

The Universities Association for Lifelong Learning promotes higher education policy and practice in part-time and lifelong learning in the higher education sector. It represents the interests of both the UK and of the four nations: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. UALL acts as a forum for the exchange of ideas and good practice, lifelong learning research, and as a consultative body for the formulation of policy.

UALL Members' Bulletin

April 2017

In the Bulletin we aim to give you a regular update on what has been happening in the world of higher education lifelong learning as reported by the press, Government and public bodies, individuals, as well as items relating to UALL member institutions. We also aim to alert you to a selection of forthcoming events and policy matters. The Bulletin is one of UALL's services to its members, and feedback from readers indicates it is widely read and circulated to staff of our member universities and colleges.

Keep up to date with all UALL news by visiting our website at: www.uall.ac.uk

In this issue you will find items on:

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UALL 2017 Annual Conference – a great success 5-7 April - York

The Annual Conference was held at the Monkbar Hotel, York between 5 and 7 April 2017. 85 delegates attended, including a good number from Europe, America and Asia. The timetable was packed with 40 presentations on a very wide variety of topics within the theme of *Lifelong Learning: Local, Regional, International?* These ranged from professional development and work-based learning to community mental health projects and debates in a local pub. Keynote addresses were by <u>Professor Karen Stanton, Vice Chancellor</u>, York St John University, and by <u>Professor Alice Warren</u>, <u>President of UPCEA</u>, UALL's sister organisation in the USA.

The informal and social aspects of the Conference included a welcoming buffet evening on the Wednesday and the formal Conference Dinner the following day, which was held in the imposing surroundings of the Merchant Taylors Hall. The dinner was concluded by the ceremony for the annual UALL Awards for creativity and innovation in lifelong learning provision – please see further details of the Awards below.

Friday morning saw the international input, including the International Panel from our affiliated organisations in Europe and Turkey. After the formal close of the Conference delegates were offered a tour of York by local students.

Delegates agreed that the Conference was a very rewarding experience. Our thanks to all who attended and contributed to this success.

Further details can be found at: https://www.uall.ac.uk/uall-2017-annual-conference

UALL 2017 Awards

This ever-popular event was held at the Annual Conference Dinner at the Merchant Taylors Hall, York on 6 April. As usual it was compered with showbiz panache by Pauline McManus (Warwick), with UALL Chair Peter Neil presenting certificates to the runners-up, and finally the winner's award of the coveted UALL Trophy, together with, for the first time, the new International Trophy.

Winner of the International Award: Al Quds Open University for *Mobile Educational Center to improve* educational opportunities in the marginalized areas.

Winner of the UALL Award: Training in Mind for <u>Accrediting the Mental Health First Aid (Wales)</u>: Innovations in lifelong learning.

'Runners-up' received Highly Commended Certificates:

University of Brighton for Brains at the Bevy

Open University in Scotland for Opening educational practices in Scotland

University of Sheffield for <u>Degrees with Foundation Years at the University of Sheffield's Department for Lifelong Learning</u>

University of Wales Trinity St David for <u>Developing future leaders</u>.

Full details of the Winners and Runners-up can be found at HERE

Events

UALL Joint Networks One-Day conference – 20 June 2017

We invite you to:

Lifelong Learning 2.0: Higher education, technology and the student experience

Join us at the University of Liverpool **London campus** for a day exploring and debating this issue through a range of speakers and Network-led workshops. Keynote speakers include:

- Bob Harrison (writer, presenter and researcher, former Chair of the Teaching Schools New Technology Advisory Board) on mobile learning, digital technologies and next generation learning
- Mark Schofield (Professor of Learning & Teaching, Edge Hill University) on the value of flexibility and its association with promoting learning
- Alison Le Cornu (Consultant in academic practice, specialising in flexible learning in higher education) on developing communities of practice around the importance of flexibility within the societal context

There will also be a choice of interactive workshops related to the theme, all with a focus on lifelong learning and learners, led by the individual UALL Networks: Flexible Pedagogies; Student Experience; Work & Learning; Widening Participation & Access; Public Engagement; International Development & Lifelong Learning; Community Research & Engagement.

If you would like to know more about the programme when it is finalised please just click <u>here</u> to leave your details and we will keep you informed.

For further details, please visit: https://www.uall.ac.uk/uall-joint-networks-conference-20-june-2017

Dates for your diary:

Work and Learning Network Annual Conference 23 June 2017 at Middlesex University

UALL AGM
30 November 2017 at Ambassadors Hotel, London
2018 Annual Conference
Downing College, University of Cambridge
21 to 23 March

For all regular updated information about UALL, please visit: www.uall.ac.uk

General news

4 April 2017 - Quarter of Jewish students in UK 'fear anti-Semitic attacks on campus'

Two thirds (66 per cent) told a National Union of Students study they believed they were targeted a result of their faith.

http://ind.pn/2nBN2sN

13 April 2017 - Universities urged to tackle PhD mental health crisis

Institutions told they have a 'culture of excluding postgraduates' in wake of damning study https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/universities-urged-tackle-phd-mental-health-crisis

25 April 2017 - Campaign seeks to double share of UK students studying abroad

New target aims for 13.2 per cent of students to undertake international placements by 2020. https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/campaign-seeks-to-double-share-of-uk-students-studying-abroad

25 April 2017 - Professor's death sparks discussion of academic mental health

Political scientist at Arizona State University thought to have taken his own life.

https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/professors-death-sparks-discussion-academic-mental-health

26 April 2017 - Lord Lawson: loss of free speech in HE a 'great problem' of today

Former chancellor claims 'politically correct' students hold sway over 'totally supine university authorities' https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/lord-lawson-loss-free-speech-he-great-problem-today

27 April 2017 - David Willetts: UK PM's overseas student rhetoric 'dangerous'

Conservative peer attacks 'brightest and best' rhetoric used by ministers https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/david-willetts-uk-pms-overseas-student-rhetoric-dangerous

UK Government and higher education

Government immigration plans will undermine our degrees, say UK students

A nationwide survey of UK students run by the National Union of Students has revealed that the majority feel their degrees would suffer if international students are not protected post-Brexit (11 April 2017). http://ind.pn/2om3nTz

Theresa May's refusal to remove foreign students from immigration figures 'damaging UK's world-class universities'

Theresa May is under mounting pressure to remove foreign students from the immigration figures after MPs warned that her refusal to do so is damaging Britain's world class universities (25 April 2017). http://ind.pn/2oZ5VJw

MPs back liberal visa regime to combat Brexit brain drain

Next UK government must move swiftly to ease uncertainty threatening university sector, says Commons Education Committee (25 April 2017).

https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/mps-back-liberal-visa-regime-to-combat-brexit-brain-drain

MPs vow to fight on as Theresa May refuses to remove overseas students from immigration figures MPs say they will continue to campaign for foreign students to be removed from immigration numbers, after the general election (27 April 2017).

http://ind.pn/2p5v9pG

UK election / HE Bill and TEF

English universities 'may shun' subject-level TEF

HEA expert says universities may not want to jeopardise good institutional rating (7 April 2017). https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/english-universities-may-shun-subject-level-tef

What a surprise general election could mean for HE

A look at how the HE Bill's future, the impact of Brexit and Labour's fee plans are all election issues for universities (19 April 2017). http://bit.ly/2oKXu4i

Tory rebels push government for better deal on overseas students

Government pressured for concessions to avert defeat on amendment to HE Bill (18 April 2017). https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/tory-rebels-push-government-better-deal-overseas-students

Ministers 'lose control' of HE bill in UK election 'wash-up'

Government concessions needed 'if it is not to lose its bill', senior Labour peer warns (19 April 2017). https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/ministers-lose-control-he-bill-uk-election-wash

University fee rise delayed as student migrant cap stays

Theresa May will have to agree to delay fee increases for top universities as the price for passing higher education reforms before the election (26 April 2017). http://bit.lv/2ovcsNm

Liberal Democrats bid to win back the 'university vote'

Vince Cable and Julian Huppert back party to overtake Labour in 'university seats' (26 April 2017). https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/liberal-democrats-bid-to-win-back-university-vote

TEF ratings set to shape international student choice – survey

Survey of would-be undergraduates finds high quality teaching is the most important factor in decision-making (27 April 2017).

https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/englands-tef-could-be-big-factor-in-international-student-choice

Higher Education and Research Bill passed by UK parliament

Bill to further market approach in England backed by MPs and Lords (27 April 2017). https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/higher-education-and-research-bill-passed-uk-parliament

Graduates and employment

1 in 3 university students forced to take up 'below graduate level' jobs - despite £44,000 debt Two-fifths of students have had to take a job that's below graduate level while a third have had to pursue further qualifications to get their dream job, according to a study by Intern Tech (10 April 2017). http://bit.ly/2nTojQk

Students told not to obsess over finding job

University students should not feel compelled to get a job until six months after graduating, the outgoing head of UCAS has said as she warned against the "obsession" with careers (25 April 2017). http://bit.ly/2pggAQu

Brexit

Universities UK statement on the triggering of Article 50

Dame Julia Goodfellow, President of Universities UK comments: "Our future relationship with the EU has clear implications for universities in the UK. There are currently more than 125,000 students from other EU countries studying at UK universities and 17% of academic staff are from EU countries. The UK is a major beneficiary of the EU's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and networks

http://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/news/Pages/Universities-UK-statement-on-the-triggering-of-Article-50.aspx?utm_source=UUK+Bulletin&utm_campaign=74a24c4c8e-

UUK_Bulletin_7April_2017&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_99e42a5336-74a24c4c8e-100646817

Universities ordered to end 'partisan prejudice' against Brexit

Amendment to HE Bill to require hosting of pro-Leave speakers and cultural events on campus (1 April 2017). https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/universities-ordered-end-partisan-prejudice-against-brexit

Allow 'no leeway' on UK staying in EU research, says Oxford chief

University's head of Brexit strategy urges universities to apply pressure over 'essential' priority (18 April 2017).

https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/allow-no-leeway-uk-staying-eu-research-says-oxford-chief

If the UK wants to remain a key global player after Brexit, the intake of foreign students must be protected

Evidence suggests the effects of Brexit have already begun to hit higher education, as studying in the UK seems to look less appealing to EU applicants - figures from UCAS show a six per cent drop in applicants from within the EU since last year (24 April 2017). http://ind.pn/2ppNKxY

HE Bill: Labour 'will not oppose' new amendments

Government deal with opposition clears path to pass bill ahead of election (25 April 2017). https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/he-bill-labour-will-not-oppose-new-amendments

Statistics and surveys

Using laptops in class harms academic performance, study warns

The paper, based on an analysis of the grades of about 5,600 students at a private US liberal arts college, found that using a laptop appeared to harm the grades of male and low-performing students most significantly (4 April 2017).

http://bit.ly/2nEA2ml

Ban 9am lectures for students, experts say

Traditional 9am lectures should be scrapped and students should be allowed to start their day later, experts have claimed, following new research that suggests early mornings interfere with young adults' body clocks (10 April 2017).

http://ind.pn/2nx8T8I

More university students are using tech to cheat in exams

A growing number of UK university students are cheating in exams with the help of technological devices such as mobile phones, smart watches and hidden earpieces, according to figures obtained through Freedom of Information requests (11 April 2017).

http://bit.ly/2ote4WF

Widening participation and access

Unesco recommends affirmative action admissions policies

'Overwhelming' evidence that initiatives targeted at disadvantaged groups increase access (20 April 2017). https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/unesco-recommends-affirmative-action-admissions-policies

Interview with Baroness Ashton

The former leader of the House of Lords talks inequality, widening access to higher education and keeping on top of technology (20 April 2017).

https://www.timeshighereducation.com/people/interview-baroness-ashton

Student funding/loans

Student loan interest rate set to rise by a third after UK inflation surge

The increase in inflation following the Brexit vote is set drive the interest rate on student loans up by a third to 6.1% (12 April 2017).

http://bit.ly/2o48qY9

Students face sharp rise in interest on tuition loans

The interest rates are linked to inflation - and are set to rise by about a third from 4.6% to up to 6.1% (13 April 2017).

http://bbc.in/2oCAzsm

Gender

Minority women face 'compounded disadvantage' in universities

Equality Challenge Unit study details how ethnicity and sexuality hold back female researchers (5 April 2017). https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/minority-women-face-compounded-disadvantage-in-universities

Female economists 'write better but spend longer in peer review'

Women's papers up to three times more readable than men's but published half a year later, conference hears (14 April 2017).

https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/female-economists-write-better-spend-longer-peer-review

Female academics 'held back by greater administrative workloads

US study suggests women perform more 'service' work in universities (19 April 2017).

https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/female-academics-held-back-greater-administrative-workloads

Research evaluation 'actively contributes' to gender inequality

Research excellence framework maintains discrimination in academy, says thesis (22 April 2017). https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/research-evaluation-actively-contributes-to-gender-inequality

Research and science

EU research 'still failing to include social sciences'

Without input from other disciplines, new technologies will fail to improve lives, report warns (3 April 2017). https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/eu-research-still-failing-to-include-social-sciences

3 April 2017 - Tread carefully with altmetrics, European Commission told

Alternative metrics should be used by the European Commission alongside expert judgement and other measures of research quality, according to a new report. http://bit.ly/2o1GLd1

March for Science: for a good cause, but will it do good?

Critics fear global event risks 'trivialising and politicising' research (4 April 2017). https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/march-for-science-for-a-good-cause-but-will-it-do-good

Germany catches up with UK on ERC starting grant success

More money and competition for tenure has helped country's young researchers progress (5 April 2017). https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/germany-catches-up-with-uk-on-erc-starting-grant-success

Social networks' grip on data 'stalls political science research'

Academic calls on Facebook and Twitter to share more information with scholars (5 April 2017). https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/social-networks-grip-data-stalls-political-science-research

Hostility to ECJ raises doubts over UK's future in EU research

V-c warns that European Court of Justice role in grant disputes makes UK association 'difficult to see' (6 April 2017).

https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/hostility-to-ecj-raises-doubts-over-uks-future-in-eu-research

UK research loses more ground to Germany on ERC funding

British researchers no longer win the most grants for established scientists, having already fallen behind in early career category (7 April 2017).

https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/uk-research-loses-more-ground-germany-erc-funding

Drive to register all UK scientists: benchmark or bureaucracy?

Critics call proposal for world-first professional recognition system 'demented' (20 April 2017). https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/drive-register-all-uk-scientists-benchmark-or-bureaucracy

Overseas students

Hammond: UK immigration cuts are no barrier to trade deal with India

Britain's pledge to sharply reduce immigration will not impede the UK from negotiating a free trade agreement with India, the chancellor has said during a visit to Delhi to promote British business (5 April 2017). http://bit.ly/2oB4yBL

UK public 'wants overseas student numbers to stay same or rise'

UUK poll ahead of key Commons vote finds only 26 per cent see students 'as immigrants' (13 April 2017). https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/uk-public-wants-overseas-student-numbers-stay-same-or-rise

Theresa May forced to soften stance on foreign students being included in immigration numbers

The Prime Minister has reportedly been forced to soften her long held stance on foreign students being included in immigration totals, as part for the price for calling the snap general election (20 April 2017) http://ind.pn/2piNvVu

Falling pound cuts tuition fees for foreign students by up to 20%

The fall in the pound's value since Brexit has reduced the cost of UK degrees for international students by up to a fifth, but also made low-wage jobs less attractive to foreign workers, new analysis has shown (21 April 2017).

http://on.ft.com/2pKkbUI

International news

White House eyes research overheads for health funding cuts

Universities warn they may be unable to meet staffing and facilities costs alone (3 April 2017). https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/white-house-eyes-research-overheads-health-funding-cuts

Number of international students at Dutch universities soars

Netherlands' market share of mobile scholars grows by 15 per cent in 10 years (4 April 2017). https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/number-international-students-dutch-universities-soars

China block on scholar leaving 'disheartening' for academic exchange

Government bar on Chongyi Feng returning to Australia increases doubts over country's openness (6 April 2017).

https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/china-block-scholar-leaving-disheartening-academic-exchange

New York moves to abolish tuition fees for poorer families

Nearly a million households expected to benefit from deal covering SUNY and CUNY systems (10 April 2017).

https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/new-york-moves-abolish-tuition-fees-poorer-families

Jailed Turkish academic İştar Gözaydın released

Sociologist is reportedly still blocked from leaving the country (7 April 2017).

https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/jailed-turkish-academic-istar-gozaydin-released

Cuts and fee rises 'inevitable' options for Australian budget

Universities' support for uncapped numbers leaves ministers with limited choices, says government adviser (18 April 2017)

https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/cuts-and-fee-rises-inevitable-options-australian-budget

Why Germany educates international students for free

As the country succeeds in attracting even more students from overseas, a mixture of demographics, 'soft power' concerns and local politics help explain its policy (21 April 2017).

https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/why-germany-educates-international-students-for-free

Appointments

Clare Marchant named next Ucas chief executive

Current head of Worcestershire County Council will succeed Mary Curnock Cook (2 April 2017) https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/clare-marchant-named-next-ucas-chief-executive

New president elected by National Union of Students

Shakira Martin was elected the new President of the NUS at its conference in Brighton (27 April 2017) http://bbc.in/2g6beoU

Funding councils

A ENGLAND & NORTHERN IRELAND Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE)

News

Research Excellence Framework 2021: applications invited for Main Panel Chairs

Four exceptional people are needed to serve as Main Panel Chairs (Designate) in the second Research Excellence Framework (REF).

http://www.hefce.ac.uk/news/newsarchive/2017/Name,113265,en.html

Quality settlement between Ofsted and HEFCE for apprenticeships

The launch of the Institute for Apprenticeships includes confirmation of a quality settlement between Ofsted and HEFCE that agrees responsibility for the quality assessment of apprenticeships delivered by higher education (HE) providers between Levels 4 and 7.

http://www.hefce.ac.uk/news/newsarchive/2017/Name,113266,en.html

Collaborating to commercialise: Funding for universities to deliver the Industrial Strategy HEFCE is launching the Connecting Capability Fund, with guidance on the allocation of £100 million to support university collaborations in research commercialisation. http://www.hefce.ac.uk/news/newsarchive/2017/Name,113409,en.html

Publications

Higher Education Innovation Funding: Connecting Capability Fund http://www.hefce.ac.uk/pubs/year/2017/201703/

B SCOTLAND

Scottish Funding Council (SFC)

Intake targets and funded places for the controlled subject of Medicine in universities for academic year 2017-18

Announcement of intake targets and funded places for the controlled subject of Medicine in universities for academic year 2017-18

http://www.sfc.ac.uk/sectorcommunications

Intake targets and funded places for the controlled subject of Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery in Universities for 2017-18

To announce university intake targets and funded student places for the controlled subject of Preregistration Nursing and Midwifery Education in AY 2017-18. http://www.sfc.ac.uk/sectorcommunications

Building our Industrial Strategy

In January 2016 the UK Government published <u>Building our Industrial Strategy</u>, a green paper setting out how it proposes to build a modern industrial strategy for the UK. A consultation on the green paper was held between 23 January and 17 April and the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy is currently analysing the feedback.

The SFC response to the consultation can be viewed on the SFC website.

Fee waiver grant policy 2017-18

This guidance describes the categories of students for which a college may use the fee waiver grant from the Scottish Funding Council.

http://www.sfc.ac.uk/sectorcommunications

C WALES

Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW)

Outcomes of the consultation on governing body annual assurance statements related to quality

This circular provides the outcomes of the consultation provided in W16/38HE: Consultation on governing body annual assurance statements related to quality.

http://www.hefcw.ac.uk/documents/publications/circulars/circulars_2017/W17%2007HE%20Outcomes%20of%20consultation%20on%20governing%20body%20annual%20assurance%20statements%20related%20to%20guality.pdf

Outcomes of the consultation on the external assurance of quality required by regulated institutions

2017/18 will be a development year. Therefore HEFCW will consider feedback on the operation of the review method in that year, and whether any additional changes are required. http://www.hefcw.ac.uk/publications/circulars/circulars.aspx

Publications

International Journal of Lifelong Education

International Journal of Lifelong Education, Volume 36, Issue 1-2, January/February - March/April 2017 is now available online on Taylor & Francis Online.

The Learning Adult: Building and Reflecting on the Work of Peter Jarvis

http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/tled20/36/1-2

Student Voices on Inequalities in European Higher Education Challenges for theory, policy and practice in a time of change

Edited by Fergal Finnegan, Barbara Merrill and Camilla Thunborg - London, Routledge

This book focuses on the voices and experiences of non-traditional students in European higher education. It examines the impact that access to higher education is having on these students' lives and discusses what this tells us about European education and society.

http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415826891/

Men Learning through Life

Edited by Barry Golding, Rob Mark and Annette Foley

Due: February 2014 **RRP:** £19.95 (+P&P)

ISBN: 978-1-86201-828-0 (print)

Concerns about men's attitudes to and involvement in lifelong and life-wide learning have recently emerged in many countries. There is a growing interest in finding ways to increase men's participation and promote practices that will contribute to men's learning and wellbeing, particularly in contexts and life stages for men beyond paid work.

Footprint Books Tel: (+61) 02 9997 3973; Email: info@footprint.com.au

www.footprint.com.au

Creative Teaching Approaches in the Lifelong Learning Sector Brendon Harvey and Josie Harvey Open University Press

This publication will appeal to trainee and experienced teachers working in the lifelong learning sector, including further and higher education, work-based learning, and adult and community settings. http://mcgraw-hill.co.uk/cgi-

<u>bin/search_products.pl?user_input=Creative+Teaching+Approaches+in+the+Lifelong+Learning+Sector&start</u> =1&Submit.x=5&Submit.y=6

Unearthing Canada's Hidden PastA Short History of Adult Education

Michael Welton

Thompson Publishing

Michael Welton provides an overview of adult learning and education in Canada from the first contact between Canada's First Nations and European settlers, through the industrialization of Canada, the political turmoil of the twentieth century, right up until the digital revolution of the present day. Welton focuses on "uncommon schools" and encourages readers to think about how men, women, and children were educated in different times and places as well as how our foremothers and forefathers learned to make a living, live their lives, and express themselves, often in difficult and taxing circumstances.

www.thompsonbooks.com

University Continuing Education 1981–2006: Twenty-five turbulent years

Bill Jones, Geoffrey Thomas and Russell Moseley (Editors)

ISBN: 978-1-86201-446-6

Over the last three decades university continuing education departments have come under unprecedented threat, with many closing or changing beyond recognition. This book tells their stories and outlines the driving principles of the university adult education system that have a valuable contribution to make in informing future strategy and policy in higher education lifelong learning.

http://shop.niace.org.uk/uni-continuing-ed.html

Social Mobility and Higher Education

The life experiences of first generation entrants in Higher Education Mary Stuart
September 2012
ISBN 978 1 85856 508 8
£21.99

Governments of all flavours have expressed interest in the question of social mobility, and education is seen to have a key role. But the level of opportunity available to people from lower socio-economic groups is thought to be diminishing. The Milburn report on Higher Education and Social Mobility argues that Universities have made some progress in supporting social mobility but that more needs to be done.

Trentham Books at: www.trentham-books.co.uk