

Westminster Higher Education Forum Keynote Seminar

UK universities in a global Higher Education market

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 2nd February 2012

Venue: Sixty One Whitehall, London SW1A 2ET



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Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Roberta Blackman-Woods MP, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary University Group
- 9.05 - 9.25 **Universities and globalisation - the future of Higher Education internationally in the 21st century**
How is investment in Higher Education (HE) changing across the developed and developing world? How do UK universities compare with their counterparts across the developed world in terms of investment, tuition fee levels and other competitive factors? What challenges and opportunities do universities in emerging economies present for UK Higher Education's place in the global HE market?
Richard Yelland, Senior Manager, Directorate for Education, OECD
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.25 - 9.50 **The European Higher Education market**
What impact has the Bologna Process of standardising degree classification across the European Higher Education Area had on the European HE market? In what ways can the Bologna Process be built upon to strengthen ties between European universities and improve cross-EU quality assurance for students? To what extent has the Erasmus programme been a success, and should the Erasmus scheme be extended to allow more students to study parts of their course in another EU nation?
Julie Fionda, Unit for Higher Education and Erasmus, Directorate-General for Education and Culture, European Commission
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.50 - 10.20 **An alternative choice for UK students - the offer from Europe**
Professor Tom van Veen, Dean, Internationalisation of Education, Maastricht University, Netherlands
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.20 - 11.10 **UK universities - a great place to study?**
Is the introduction of £9,000 tuition fees and imposition of tight caps on student numbers likely to increase the number of UK students looking to study elsewhere in the EU, and if so, in what ways other than price can UK universities compete with their EU counterparts? To what extent will new immigration regulations impact the number of non-EU international students able to study in the UK? Which key factors influence international students' choice of university, and how can UK universities and Government improve the attractiveness of the UK as a place of study? How does the UK's relatively high cost of living impact decisions on setting non-EU international students' course fees, and to what extent do these combined costs deter prospective students? What are the common anxieties of international students coming to study in the UK? In what ways can universities improve student satisfaction and community integration for international students?
Phil Baty, Editor, Times Higher Education Rankings and Editor at Large, Times Higher Education
Pam Tatlow, Chief Executive, million+
Nichola Carter, Partner, Head of Immigration, Penningtons Solicitors
Professor Sir Peter Scott, Professor of Higher Education Studies, Institute of Education, University of London
Beatrice Merrick, Director, Services and Research, UK Council for International Student Affairs (UKCISA)
Dr Jo Beall, Director, Education and Society, British Council
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.10 - 11.15 **Chairman's closing remarks**
Roberta Blackman-Woods MP, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary University Group
- 11.15 - 11.35 Coffee
- 11.35 - 11.40 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Baroness Maddock, Vice-Chair, All-Party Parliamentary University Group
- 11.40 - 12.00 **Expanding the global reach of UK universities - the increasing role of overseas campuses**
Professor David Greenaway, Vice-Chancellor, University of Nottingham
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.00 - 12.25 **Beyond competition: international collaboration on research**
Best practice and ideas on how UK universities can collaborate with other institutions from around the world. What are the benefits of cross-border research partnerships and collaboration, and how can such partnerships be encouraged? How can UK universities increase commercial links with businesses in other nations, and are there barriers to such collaborations?
Professor John Hearn, Vice-President (International), University of Sydney, Australia and Chief Executive, Worldwide Universities Network (WUN)
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.25 - 12.55 **International student experience in the UK**
Dr Fabrizio Trifiro, Development Officer, Research, Development and Partnership, Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)
Christina Yan Zhang, International Students' Officer, National Union of Students
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chairman's and Westminster Higher Education Forum thanks and closing remarks**
Baroness Maddock, Vice-Chair, All-Party Parliamentary University Group
Jonny Roberts, Producer, Westminster Higher Education Forum