



## Patterns of Differentiation in UK Higher Education, 1996-2010

A lecture by Linda Croxford and David Raffe
Centre for Educational Sociology, University of Edinburgh

Tuesday 11th December 2012, 4.00-5.30pm

University of Edinburgh, Seminar Room 4, Chrystal MacMillan Building, 15a George Square, Edinburgh EH8 9LD



There is increasing theoretical and policy interest in the institutional differentiation of UK higher education (HE) and its relation to social inequalities. This paper presents emerging findings from a research project which uses administrative data on six cohorts of applicants and entrants between 1996 and 2010 to explore the institutional differentiation of HE in the UK. Building on an earlier analysis of institutional segregation, this analysis poses two questions. First, how stable has the hierarchy of Russell Group, other pre-1992 and post-1992 universities in England (and ancient, old and new universities in Scotland), been between 1996 and 2010? Second, what dimensions of institutional differentiation and what groupings of institutions are reflected in the characteristics of applicants or entrants to each institution, and how has this pattern of differentiation varied over time?

Linda Croxford is a senior research fellow at the Centre for Educational Sociology. Her main focus is quantitative research on educational inequalities.

David Raffe is Professor of Sociology of Education at the University of Edinburgh and a member of the Centre of Educational Sociology, where he has worked since 1975. His research has covered young people's experiences, attainments and transitions in all stages of education and training from secondary onwards, with a particular interest in comparisons among European and OECD countries and among the home countries of the UK.

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