

## 2014 HEPI-HEA Spring Conference

Wednesday 21 May 2014

British Academy, London SW1

The quality of the student academic experience is under the spotlight like never before. The Government wants students to be consumers but is frustrated at the pace of change. Students say they want to be partners in learning but do not always get sufficient attention. Higher education institutions say they are improving the learning experience but that it is hard to measure success.

- Just what does a good student academic experience look like at the most innovative institutions?
- Are students in the UK getting a better or worse experience than students in other countries?
- What do the different data on the quality of education in British universities show?

All these issues will be discussed in detail at the **HEPI Spring Conference**, organised in partnership with the **Higher Education Academy** with media partner the **Times Higher Education**.

Attendees will also get the first sight of the **2014 HEPI / HEA Student Academic Experience survey**. For the first time, this annual survey will give a complete picture of the education being received in England by students paying £9,000 a year. This year's survey also includes the first ever comprehensive assessment of the well-being of students in UK universities, which will be compared on the day to the well-being of the nation as a whole.

Speakers include: the Rt Hon David Willetts, Minister for Universities & Science; Professor Stephanie Marshall, Chief Executive, Higher Education Academy; Jenni Russell, Columnist, The Times; Phil Baty, Editor, *Times Higher Education* World University Rankings; Sonia Sodha, Head of Public Services & Consumer Rights Policy, Which?; Rob Behrens, Chief Executive, Office of the Independent Adjudicator; Rachel Wenstone, Vice President, Higher Education, NUS; Anthony McClaran, Chief Executive, Quality Assurance Agency; Professor Edward Acton, Vice Chancellor, University of East Anglia; Libby Hackett, Chief Executive of the University Alliance; and Professor Alison Wride, Provost, GSM London.

In addition, Nick Hillman, HEPI Director and Dr Paul Bennett, HEA Director of Surveys will provide a detailed briefing at the conference on the findings from the 2014 HEPI-HEA Student Academic Experience Survey. Included in the delegate fee will be a copy of the published findings from the 2014 survey.

Bookings now open via <http://www.bookwhen.com/hepi>. For further details on the conference programme please email [s.isles@hepi.ac.uk](mailto:s.isles@hepi.ac.uk)

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### Agenda (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| 9am   | <b>Registration</b>   |
| 9.30  | <b>Welcome by the Conference Chair</b> (morning session)<br>Ruth Thompson, Advisory Board Member, HEPI  |
| 9.35  | <b>Introduction by Professor Stephanie Marshall, Chief Executive of the Higher Education Academy</b>  |
| 9.50  | <b>Head-to-Head: Rt Hon David Willetts, Minister of State for Universities &amp; Science, in conversation with Jenni Russell, columnist at The Times</b>  |
| 10.20 | <b>Q&amp;A</b><br>Chaired by Professor Stephanie Marshall, Chief Executive, Higher Education Academy  |
| 10.35 | <b>Presentation on the findings from the 2014 HEPI-HEA Student Academic Experience Survey – key themes emerging, key issues to be addressed</b><br>Dr Paul Bennett, Head of Surveys, Higher Education Academy<br>Nick Hillman, Director, HEPI |
| 11.25 | <b>Q&amp;A</b>  |
| 11.35 | Break for coffee  |
| 12.00 | <b>The student academic experience – what does the other data show?</b><br>Phil Baty, Editor, THE World University Rankings<br>Sonia Sodha, Head of Public Services & Consumer Rights Policy, Which?  |

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### Agenda – continued (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| 12.45 | <b>Questions &amp; Discussion</b>   |
| 13.00 | <b>Lunch</b>  |
| 14.00 | <b>Welcome by the Conference Chair (afternoon session)</b><br>Dr Geoff Stoakes, Director of Research, Higher Education Academy  |
| 14.05 | <b>Championing the Student Interest</b><br>Rob Behrens, Chief Executive, OIA<br><br>Anthony McClaran, Chief Executive, QAA<br><br>Rachel Wenstone, Vice President, Higher Education, NUS  |
| 15.05 | <b>Q&amp;A</b>  |
| 15.15 | <b>The student academic experience: responding to the challenge</b><br>Professor Edward Acton, Vice Chancellor, University of East Anglia<br><br>Libby Hackett, Chief Executive, University Alliance<br><br>Professor Alison Wride, Provost, GSM London |
| 16.15 | <b>Q&amp;A</b>  |
| 16.30 | <b>Conference closes</b>  |

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### Booking Terms and Conditions

Bookings are to be made online via <http://www.bookwhen.com/hepi>. **To complete your booking, click on the link in the confirmation email within 24 hours of receiving it.** Please make payment online via Paypal (credit cards accepted and no Paypal account required) within 24 hours of booking, or the place will be automatically released.

Refunds will be issued for cancellations made by the end of Wednesday 14 May 2014. Unfortunately we are unable to offer refunds for cancellations made after this date. Deputies may be sent in place of registrants unable to attend.

Bookings can be managed (paid or cancelled, and registrant details amended) via the link sent to the email address entered when making the booking. Please email any administrative queries to [admin@hepi.ac.uk](mailto:admin@hepi.ac.uk).

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