

CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF HIGHER EDUCATION ISSUES AND IDEAS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

What future for UK higher education?

Professor Roger Brown, Liverpool Hope University, UK

Monday 6 July
12.30 - 2.00pm

Barbara Falk Room
1st Floor
CSHE
715 Swanston St
All welcome

To register please email
Adeline Sze, CSHE
asze@unimelb.edu.au



Roger Brown is Professor of Higher Education Policy and Co-Director of the Centre for Research and Development in Higher Education at Liverpool Hope University. He was previously Vice Chancellor of Southampton Solent University, Chief Executive of the Higher Education Quality Council, Chief Executive of the Committee of Directors of Polytechnics and Secretary of the Polytechnics and Colleges Funding Council. He has served on many national committees and boards. He has written a book *Quality Assurance in Higher Education: The UK Experience since 1992* (2004) and many articles and lectures on different aspects of HE policy. His second book *Higher Education and the Market: Taming the Beast* is due to be published in 2010. He is currently a Visiting Professor or equivalent at London Metropolitan University, Napier University Edinburgh, the University of East London and the University of Southampton. He was elected a Vice President of the Society for Research in Higher Education in 2007.

In the next five years or so UK higher education faces a daunting set of challenges. The principal ones are a decline in the number of 18-21 year olds in the population, stagnating school achievements, increasing competition for international students, severe public (and private) expenditure constraints, and an inability or unwillingness to align costs with

income. In this lecture, Roger Brown shall speculate about what these challenges may mean for the structure of the sector. He shall argue that, unless something else happens, they are likely to lead to a system that is much more sharply differentiated by resourcing, reputation and location. There will also be a powerful effect on the curriculum, and especially

the range of subjects taught. The UK higher education system will look much more like the English school system, with disastrous consequences for the health, cohesion and reputation of UK universities and colleges.