

UK Universities and Research Competitiveness: The Future for UK Research Policy & Funding

Thursday 14 November 2013
The Royal Society, London

Who should attend?

- Vice-Chancellors and Principals
- Members of university governing bodies
- Pro Vice-Chancellors for research
- Deans and heads of department
- Other senior academic managers
- Registrars and Academic Registrars
- University staff with responsibility for research
- Academic researchers
- Industrial liaison officers of universities
- Directors and managers of industrial research
- Academic liaison staff in business and industry
- Leaders of research charities
- Government departments that commission research
- Funding & Research Council staff

Principal speakers

Professor Sir John O'Reilly, DG for Knowledge & Innovation at BIS

Professor Sir Keith Burnett, VC, University of Sheffield

Professor Quintin McKellar, VC, University of Hertfordshire

Professor Bruce Brown, Chair, REF Main Panel D

Professor Dame Janet Finch, Chair, REF Main Panel C

David Sweeney, Director of Research, Innovation & Skills, HEFCE

Professor Rick Rylance, Chief Executive, AHRC

Dr Jackie Hunter, incoming Chief Executive of the BBSRC

Dr Graham Spittle, IBM CTO Europe & VP Software Group. Member of the Prime Minister's Council for Science & Technology

Professor Peter Coaldrake, Chair of the Board of OECD Institutional Management in Higher Education and VC of Queensland University of Technology

Professor Adam Tickell, Provost & Vice Principal, University of Birmingham

Professor David Price, UCL Vice Provost (Research)

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Specifically the conference will:

- Provide an opportunity to learn more about developing policies for research in the UK and internationally
- Hear from leaders of universities with different approaches to research development how they see the future developing
- Enable participants to question senior representatives of the research base and to make an input into its future development
- Learn about different approaches to and opportunities for funding
- Engage with both university and industry exponents of knowledge transfer in its various forms
- Provide an opportunity to learn about the experience and approach in other countries
- Provide a networking opportunity for all those with an interest in research policy and funding
- Hear current thinking about possible developments in the REF

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With the 2014 research funding decisions having a major impact on the research capability of all institutions, this Conference focuses on the future:

- *How will the research policy and funding environment develop?*
- *How will the results of REF 2014 impact on universities?*
- *How will the next comprehensive spending review play out?*
- *What policies will best nurture the UK's research base?*

The Conference provides the first major opportunity for the UK research community to come together to discuss life after REF2014. They will be able to hear from and discuss with a range of senior HE leaders and policy-makers the impact of current research policy and funding. And with the BIS- commissioned report *International Comparative Performance of the UK Research Base 2013* (the biennial enquiry into the international standing of UK research) due for publication in the Autumn they will also have an opportunity to make an input into policy discussions on what needs to be done to ensure that UK universities maintain their research excellence at a time of fierce global competition.

Speakers include **Professor Sir John O'Reilly**, DG for Knowledge & Innovation, BIS; **Professor Sir Keith Burnett**, VC, University of Sheffield; **Professor Quintin McKellar**, VC, University of Hertfordshire; REF2014 Panel Chairs **Professor Bruce Brown** and **Professor Dame Janet Finch**; **David Sweeney**, Director of Research, Innovation & Skills, HEFCE; **Professor Rick Rylance**, Chief Executive, AHRC; **Dr Jackie Hunter**, incoming Chief Executive of the BBSRC; **Dr Graham Spittle**, IBM CTO Europe & VP Software Group, & member of the Prime Minister's Council for Science & Technology; **Professor Peter Coaldrake**, Chair of the Board of OECD Institutional Management in HE and VC of Queensland University of Technology; **Professor Adam Tickell**, Provost & Vice Principal, University of Birmingham, and **Professor David Price**, UCL Vice-Provost (Research).

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Agenda (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

09.00	Registration and refreshments
09.45	Welcome & introduction by the conference chair
09.50	Government Policy – the challenge now & in the future Professor Sir John O'Reilly Director General, Knowledge & Innovation, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS)
10.20	Questions and discussion
10.35	Long-term global trends & their impact on the UK's research competitiveness Sue Wilkinson Director Academic and Government Alliances, Elsevier
10.55	Questions and discussion
11.05	Break for coffee
11.30	REF 2014 – impact & outcomes: the view from the sector Professor Sir Keith Burnett Vice Chancellor, University of Sheffield Professor Bruce Brown Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research, University of Brighton & REF2014 Panel Chair Professor Quintin McKellar CBE Vice Chancellor, University of Hertfordshire
12.30	Questions and discussion
12.45	Lunch

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14.00	Public funding for UK university research - creating an effective return on investment David Sweeney Director of Research, Innovation & Skills, HEFCE Professor Rick Rylance Chief Executive of the Arts & Humanities Research Council(AHRC) and Chair RCUK Dr Jackie Hunter Incoming Chief Executive of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)
15.00	Questions and discussion
15.15	Research funding and collaboration - a global perspective Dr Graham Spittle CBE IBM CTO Europe and VP, Software Group. Member of the Prime Minister's Council for Science & Technology Professor Peter Coaldrake Chair of the Board of OECD Institutional Management in Higher Education, Vice-Chancellor of Queensland University of Technology and former Chair of the Universities Australia Board
15.55	Questions and discussion
16.10	Open Forum: Beyond the REF – A panel discussion to consider how to improve the process for future exercises, and identify good practice across the sector – contributing to the newly-launched HEFCE evaluation exercise Professor David Price UCL Vice-Provost (Research) Professor Adam Tickell Provost & Vice Principal, University of Birmingham Professor Dame Janet Finch University of Manchester & REF2014 Panel Chair
17.15	Conference closes. Refreshments and depart

Conference Booking Form

Please complete this form and return it to the address below. We will confirm your booking within two weeks of receipt.

An invoice will be sent with your booking confirmation. We can only accept payment by cheque or bank transfer – sorry, no cards.

The closing date for registration is **Monday 11 November**. After this date, we advise you to contact us first to check availability of places.

Delegate details:

Name:	
Job title:	
Organisation:	
Address:	
Telephone number:	
Email address:	
Dietary or access requirements:	

Invoicing details:

Purchase order number (if any):	
Address for invoice, if different from above:	

Fee rate:

Private sector bodies, government departments/agencies	£395 + VAT (£474)	
Universities, colleges, LEAs, public sector bodies	£295 + VAT (£354)	
Schools, voluntary bodies, trades unions	£225 + VAT (£270)	

Higher Education Policy Institute
99 Banbury Road
Oxford OX2 6JX

Or send your booking by email: info@hepi.ac.uk

Terms and conditions

Payment is to be made in full before the event. Cancellations must be received *in writing* by 7 November to qualify for a refund. We regret that no refund can be made for cancellations received after this date, though substitute delegates will be accepted. By completing and returning this form, you signify your agreement to these terms and conditions.

Enquiries: 01865 284450 (but please note that registrations cannot be taken by telephone)