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SRHE International Conference 2023 - CFP

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2023 SRHE International Research Conference



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Higher Education Research, Practice, and Policy: Connections & Complexities

4th December (online) and 6th – 8th December (in-person at Conference Aston in Birmingham, UK)

The SRHE Conference is now closed for submission. For more information about attending the conference please visit: <https://srhe.ac.uk/conference-registration-2023/> (<https://srhe.ac.uk/conference-registration-2023/>)

Call for Papers

The 2023 SRHE International Research Conference will take place on 4th December (online) and 6th – 8th December (in-person at Conference Aston in Birmingham, UK). This year our call for papers invites researchers, practitioners, and postgraduate students of higher education to reflect on the theme of **Higher Education Research, Practice, and Policy: Connections & Complexities**.

The closing date for submissions is **15th June 2023 (23:59 GMT+1)**. Submission guidelines are below, and for guidance on using the submission system (Oxford Abstract) please click here: [2023 Submission Guidelines \(https://srhe.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/2023-Submission-Guidelines.pdf\)](https://srhe.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/2023-Submission-Guidelines.pdf).

Introduction

SRHE's main aims are to advance the understanding of higher education, support and disseminate research, and provide a platform for the perspectives and knowledge offered by systematic research and scholarship. With an international membership which spans a broad range of the humanities and social sciences, the SRHE community includes researchers, students, policymakers, educational developers, professional services staff, and more, each of whom contributes to these goals in different ways. This year, our conference will act as a space of broad-ranging knowledge exchange among these members, exploring productive pathways for collaboration while also critically examining the complexities raised by their differing priorities.

Policy which is grounded in research and evidence is widely considered optimal, but as academics, policymakers, and other practitioners attest, academic-policy engagement is challenging. With academic research and policy development operating to different paces, scales, and access to resources, it can be difficult to incorporate even highly relevant research findings into policy. How can research into policy be embedded into mechanisms of scrutiny and evaluation? In terms of fostering academic-policy engagement, what works? It must also be acknowledged that there are potential drawbacks to forging closer links between academia and policy, and that there can be disagreement about what constitutes an acceptable evidence base. Can we maintain research integrity and support curiosity, while also responding to policy issues?

When it comes to higher education research, who is at the forefront generating new knowledge, and who is leading the development and evaluation of practice? How can we establish effective and generative connections between research, teaching, evaluation, and learning? Which knowledge systems are prominent in the research and practice of higher education – and are there knowledge bases or epistemologies we have yet to recognise?

The COVID-19 pandemic provided a striking example of how research and researchers might influence policy design and delivery. Has this exceptional situation offered any learning that can be applied to our understanding of how research relates to policy and practice? In the UK context, the REF 2021 exercise expanded the definition of research activity, with a greater emphasis on measuring research impact. What do its outcomes tell us about our assessment of value – and what is the impact of this significant undertaking on the academic community involved? Our conference is an opportunity to discuss how we formalise research through assessment regimes around the globe.

Overall, our conference aims to emphasise the value of higher education research and higher education itself, from multiple perspectives, both within the UK and internationally. SRHE embraces the full research and innovation portfolio and encourages scholarly rigorous analyses of the key issues facing higher education research, policy, and practice.

About the SRHE Conference

The SRHE International Research Conference attracts wide participation from researchers globally. It provides a stimulating international forum for papers of an empirical or scholarly nature relating to research into higher education, in the broadest sense, and from a breadth of

different disciplinary perspectives. The conference is highly participative, promoting the dissemination and exchange of ideas in a variety of formats, across a range of research domains.

Registration for the conference will open on our website soon. This year's conference will consist of one virtual conference day (4th December 2023) followed by a rest/travel day on 5th December, and then three in-person conference days (6th – 8th December 2023, Conference Aston, Birmingham UK).

Speakers are asked to indicate their mode of presentation (online **or** in-person) at the point of submission, and this answer will inform how the speaker's presentation is timetabled. Speakers are, like all delegates, welcome to attend the online day, the in-person days, or both.

We note that while this is not a hybrid conference we aim to record as much conference content as possible. Speakers are asked to indicate whether or not we have permission to record their presentations at the point of submission.

SRHE members will be able to register for the online day free of charge and will be able to access a discounted rate for the in-person conference days. To find out more about SRHE membership and the range of benefits it carries, please click here (<https://srhe.ac.uk/individual-membership-benefits/>).

Delegates are welcome to attend online, in person, or both – please note that attending both formats will require two bookings.

Online (4th December):

Rate	
SRHE member (including student members)*	free
Non-member	£150
Student non-member	£75

**To book your free place as an SRHE member, please ensure you are logged into your SRHE member account at the time of registration.*

Research Domains

Assessment Criteria

All submissions are subject to rigorous peer review and the selection of papers for presentation is based solely on quality. There is no strict requirement for submissions to directly address the conference theme. Empirical and scholarly research from a wide range of perspectives is welcome.

All submissions will be judged by the following criteria*:

Originality of the question(s) addressed

Effective use and clear explanation of research methodology

Clarity of the research aims and objectives and outcomes

The extent to which the work is rooted in the relevant literature

Significance of the research and the (potential) contribution to what is known about the area researched

Where applicable: the quality of the data and the reliability and significance of the conclusions

The quality of the argument/evidence presented, whether derived from empirical work or scholarly analysis

*The SRHE welcomes submissions from every stage of the research cycle – from projects recently underway to published findings. Reviewers will consider the stage of the research project when applying the assessment criteria.

Presentation Formats

Research Papers

Symposia

Poster

Inclusivity at SRHE Conference

Contact Us

If you have any queries, please use our live chat (available at the bottom right-hand corner of any page on our website), or alternatively e-mail:

- **Dr Rihana Suliman**, SRHE Manager: Conferences and Events: rihana.suliman@srhe.ac.uk (<mailto:rihana.suliman@srhe.ac.uk>)
- If your query relates to conference sponsorship or other forms of engagement, please include **Mariam Ismail**, SRHE Engagement and Development Manager, in your correspondence: mariam.ismail@srhe.ac.uk (<mailto:mariam.ismail@srhe.ac.uk>)

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As part of the AP Network's series on AI and academic practice, Professor David Boud @CRADLEdeakin (<https://twitter.com/CRADLEdeakin>) will be joining us on 24th January 1pm, to discuss the changing assessment practices in an age of AI. Register here:

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If you are interested in finding out more about our 2024 Newer Researchers Awards, we will be running a webinar and Q&A session on Monday 22 January at 1pm. Register here

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