

“Teaching Enhancement and Student Success” the proposed new funding model for Teaching Enhancement and Widening Participation: implications and strategies for the future

A joint conference from SEDA and the Association for Learning Development in Higher Education

Thursday 4th December 2008, University of Reading, Bulmershe Court Campus

Introduction

HEFCE has recently announced its intention to change the way it funds teaching enhancement and widening participation. The key proposals are to:

- combine the funding for improving retention, learning, teaching and assessment strategies, and teaching informed and enriched by research, to create a new allocation to support teaching enhancement and student success
- increase the funding for widening access by transferring the funding for improving retention
- change the calculations in determining the funding for widening access to recognise the costs of working in the most disadvantaged areas.

This will mean that the previous TQEF and widening participation/supporting student grant will now be allocated as one fund to be called the TESS. The impact of this will require institutions to reconsider how they resource existing activities and look for synergies and efficiencies in doing so.

This one day conference provides the opportunity to explore the impact of the change and the steps that institutions could make in response. It will also look at approaches institutions may adopt to ensure that neither widening participation, student support, learning development nor educational development are compromised through reduced funding and the removal of formal means of accountability to the funding body.

Presenters will include: Heather Fry, Director of Learning and Teaching at HEFCE, senior representatives from UK universities, experts from the fields of educational and learning development and human resources. The conference will additionally include case studies from UK institutions on how they are addressing the challenges proposed by the changes in funding.

The conference will take place on **Thursday 4th December 2008** at the Bulmershe Court Campus of the University of Reading – venue details will be sent on registration - from 10.00am to 4.00pm. The cost will be £79.00 per delegate including coffee on arrival, buffet lunch and afternoon tea.

