



## **Current challenges for higher education and their future implications**

**1-2 April 2009**

**Royal Holloway, University of London**

### **Day 1 Wednesday 1 April**

Day one will largely focus on current challenges and their implications

1230 Registration and accommodation check-in (Foyer, Windsor Building)

1300 Buffet lunch

1400 Welcome, introduction and overview  
Tim Melville-Ross, Chair, HEFCE

1420 Current issues and challenges  
Sir Alan Langlands, Chief Executive, and directors

1450 Questions and discussion  
Chair, Chief Executive and directors

1530 Refreshments

1600 Quality, access and institutional missions: Current global challenges and their future implications  
David Ward, Past President of the American Council on Education and former Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison

1640 Questions and discussion

1700 Challenges debates:  
Three discussions to run in parallel:

- a) Public confidence in the quality of higher education: how should HE address concerns?
- b) What changes do universities and colleges need to make to withstand a global recession?
- c) What do universities and colleges need to do to maintain their autonomy?

1815 Close

## Evening programme

1900 Pre-dinner drinks (Picture Gallery)

2000 Dinner (Founder's Dining Hall)

Late bar (until 0200) (Medicine Bar)

## Day 2 Thursday 2 April

Day 2 will look at the features of HE that need to be sustained beyond the recession and over the next 15 years

Discussion/presentations on developing thinking of Strategic Committees

In each facilitated group the committee chairs will present the topics before opening up the discussion

Group 1:

Research and innovation (Paul Wellings)

Enterprise and skills (Alistair Balls)

Group 2:

Teaching, quality and the student experience (Tim Wilson)

Widening access and participation (Dianne Willcocks)

*Delegates will stay in the same room for both sessions – the presenters will swap places to enable delegates to participate in discussion on all topics.*

0845-0940 Session 1

0945-1040 Session 2

1040 Refreshments

1110 Plenary:  
Cross-cutting themes, to include Leadership, governance and management

1200 The Government's perspective  
Secretary of State

1300 Closing remarks:  
Tim Melville-Ross

1310 Buffet lunch and depart