

Social Mobility or Social Equality? Educational Perspectives

Friends House
173 Euston Rd
London
NW1 2BJ

10am - 4.30pm

£75 UALL member
£110 non-member

for further details
contact
admin@uall.ac.uk

A conference for all those involved in post-compulsory education including staff in Adult Education, FE Colleges and Universities.

Wednesday 23 November 2011

register online @
http://www.formstack.com/forms/uwe-uall_networks_conference_registration

The push for social mobility is a distinctive feature of Coalition Government policy that appears to cut across party political boundaries, with the former Labour minister Alan Milburn chairing the Child Poverty and Social Mobility Commission. The strategy document 'Opening Doors: Breaking Barriers' has the express aim of encouraging 'A fair and open society, one in which every individual is free to succeed'. Education is seen as one of the key drivers of social mobility. In contrast social equality is rarely mentioned, despite the increasing gap between rich and poor in the UK and the radical origins of movements such as the WEA, the Access movement and women's education that have shaped much of post-school provision.

This conference, organised by the specialist Networks of the Universities Association for Lifelong Learning (UALL) will consider a number of key questions including:

What are the differences between social mobility and social equality?

Can social mobility increase in an unequal society?

How does recent education policy relate to social mobility and social equality?

What are the implications for staff and students in the post-compulsory sector?

Through a combination of presentation, discussion and debate participants will have the opportunity to explore the issues, consider recent policies and develop strategies for moving forward. Following the keynote presentations, UALL Network sessions will offer the opportunity for participants to engage with the issues from specialist perspectives (see over for details).

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Professor Carole Leathwood, IPSE, London Metropolitan University
Professor Ken Spours, Institute of Education, University of London
Fiona Waye, Policy Adviser, UUK

This conference has been jointly organised by four UALL Networks:
Employer Engagement; Social Inclusion and Widening Participation;
Staff and Student Development; Women in Lifelong Learning

PROGRAMME

10.30 *Registration and Coffee*

11.00 **Is Social Mobility Socially Just?**

Professor Carole Leathwood, IPSE, London Metropolitan University.

11.45 **Lifelong Learning, Equality and the Good Society: a perspective on social mobility and education**

Professor Ken Spours, Assistant Director, Institute of Education, University of London

12.30 *Lunch*

1.15 **Policy into Practice: the UUK Perspective**

Fiona Waye UUK

1.45 **Workshops:**

UALL RESEARCH COMMITTEE offers four short presentations illustrate how a particular research approach or methodology can illuminate issues around social mobility...

Perspectives from historical research

John Holford, University of Nottingham: "Conceptions of social mobility through adult education: past and present"

Perspectives from statistical research

Ian McNay, University of Greenwich: "The changing profile of undergraduates: applicants, acceptances and institutions"

Perspectives from case study research

Lea McKay, University of the West of Scotland: "Making Experience Count – Recognising your Prior Learning"

Perspectives from comparative research

Rob Mark, University of Strathclyde: 'Self- assessment as a research tool for measuring participation in lifelong learning in European higher education institutions.'

UALL WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND SOCIAL INCLUSION NETWORK offers three 'think pieces' for wider discussion...

Outreach work with adults: changing the students or the academy?

Jacqueline McManus, Head of Widening Participation Programmes, University of the Arts London

Widening participation and education policy: issues for colleges and universities

Jacqueline Stevenson, Reader in Widening Participation, Leeds Metropolitan University

Women returners and the new student funding system

Angela Shaw, University of Hull

3.15 **Plenary Discussion**

4.00 *Tea and Networking*

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For further information on UALL and its networks, go to www.uall.ac.uk

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