

Higher Education in a Cold Climate

University of Bristol, School of Economics, 0A1 Priory Road Complex, Bristol BS8 1TN

29-30 June 2026

Monday 29th June

11.00 Arrival/refreshments – Social Sciences Café, Priory Road Complex, Bristol BS8 1TN

11.30 Welcome

11.45 – HE and social mobility

Nick Ridpath (IFS) - *Access to and returns to Oxbridge degrees*

Julia Diniz (Resolution Foundation) - *The long shadow: How childhood disadvantage depresses the earnings of university graduates in England*

13.15 Lunch

14.15 – Lifetime returns to HE and student behaviour

Natan Ornadel (IFS) – *The lifetime returns to undergraduate degrees in England*

Maria Kozlovskaya (Aston U) - *Self-control at university*

15.45 Tea

16.15 – **Keynote:** Peter Dolton (U Sussex)

Title – ‘The Demiseconomics of UK Higher Education’

17.30 – Close day 1

18.30 Drinks – Browns Brasserie & Bar, 38 Queens Road, Clifton, BS8 1RE

19.00 Dinner – Browns Brasserie & Bar, 38 Queens Road, Clifton, BS8 1RE

Tuesday 30th June

9.00 Arrival/refreshments

9.30 **Panel discussion: AI, the future of higher education and the labour market**

10.45 Coffee

11.15 – The effects of route to HE and the expansion of HE on outcomes

Yu Zhu (U Dundee) - *The Impact of Higher Education Expansion on Academic Match Quality and Discipline Premium: Evidence from the Student Number Cap Removal in England*

Christopher Lalley (Nottingham Trent U) - *The Effects of Route to Education on Degree Classification. An Analysis of Scotland's Articulation Policy*

12.45 Lunch

13.45 Impacts of subject choice on returns to education

Golo Henseke (UCL) - *Where STEM graduates work and what it means for earnings*

Judith Delaney (U Bath) - *Better to be worse? Do talented artists and musicians earn less?*

15.15 Tea

15.45 – Funding of Higher Education

Gavan Conlon (London Economics) - *The future of higher education funding across the Home Nations*

Lee Tyrell-Hendry (U Bath) - *(I Can't Get No) Education: Rationing & Optimal*

17.15 – Close day 2

Organizing committee:

Mike Peacey (U Bristol) mike.peacey@bristol.ac.uk

Gervas Huxley (U Bristol) gervas.huxley@bristol.ac.uk

Matt Dickson (U Bath) m.dickson@bath.ac.uk