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Assessing impact, rewarding excellence: REF 2014 and beyond

Tuesday 22 November 2011
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

Sir Alan Langlands, Chief Executive, HEFCE

Dr Nick Fowler, Director of Strategy, Elsevier

Professor Julia Lane, United States National Science Foundation

Professor David Delpy, Chief Executive, EPSRC

Professor David Price, Vice Provost (Research), UCL

Professor Adam Tickell, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and Knowledge Transfer), University of Birmingham

Professor Luke Georghiou, Vice President, Research & Innovation, University of Manchester

Dr David Sweeney, Director of Research, HEFCE

Dr Carolyn Reeve, BIS

Professor Jonathan Nicholl, University of Sheffield, Chair, REF Sub-Panel 2, Main Panel A

Professor Dame Ann Dowling, University of Cambridge, Chair, REF Main Panel B

Professor Bruce Brown, University of Brighton, Chair REF Main Panel D

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Specifically the conference will:

- Provide an opportunity to find out how the new Research Excellence Framework will work in practice
- Hear from leaders of research-leading universities, the Government and research funding bodies about their views and proposals for the future
- Enable participants to question senior representatives of the research base (universities, Government and funding bodies) and to make an input into its future development
- Provide an opportunity to find out from a senior representative of the United States' research community what the United States is doing to effectively measure the impact of federal research funding
- Provide a networking opportunity for all those with an interest in research policy and funding

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How to measure and reward research excellence has been a key challenge facing the HE sector in recent years. A new system for assessing quality and determining research funding – the new Research Excellence Framework – is set to go live in 2014. The UK funding bodies want the REF to become a driver of a dynamic and internationally competitive research sector “that makes a major contribution to economic prosperity, national wellbeing and the expansion and dissemination of knowledge.” The proposed new framework has undergone radical change since it was first announced, and is now in near final form, with a consultation due to conclude this autumn.

This Conference provides an opportunity to discuss with a range of senior HE leaders and policy-makers, who have been central to shaping the strategic direction of the new funding framework, the process of moving into the implementation phase of the REF. It also provides an opportunity for members of the UK's research community to discuss in detail the criteria on which they will be judged and how to improve their performance. And they will have an opportunity to find out more about what institutions themselves - both in the UK and United States - are doing to develop more sophisticated metrics by which to measure and benchmark research excellence.

Speakers include: **Sir Alan Langlands**, Chief Executive, HEFCE; **Dr Nick Fowler**, Director of Strategy, Elsevier; **Professor Julia Lane**, United States National Science Foundation; **Professor David Delpy**, Chief Executive, EPSRC; **Professor David Price**, Vice Provost Research, UCL; **Professor Adam Tickell**, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research & Knowledge Transfer) University of Birmingham; **Professor Luke Georghiou**, Vice President, Research & Innovation, University of Manchester; **Dr David Sweeney**, Director of Research, HEFCE; **Dr Carolyn Reeve**, BIS; **Professor Jonathan Nicholl**, Chair, REF Sub-Panel 2 (Main Panel A); **Professor Dame Ann Dowling**, Chair, REF Main Panel B; **Professor Bruce Brown**, Chair, REF Main Panel D

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Agenda (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

09.15	Registration and refreshments
09.45	Welcome and introduction
9.50	Driving forward progress and innovation in the UK Sir Alan Langlands Chief Executive, HEFCE
10.15	Questions & Discussion
10.30	Measuring and managing Research Excellence in the UK and beyond Dr Nick Fowler Director of Strategy, Elsevier
10.50	Measuring & managing impact: The view from the HE Sector in the UK Professor David Price Vice-Provost (Research), University College London Professor Adam Tickell Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research & Knowledge Transfer), University of Birmingham Professor Luke Georghiou Vice President, Research & Innovation, University of Manchester
11.35	Questions and discussion
11.50	Rewarding research excellence – measuring the impact of research spending Professor Julia Lane Programme Director, Science of Science & Innovation Policy, National Science Foundation, Washington Professor David Delpy Chief Executive, EPSRC

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Agenda (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

12.40	Questions and discussion
13.00	Break for lunch
14.00	REF 2014 – introduction to the REF in its final form and the rationale behind the changes Dr Carolyn Reeve Department for Business Innovation and Skills Dr David Sweeney Director of Research, HEFCE
14.50	Questions and discussion
15.20	REF 2014: Perspectives from the front line Professor Jonathan Nicholl , Chair, Sub-Panel 2 (Main Panel A) Professor Dame Ann Dowling Chair, Main Panel B Professor Bruce Brown Chair, Main Panel D
16.00	Questions and discussion
16.30	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 **Wednesday 17 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:	
Address for invoice, if different from above:	

Fee rate:

Private sector bodies, government departments/agencies	£395 + VAT (£464.13)
Universities, colleges, LEAs, public sector bodies	£295 + VAT (£346.63)
Schools, voluntary bodies, trades unions	£225 + VAT (£264.38)

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 15 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)