

School of Education Lecture Series 2023/24

Tuesday 6 February 2024
1630 – 1800 hrs

BC114 St Luke's Campus & Online

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Royal Holloway University of London



Diversity and doctoral education – how and why it matters

The aim is to explore issues & challenges underpinning the pursuit of diversity in European doctoral education. What does it involve? Is such a transformation already underway? Even in organisations committed to cultural diversity, there may be obstacles & tensions dependent on individual perspectives about diversity (Ely & Thomas 2001). Changes to doctoral education can have hidden pitfalls, as shown in a Nordic countries study of doctoral programme changes (Protiz & Wittek 2017). This research indicates that problems linked to new developments often end up being solved by doctoral researchers, not their institutions. The main themes considered in the seminar are: why diversity matters for doctoral education; the relationship of diversity to inclusivity & the relevance of Universal Design principles to doctoral study; examples of some important diversity matters, and finally, some remaining challenges to doctoral diversity.

Rosemary Deem is Emeritus Professor of HE Management at Royal Holloway University of London. Appointed OBE for services to HE & Social Science in 2013. 2015-2018 Chair, UK Council for Graduate Education, now UKCGE Life Time Member. Chair of Trustees, Sociological Review Foundation 2020 – present. Research interests: HE policy, governance, management, leadership, inequality, diversity, inclusion in educational settings, doctoral education.

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