

# Challenging Higher Education: knowledge, policy and practice

**SRHE Annual Conference**

**8-10 December 2009**

**Postgraduate and Newer Researchers Conference**

**7 December 2009**



Society for Research into Higher Education

[www.srhe.ac.uk/conference2009](http://www.srhe.ac.uk/conference2009)

## Call for Papers

## **Postgraduate and Newer Researchers' 4th Annual Conference**

**7 December 2009**

**Celtic Manor Hotel, Newport, South Wales, UK**

### ***Challenging Higher Education: Newer researchers' perspectives***

Now in its sixth year, we are pleased to invite you to participate in the SRHE Postgraduate and Newer Researchers' (PGNR) Annual Conference. This one-day conference precedes the SRHE annual conference and will be held at the famous Celtic Manor, close to Newport in South Wales and venue for the prestigious Ryder Cup in 2010. The PGNR Conference is the main annual event of the SRHE Newer Researchers' Network.

We aim in this conference to provide a supportive, capacity-building event for newer researchers in higher education. As well as the opportunity to present your work in a range of formats, we provide opportunities for chairing papers, involvement in the panel discussions, and a range of networking events. This event is open to a broad community, including those in the early stages of a research career in HE, those currently studying in the field and those who may have more experience but are new to the issues in HE research and want to find out more.

This Conference will be chaired by Dr Arwen Raddon from the University of Leicester (UK) with co-chairs Mr Romulo Pinheiro from the University of Oslo (Norway) and Mr Patrick Baughan from City University London (UK). Dr Raddon is the Convenor of the SRHE Newer Researchers Network and a member of the SRHE Research and Development Committee. Romulo Pinheiro and Patrick Baughan are Co-convenors of the Network.

### **Conference Theme and Call for Papers**

The theme of this year's conference again draws from that of the annual SRHE Conference, which is held directly following this event. However, we also seek to bring additional areas of discussion, debate and reflection to this theme within the context of postgraduate and newer researchers' experience.

This year's theme - ***Challenging Higher Education: Newer researchers' perspectives*** – raises interesting debates and issues for examination. We can read the theme of 'challenging' in a number of ways, including the challenges faced in higher education but also the ways in which we are seeking to challenge the higher education environment through our practice, research and participation. We invite you to submit proposals under the following streams:

*Theme 1 Facing challenges in higher education*

Papers which explore responding to and dealing with current challenges in higher education: knowledge, policy and practice

Relevant issues might include (but are not confined to):

- Forging careers in HE, recruitment and retention
- Changing demands on HE staff and institutions
- Innovations in teaching, research and HE management
- Widening participation and the changing student population
- Economic downturn, financing and the future of HE
- Adapting to meet national and international policy demands (e.g. Lisbon 2010)

*Theme 2 Challenging higher education*

Papers which review, question or challenge higher education: knowledge, policy and practice

Relevant issues might include:

- Alternative ways of thinking about the role of higher education in society
- Historical and comparative developments in HE practice
- Critical, postmodern and postcolonial approaches to research and teaching in HE
- Pedagogy and praxis
- Competing disciplinary knowledge bases in HE.

Proposals for analytical, reflexive or literature review-based presentations within these two streams are welcomed. Submissions will be peer-reviewed. Proposals which do not fall under the specific themes will be considered. However, please ensure that it is clear how they relate to the conference theme.

### **Submissions Process**

The deadline for submission of proposals is **17 August 2009**

Please submit an abstract of up to 450 words to the conference team using the online submission system. All proposals must be submitted electronically, via the SRHE website at <http://www.srhe.ac.uk/conference2009/>. Authors will find here all the instructions needed on what is required in making a submission.

### **Conference Registration**

To register for the main Conference and/or the Postgraduate and Newer Researchers Conference please register online via the Conference website at <http://www.srhe.ac.uk/conference2009/>.

The Postgraduate and Newer Researchers' Conference is a whole day event and the fee for this one day conference is £120 (£140 for non SRHE members), which includes attendance at all sessions, all conference material, refreshments, a light lunch and an early evening drinks reception. We strongly encourage delegates at this one-day conference to stay on and attend the main Conference. Significantly reduced registration fees are offered for students to enable them to attend the main Conference.

### **Student and Newer Researchers Bursaries**

The Society endeavours to assist the attendance of students and newer researchers at the SRHE Annual Conference. The Society will provide a number of bursaries this year to help full time students and newer researchers to attend one or both conferences as presenters. Details of how to apply for these bursaries will be posted on the conference website.

### **Special SRHE Membership Offer**

SRHE is pleased to offer a 10% discount on one year of SRHE membership in conjunction with the Conference. Individuals joining SRHE when registering for the 2009 Conference can benefit from the reduced SRHE member rates for the Conference. SRHE members also benefit from free attendance at all Network events throughout the year. Please see the registration form for full details.

### **Further Information**

For all abstract submissions, conference registrations, further information and updates on the Conference please access the Conference website at <http://www.srhe.ac.uk/conference2009>

If you require any further information, please contact the SRHE Conference Team:

**Society for Research into Higher Education (SRHE) Email:** [srheconferenceteam@srhe.ac.uk](mailto:srheconferenceteam@srhe.ac.uk)