, the workplace, and policy issues in educational settings. The title for her plenary address is ‘Knowledge for Academic Leadership: the personal, the professional and the scholarly’.

Professor Diana Laurillard
Diana Laurillard is Chair of Learning with Digital Technologies at the London Knowledge Lab, part of the Institute of Education, University of London, and on the Executive of the EU-funded Kaleidoscope Network of Excellence in Technology Enhanced Learning. Her work focuses on theory-based design of learning and teaching methods and resources, learners’ conceptions and misconceptions, flexible learning activity design tools for teachers, and cost-benefit modeling for the introduction of e-learning.

Professor Sir Peter Scott
Peter Scott is Vice-Chancellor of Kingston University in London. Formerly a Professor of Education at the University of Leeds and a journalist, he was an inaugural editor of ‘The Times Higher’. He is also Chair of the Universities Association for Lifelong Learning (formerly the Universities Association for Continuing Education) and from 2000 until 2006 he was a member of the board of HEFCE and chaired its Quality Assurance Learning and Teaching strategic committee. His other major research interest is the development of higher education systems and he is a member of the Academia Europaea.

Professor Jürgen Enders
Jürgen Enders is Director of the Centre for Higher Education Policy Studies (CHEPS), University of Twente, Netherlands and a member of the management team of the research programme on ‘Institutional Change’ of the Institute for Governance Studies at the University. Jürgen’s research interests are in the areas of political sociology, organisation studies, governance and management of higher education and research, and academic professions.

Professor Susan Robertson
Susan Robertson is a Professor of Sociology of Education in the Graduate School of Education, University of Bristol. She created the first British centre of Globalisation, Education and Societies (GES) at Bristol, and has just completed a Synthetic Review of Globalisation, Education and Development for the Department of International Development. She was recently co-director of a major ESRC-funded project on new technologies and learning, ‘InterActive Education: Teaching and Learning in the Information Age’, with a particular interest in the wider policy issues. Prior to coming to the UK her career spanned Australia, Canada and New Zealand.

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The conference programme will include a rich and diverse range of contributions:

• Peer-reviewed paper presentations, invited symposia, roundtables, poster sessions, and
• Invited panel question and answer discussions on topics such as getting published in higher education journals, building and sustaining research capacity and the future structuring of research funding;
• A linked one-day conference for postgraduate students and newer researchers in higher education to be held at the University of Sussex on Monday 10 December.

Call for Proposals

Proposals for papers and contributions on any aspect of higher education policies, processes and practices, nationally and internationally, should state which of the research domains below fits most closely with the content of the presentation. These research domain descriptions are illustrative of the main issues this conference aims to address: they are not intended as exclusive. Contributors should relate their submissions to the conference theme and explore their research findings in the context of reshaping student experiences, systems and structures, policies or practices, or comparative, social and cultural variations and global or transnational developments. All proposals will be peer reviewed by appointed assessors with appropriate knowledge and expertise for each research domain.

Research Domains

RESHAPING ACADEMIC PRACTICE, WORK AND CULTURES

Proposals which focus on how academic work, culture or practice are changing or being reshaped in response to contemporary forces affecting higher education are encouraged. These may include: emerging patterns of academic work; shifting boundaries between academic and learning support and academic management roles; reshaping of academic values in relation to teaching, research and scholarship; changing relationships between academics and students or academics and managers; reconciling the tensions between sources of fragmentation in academic life; changing shape and character of academic identities.

RESHAPING STUDENT EXPERIENCES

Proposals should address the genuinely open research question of whether there is any longer, or ever was a normative notion of ‘the student experience’ in the culture of higher education. We invite contributions which investigate what is learnt (both formally and informally) rather than what is taught; place this in the context of various learning cultures at socially polarizing institutions where different students develop different knowledge and skills represented by qualifications subsequently differentially ranked by employers; go beyond measures of ‘student satisfaction’ and ‘enhancement’; afford opportunities for synergy in research and opinion with impact on other researchers, student and academics; examine student experiences in the context of students’ contrasted commitments to academic work, employment, domestic labour and ‘free’ time in which living at home or away may be crucial and; examine and explore the impact on student experiences of emerging divergences in different models of higher education, nationally and internationally.
HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY: MANAGEMENT, LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

Proposals should aim to address the reshaping of higher education institutions, systems, activities (research, teaching and third stream) and identities through a focus on policy, management and/or governance. These may include: relationships between higher education, the state and markets; relationships between higher education policy, management and social justice; hierarchies, inequalities, opportunities; redefining higher education: new purposes, knowledges, identities, activities; reshaping the spaces and places of higher or university education; developing trends in higher education policy or how transnational, global and international forces have shaped different higher education systems.

LEARNING AND TEACHING IN POST-COMPULSORY AND HIGHER EDUCATION

Proposals should aim to engage with how post-compulsory and higher or university education are being reshaped, reorganised and blended into new forms of teaching and learning practice, delivery and management, including around the themes of widening participation in higher education and how this influences pedagogies and practices. There are three potential parallel streams central to this research domain:

- Research on social diversity and difference (including social class, race, ethnicity, disabilities and sexualities) as issues influencing the reshaping of higher education disciplines, subjects and how they are taught. Similarly these questions may affect postgraduate work and the practices of teaching and learning for and within universities.
- The reshaping of institutional status and educational provision in response to policy directives across the sectors, or formal, informal and e-learning provision, new networks, partnerships, changing structures and leadership models emerging in the ‘gaps’ between the sectors. Global contemporary forces of educational change may influence the boundaries between institutions and sectors in dynamic ways in an era of mass expansion of higher education and the proliferation of new systems of learning.
- Lifelong learning, vocational, technical and/or adult education or comparative approaches examining social, cultural and economic diversity; communities of practice and incentives for, barriers to and tensions about changes in post-compulsory education and changing practices within higher education about teaching and learning for higher education and beyond, such as graduate training and research on doctoral education.

QUALITY ASSURANCE AND ASSESSMENT

Quality assurance (QA) in its widest meaning includes a range of purposes; accountability, audit, control, compliance and improvement/enhancement. Proposals are sought which identify either the impact that the range of QA approaches have had on higher education (using research evidence) or the reshaping of the relationship between quality and learning as the approach shifts from an accountability-based QA to an improvement-linked QA. Proposals are encouraged which transcend institutional boundaries and address international dimensions and comparisons, and methodological studies from a phenomenological or critical-dialectical epistemological perspective.

Types of Proposals

Proposals are invited for:

Individual Papers – each accepted paper will be allocated a maximum of 20 minutes for presentation followed by discussion. Final versions of papers MUST be provided prior to the conference for publication on the SRHE website and inclusion in a conference report.

Symposia – to accommodate three or more related presentations on a single theme, explored in one or two 90-minute sessions. Proposals must state clearly the rationale for the theme, name of the convenor and the chair of the symposium, the names and details of all participating presenters and the titles of each presentation planned. The symposium proposal should include an abstract for each presentation.

Roundtables – discussions of linked contributions for which there is an overall chair/discussant and up to three paper presentations for each 45-minute session. The Roundtable format may be especially suitable for ‘work in progress’ submissions; providing a platform for discussion with other researchers working on related topics. Proposals for roundtables must make clear what links the presentations and MUST include an abstract for each presentation. The proposal must include the name(s) of the chair/discussant and all participating presenters.

Poster Sessions – these should seek to provide a stimulus to dialogue and informal exchange in the format of a wall poster. Proposals should comprise a title, originator(s) presenter(s) and contact details.

Submission of Proposals

The deadline for submission of proposals is **Tuesday 31 July 2007**.

All proposals should be submitted electronically, via the SRHE website at [http://www.srhe.ac.uk/conference2007](http://www.srhe.ac.uk/conference2007)

All proposals must be supported by an abstract of 500 words maximum, in 10 point font, to include three or four references. The online process for the submission of all proposals will guide contributors through the essential information needed to support their submissions.

All submissions will be subject to rigorous peer review by panels of assessors specially selected for each research domain.

Conference Report and Final Papers

Authors of all accepted proposals MUST provide a final version prior to the conference for inclusion in the conference report, and to be available to all delegates via the website. The deadline for submission is **Friday 23 November 2007**.

>> PLEASE SEE OVERLEAF FOR DETAILS OF THE SRHE POSTGRADUATE AND NEWER RESEARCHERS CONFERENCE AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION. >>
Postgraduate and Newer Researchers Conference
10 December, University of Sussex

The SHRE Postgraduate and Newer Researchers Conference will be held one day prior to the main SRHE annual conference on Monday 10 December at the University of Sussex campus. This conference will be chaired by Dr Rajani Naidoo, University of Bath and convenor of the SRHE Newer Researchers network. This one-day conference is designed for newer researchers, full-time or part-time Masters or Doctoral students, in higher education who have not yet completed their studies. The purpose of the Postgraduate and Newer Researchers Conference is to provide a forum for newer researchers to share their work in a supportive environment, to network with other newer researchers, and to obtain constructive feedback on their work from experienced scholars in the field of higher education research. Papers will be presented within a roundtable format and an experienced scholar will be participating in each roundtable session. Paper proposals are invited on any of the themes guiding the main SRHE conference. The closing date for submission of abstracts is Friday 7 September 2007.

All proposals should be submitted electronically via the SRHE website at: http://www.srhe.ac.uk/conference2007

The fee for the Postgraduate and Newer Researchers Conference is £40 (£50 for non-SRHE members) which includes refreshments and a light lunch. We strongly encourage newer researchers to stay on and attend the main conference. Significantly reduced registration fees are offered for students to enable them to attend the main conference.

Annual Conference Timetable and Social Events

The 2007 Conference will begin with lunch on Tuesday 11 December and will end after lunch on Thursday 13 December.

Networking with colleagues is an integral part of the SRHE conference and social events are a good opportunity for participants to meet and converse in a relaxed atmosphere. This year, there will be two events:

• complimentary Welcome Reception on Tuesday 11 December at the Brighton Museum and Art Gallery. This is open to all participants at the Conference and will include drinks and light refreshment;

• conference dinner on Wednesday 12 December at the Thistle Hotel. There will be a pre-dinner drinks reception sponsored by Routledge/Taylor and Francis and the cost for the dinner of £33.00 includes a three-course menu and wine.

Accommodation

All delegates choosing the residential package will have single occupancy accommodation reserved at the Thistle Hotel or at adjacent hotels of identical high standard for the two nights of 11 and 12 December. Hotel accommodation will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

The Society has secured preferential rates for delegates taking the residential package and we strongly advise conference delegates to take this option as it will represent a substantial saving on overall costs.

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.

Full-time student participants at the main conference paying the subsidized student rates but wanting to take a residential package option will be accommodated at local hotels of a suitable standard with good access to the conference venue for the nights of 11 and 12 December.

Conference Registration

Special discounts apply to SRHE members and full-time students. Early registration also attracts substantial discounts. To obtain the ‘early registration’ discount you must register by 31 October 2007.

To register for the main conference and/or the Postgraduate and Newer Researchers Conference please register online via the conference website at http://www.srhe.ac.uk/conference2007 Alternatively you can complete the registration form provided in this brochure.

Residential Rates – include hotel accommodation for two nights (11 and 12 December), breakfast, lunches, teas and coffees, the Welcome Reception and attendance at all conference sessions and plenary events.

Non-residential Rates – include attendance at all sessions and plenary events, lunches, teas and coffees and the Welcome Reception. Delegates choosing the Non-residential option and needing accommodation will need to make their own hotel bookings.

Day Delegate Rate – a day delegate rate is available for the middle day of the conference only, Wednesday 12 December. This rate includes attendance at all sessions and plenary events, lunches, teas and coffees on this day only.

Special SRHE Membership Offer

The SRHE is pleased to offer a 10% discount on one year of SRHE membership in conjunction with the conference. Individuals joining SRHE when registering for the 2007 conference can benefit from the reduced SRHE member rates for the conference. Please see the registration form for full details.

Further Information

For further information and updates on the conference please consult the conference website at http://www.srhe.ac.uk/conference2007

If you require any further information, please contact the SRHE Office: 76 Portland Place, London W1B 1NT tel: +44 (0)207 637 2766 fax: +44 (0)207 637 2781

email: srheoffice@srhe.ac.uk web: www.srhe.ac.uk
Conference Organising Committee

Conference Chair
Professor Miriam David
Associate Director (HE) ESRC’s Teaching and Learning Research Programme,
Institute of Education, University of London

Conference Director
Ms Helen Perkins
Director, SRHE

Organising Committee Members
Professor Ron Barnett
Institute of Education, University of London
Professor Sue Clegg
Leeds Metropolitan University
Professor Rosemary Deem
University of Bristol
Professor George Gordon
Chair, SRHE and University of Strathclyde
Professor Yvonne Hillier
University of Brighton
Dr Rajani Naidoo
University of Bath

About SRHE

The Society for Research into Higher Education is a UK-based international learned society concerned to advance understanding of higher education, especially through the insights, perspectives and knowledge offered by systematic research and scholarship. The Society aims to be the leading international society in the field, as to both the support and the dissemination of research.

More fully, its broad aims are to:

- stimulate new forms of research and inquiry into higher education as a field of study;
- assist in developing research capacity in relation to the field;
- encourage and support those coming into the field of higher education studies;
- develop a network of scholars and researchers in the field of higher education studies;
- offer fora for the presentation of research and scholarship in the field;
- promote the development and widening of research methodologies in the field;
- provide opportunities for the publication of research and scholarship in the field;
- develop opportunities through which researchers in the field can engage with policy makers, practitioners within higher education and other potential interested parties so that policy and practices may be shaped by research.

SRHE Office
76 Portland Place, London W1B 1NT
tel: +44 (0)207 637 2766 fax: +44 (0)207 637 2781
email: srheoffice@srhe.ac.uk web: www.srhe.ac.uk

www.srhe.ac.uk/conference2007
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**RESIDENTIAL PACKAGES**

Full Conference, 11–13 December 2007 (includes 2 nights hotel accommodation, breakfast, lunches and welcome reception and all conference sessions)

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<th>SRHE Member Rates</th>
<th>Early registration (applies if registering before 31 October, 2007)</th>
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**NON-RESIDENTIAL PACKAGES**

Full Conference, 11–13 December 2007 (includes lunches, teas and coffees and welcome reception and all conference sessions)

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<td>Day Delegate Rates – Wednesday 12 December only</td>
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<th>Conference Dinner (13 December; 2007)</th>
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**ACCOMPANYING PERSONS**

For conference delegates on the residential package wishing to be accompanied by a partner, sharing a double room but not attending the conference, a single additional fee has been negotiated which includes two nights accommodation sharing room with full paying participant, breakfast, lunches, teas and coffees, Welcome Reception.

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<th>Accompanying Person Fee</th>
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**POSTGRADUATE AND NEWER RESEARCHERS CONFERENCE** (Monday 10 December; University of Sussex)

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<th>SRHE Member</th>
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<td>Non Member</td>
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**TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES**

£ .

*Please see overleaf for payment details AND DISCOUNTED SRHE MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION* 

**Terms and conditions:**

**Cancellation.** Notice of cancellation for both the SRHE Annual Conference and SRHE Postgraduate Student Conference should be sent to the SRHE offices. An administration fee of £50.00 will be charged on all cancellations received prior to 31 October 2007. No refund will be granted for cancellations received after 1 November 2007. **Changes in Conference Programme.** In the event of cancellations of speakers or other changes in the main conference programme, no full or partial refund of the registration fee can be made.

**Liability.** All participants attend the conference at their own risk. SRHE will not be liable for the death or injury to any person attending the premises in connection with the conference. This registration will not under any circumstances accept responsibility or liability in respect to damage or loss of personal effects brought to the conference.

I have read and accept the Terms and Conditions. Signed:  

Date:  

Register online at www.srhe.ac.uk/conference2007
JOIN SRHE NOW AND REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE AT THE SRHE MEMBER RATES!

SRHE is offering a 10% discount on a full year’s membership to all registrants for the Conference. If you join now, you can also receive the reduced rates for SRHE members on your 2007 registration fees!

Members of the SRHE enjoy many benefits including:
- free copies of Research into Higher Education Abstracts
- reduced subscription rates for Studies in Higher Education (over 50% reduction)
- reduced rates for Higher Education Quarterly
- free copies of SRHE News informing members of the Society’s activities and providing a calendar of events, with additional material provided in regular mailings
- 35% discount on all books from the McGraw-Hill/Open University Press Higher Education Catalogue
- 30% discount on all books published by Routledge/Taylor and Francis
- 20% discount on all books and journals published by Blackwell Publishing
- reduced rates for conferences
- the opportunity to apply for the Society’s annual research grants
- the opportunity to attend the Society’s network meetings at reduced rates

Please fill in your details below if you wish to become a member

Title: [ ] Name: [ ]

Address (if different from overleaf):

Tel: [ ] Fax: [ ] Email: [ ]

Individual Membership Type
- [ ] Standard membership less Conference Discount £89.00
- [ ] Student membership less Conference Discount £24.00
- [ ] Retired membership less Conference Discount £29.00

Journal Subscriptions (SRHE Membership entitles you to substantial discounts on these journal subscriptions of over 50% reductions)
- [ ] Studies in Higher Education (6 issues) £40.00
- [ ] Higher Education Quarterly £30.00

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTIONS: £

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES (from overleaf): £

TOTAL: £

PAYMENT

- Delegates may pay by cheque payable to ‘SRHE’ or by debit/credit card (VISA, MASTERCARD, SWITCH, DELTA)

Card type: [ ] Card no.: [ ] Expiry date: [ ] Issue no. (for Switch/Delta only): [ ]

Name on card: [ ] Security code (all cards): [ ]

Signature: [ ] Total amount to be debited: £

Alternatively SRHE can invoice your institution. Please provide the billing details below.

Name: [ ] Department: [ ] Purchase order no. [ ]

Address: [ ]

Please return the registration form to: SRHE, 76 Portland Place, London W1B 1NT, UK Fax: +44 (0)207 637 2781

Register online at www.srhe.ac.uk/conference2007