



TRINITY
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CAVE
CULTURES
ACADEMIC VALUES
& EDUCATION

RESEARCH GROUP

The CAVE research group in the School of Education Trinity College Dublin is pleased to announce a forthcoming international conference entitled:

Learning Communities or ‘Knowledge Factories’? Exploring the influence of national and European policy on higher education institutions

The principal aim of this two-day conference is to explore the influence of national and European policy on the role and purpose of higher education institutions, considering not only the effects of policy initiatives but also tensions and contradictions within local, state and supranational policies. This is intended to be a broad theme and we would welcome contributions around the following areas:

- Teaching and learning
- The changing world of academic work
- Managerialism, metrics and accountability regimes
- The relationship between higher education and the state – *inter alia* the balance between institutional autonomy and elite policy agendas; influence of differing funding models; management and governance
- The relationship between higher education and the world of work – adult education and the promotion of ‘lifelong learning’; the demands of the Lisbon agenda and the ‘knowledge economy’ paradigm
- The relationship between higher education and civil society – formal and informal learning; the rhetoric and reality of ‘community engagement’
- Institutional differentiation – different organisational forms; diversity and rationalisation
- Student participation, persistence, expectations and outcomes (undergraduate and postgraduate)
- The postdoctoral experience – progression, expectations and outcomes.

The conference seeks to bring together not only academics interested in the philosophy, history, policy and sociology of higher education, but invites contributions more generally from other disciplines which share an interest in the aims and purposes of higher education.

The conference will be held in Trinity College Dublin from Thursday 14th June to Friday 15th June 2012. Papers of between 3000 and 6000 words are invited for consideration. If anyone is interested in presenting in symposia we would welcome submissions in this format.

Conference submissions will be peer reviewed by the conference programme committee.

Deadline: All papers and proposals should be emailed to loxleya@tcd.ie or walshj8@tcd.ie to arrive no later than **Friday 16th March 2012**.

Enquiries about submission should be emailed to either Dr Andrew Loxley (loxleya@tcd.ie) or Dr John Walsh (walshj8@tcd.ie).

Conference details will be available shortly on the School of Education's website (www.tcd.ie/education) and will include accommodation, transport and other conference information.