

# HELOA

HIGHER EDUCATION LIAISON OFFICERS ASSOCIATION



## Welcome to the HELOA Anglia Newsletter

The Higher Education Liaison Officers' Association (HELOA) is the professional association of staff in higher education who work in the field of education liaison. Members provide information, advice and guidance to prospective higher education students, their families and advisers. HELOA was set up in 1990 and currently has members from over 140 higher education institutions (HEIs) in the UK.

All HEIs in the Anglia region are members of HELOA and are committed to providing high quality information and guidance about higher education to schools and colleges in the region. All members offer a range of activities for schools and colleges to raise aspirations and to support prospective students in making informed decisions about their future in higher education. HELOA Anglia members work closely with schools to support teachers in advising their students; and works with other partners including UCAS, Student Finance England, and Local Authorities.

The Anglia group have produced this newsletter to provide an introduction to the Anglia members, and what we can offer to your students. We hope that you will find it useful, and would be very pleased to hear from you about any issues that you think the newsletter should address in the future.



## Anglia Region Newsletter Spring 2011

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## Supporting Information, Advice and Guidance in Schools/Colleges

All HELOA Anglia institutions attend careers fairs and parents evenings; and offer a range of workshops and presentations to support prospective students and their advisors in making informed choices about their future. HELOA members provide generic information on areas including making choices, UCAS and personal statements, and student finance.

For more information on generic sessions and subject specific events or masterclasses, please contact HELOA Anglia HEIs directly.

## HELOA Anglia Committee

Chair: Karen Hinton,  
University Campus Suffolk  
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Secretary: Laura Anderson,  
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## Student Finance Update

[www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance](http://www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance)

Student Finance has been in the news considerably over the past few months, with many aspects of the changes in 2012 still to be confirmed. HEIs in the Anglia region will be updating their websites as the detail of the change is confirmed, and prospective students and their advisors are welcome to discuss finance 2012 directly with HELOA members. The key confirmed points are:

- Students applying for 2011 entry will face a maximum tuition fee of £3,375 per year, and will be able to apply for a tuition fee loan for this amount. Any changes to tuition fees for 2012 will not affect students who started their course in 2011.
- Students deferring entry to 2012, or applying for 2012 entry, will be affected by the planned changes to student finance.
- From 2012, universities will be able to charge a tuition fee of £6000, increasing to £9000 per year in exceptional cases.



- The income threshold for maintenance grants is expected to decrease, so students from households with incomes above £42,000 will have living support provided entirely from the student loan.
- Universities will no longer be required to provide a bursary for students receiving the full maintenance grant. Some universities may still offer financial support, with information on their websites.
- Graduates will begin to repay their tuition and maintenance loans upon earning a salary of £21,000 or more. The repayment period will extend to 30 years, and graduates will repay 9% of what they earn above £21,000
- Interest will remain linked to inflation, with additional interest charged to higher earners.

Blair Campbell, Student Finance England

## Finance and the Student Experience



Student Finance continues to be one of the most talked-about issues in higher education at the moment, and many students are concerned about the impact of the changes on their student experience. Some of the key messages that students should consider are:

### Graduate employment

The current job market is a tough one. However research shows that graduates are more likely to be in a job than those with lower qualifications. On average, a university graduate earns £100,000 more during his or her lifetime – net of tax – than someone who leaves school at 18.

### Repayment

Graduates will begin repaying loans from April after graduation, and once they earn over £21,000. On a salary of £25,000, graduates will repay less than £30 per month. Currently graduates begin repayment on a salary of £15,000, meaning that graduates under the new arrangements will have more money in their pocket after loan repayments have been made.

### Term-time employment

More students are considering part-time jobs and working during their holidays while studying, to support their term-time living costs. Universities provide guidance and support in finding part-time jobs, including vacation opportunities relevant to future careers.

### Enjoying the Student Experience

Students concerned about funding their student experience should contact universities to discuss financial support and bursaries. However, most students work part-time, and any student struggling with budgeting will be surrounded by other students having a similar experience. Universities will provide advice and guidance to students throughout their degree, about all aspects of finance and budgeting.

## Aimhigher

Unfortunately, it has been confirmed that Aimhigher funding will end in July 2011. All Anglia group universities currently work with Aimhigher, and HELOA recognises the valuable work that Aimhigher colleagues have done over the years, and the impact that Aimhigher has had for large numbers of students in the Anglia region.

Universities charging more than £6,000 per year for 2012 entry will be expected to commit to an access agreement with the Office for Fair Access (OFFA), which will require them to have programmes to widen participation. Regardless of the tuition fee, all universities currently involved in widening participation activities via Aimhigher are assessing how to continue with these activities. Teachers or advisors are encouraged to contact universities directly to discuss the availability of activities and events relevant to their students.

## University Open Days and Events in the Anglia Region

April	July	October
13 Writtle College	1 University of East Anglia	1 University of East Anglia
<b>May</b>	2 University of East Anglia	8 Anglia Ruskin University (Cambridge and Chelmsford Campuses)
4 Anglia Ruskin University (Harlow Campus)	7 University of Cambridge (see website for College and department open days)	8 University of Hertfordshire
4 Writtle College	8 University of Cambridge (see website for College and department open days)	8 University Campus Suffolk (UCS Ipswich)
6 Bedfordshire Higher Education Convention	9 University of Bedfordshire (Luton and Bedford Campuses)	9 University of Hertfordshire
7 Anglia Ruskin University (Cambridge and Chelmsford Campuses)	9 Writtle College	10 Anglia Ruskin University (Peterborough Campus)
17 Anglia Ruskin University (Peterborough Campus)	22 University Campus Suffolk (UCS Ipswich)	15 University of Bedfordshire (Luton and Bedford Campuses)
<b>June</b>	<b>September</b>	22 University of Essex (Colchester Campus)
5 Hertfordshire UCAS Convention	10 University Campus Suffolk (UCS Ipswich)	29 University of Bedfordshire (Luton and Bedford Campuses)
6 Hertfordshire UCAS Convention	17 University of Essex (Colchester Campus)	<b>November</b>
8 Writtle College	17 University of Bedfordshire (Bedford Campus) Sports	26 University of Bedfordshire (Bedford Campus)
11 University of Hertfordshire	24 University of Essex (Southend Campus)	27 University of Bedfordshire (Luton Campus)
15 Norfolk UCAS Convention		
16 Suffolk UCAS Convention		
17 Cambridge UCAS Convention		
18 University of Essex (Colchester Campus)		
23 Essex UCAS Convention		
24 Essex UCAS Convention		

## HELOA Anglia: Who We Are



Anglia Ruskin University

[www.anglia.ac.uk/external-liaison](http://www.anglia.ac.uk/external-liaison)  
[external-liaison@anglia.ac.uk](mailto:external-liaison@anglia.ac.uk)

With campuses at Cambridge, Chelmsford, Harlow, Peterborough and King's Lynn, over 30,000 students and 1,000 academic staff, we are one of the largest universities in the region and are gaining prominence both nationally and internationally.

We take great satisfaction in training many of the region's nurses, teachers, midwives and social workers. We are the largest provider of undergraduate courses in subjects allied to medicine, architecture, building and planning, and mass communication and documentation. We are also the second largest provider of undergraduate courses in business and administrative studies.

Upon graduation, three out of four of our full-time students enter employment in the region.



University of Bedfordshire

[www.beds.ac.uk](http://www.beds.ac.uk)  
[schoolsliasion@beds.ac.uk](mailto:schoolsliasion@beds.ac.uk)

The University of Bedfordshire is renowned for its vibrant, diverse and cosmopolitan student community – that includes more than 21,000 students and 1,200 members of staff from over 100 countries. A new institution with a long history of providing high quality education – we pride ourselves on teaching relevant and practical courses.

To date, £60m has been invested, providing our students with an extensive range of state-of-the-art facilities including, new £20m en-suite student halls of residence, a £6m Campus Centre with a £4.5m 280-seat theatre, and an £8m Physical Education and Sport Science Centre set to train athletes for the 2012 Olympics at the Bedford campus.



University of Cambridge

[www.cam.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate](http://www.cam.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate)  
[admissions@cam.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@cam.ac.uk)

The University of Cambridge is one of the world's top universities, with around 12,000 undergraduate students. We provide a challenging, flexible and individual learning experience in a wide range of subjects within the arts, social sciences, medicine and sciences. Cambridge is a 'collegiate' university, which means that as well as being part of an academic department students are part of a College community. Together the departments and Colleges provide students with superb facilities, contact with the very best minds, and lots of personal tuition and support.



## HELOA Anglia: Who We Are



University of East Anglia

[www.uea.ac.uk](http://www.uea.ac.uk)  
[schools@uea.ac.uk](mailto:schools@uea.ac.uk)

The University of East Anglia is a highly acclaimed institution with an international reputation, based in the beautiful city of Norwich. There are nearly 200 courses to choose from across four faculties: Science, Humanities, Social Sciences and Health. Accolades include winning the 2009 "What Uni" Student Choice Award and being voted 3rd amongst mainstream English universities in the National Student Survey. Students can enjoy facilities including the Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts and the £17.5 million SportsPark. The student union has also been voted the best music venue in the country by the Virgin Alternative Guide.



University of Essex

[www.essex.ac.uk](http://www.essex.ac.uk)  
[scl@essex.ac.uk](mailto:scl@essex.ac.uk)

The University of Essex, established in 1965, is one of the UK's leading academic institutions, ranked in the top ten for research excellence following the last Research Assessment Exercise (RAE, December 2008). We offer a wide range of undergraduate courses and postgraduate study opportunities that span our four faculties: Social Sciences, Science and Engineering, Humanities and Comparative Studies, and Law and Management.

Around 9,000 students study at our three campuses across the region. Our original campus is based in Colchester, with a new campus in Southend-on-Sea and



acting students studying in Loughton. Our first-class facilities include award-winning accommodation, a library with over one million books, a business hub, restaurants and bars, an art gallery and theatres. We also have an environmental commitment to a healthy and sustainable future and are one of the UK's most internationally diverse campus universities.



University of Hertfordshire

[www.herts.ac.uk](http://www.herts.ac.uk)  
[e.greening@herts.ac.uk](mailto:e.greening@herts.ac.uk)

The University of Hertfordshire is one of the UK's leading business-facing universities. We are an ambitious and entrepreneurial university with an international vision, putting students at the heart of what we do. We are focused on developing new and creative approaches to learning, teaching and research with a commitment to adding value to employers, enterprise and regional, national and international economies.

We have over 24,000 students and offer a wide range of courses, from Motorsport Technology to Paramedic Science. We pride ourselves on the facilities we offer our students including highspec living accommodation, state-of-the-art learning resource centres open 24/7, £15 million worth of sports and fitness facilities and the recently opened Forum offering students the opportunity to socialise and relax on campus.



University Campus Suffolk (UCS)

[www.ucs.ac.uk](http://www.ucs.ac.uk)  
[schoolsliasion@ucs.ac.uk](mailto:schoolsliasion@ucs.ac.uk)

UCS is one of the newest higher education institutions in the UK and is a modern approach to learning with centres across Suffolk complementing the campus development in Ipswich. UCS is academically strong, offering modern flexible modes of learning and innovative courses to meet both student and employer needs. Its degrees are jointly validated by the Universities of East Anglia and Essex and employability is at the core of all its courses. UCS offers degrees across Arts, Business, Health, Humanities, Social Sciences and Science.

The Waterfront Building in Ipswich houses the UCS Union café, Theta, which is also home to the Waterfront Gallery, an innovative and exciting exhibition space for UCS. The James Hehir Building is a new £21million building which is home to specialist teaching facilities including clinical skills laboratories, physiology and sports science laboratories, and an iLab. The ground floor is home to the new UCS Union bar, Kai.



Writtle College

[www.writtle.ac.uk](http://www.writtle.ac.uk)  
[info@writtle.ac.uk](mailto:info@writtle.ac.uk)

Writtle College campus is a unique place. The campus was first established in 1893 and it is set in its own 220 hectare estate with which includes landscaped gardens, working animal units, construction areas, workshops and retail, business and leisure operations. There is a lively community atmosphere on campus, with students from over 50 different countries. The majority of our students spend a large proportion of their course time using the diversity of the natural and built environments on campus for case study work, practical learning and hands-on work experience and business training.

We welcome the opportunity for students and schools to visit the College, speak with our further and higher education staff and meet with current students and get involved with practical sessions which cover a wide range of subject areas including Equine and Animal Science, Sport, Sustainable Environments, Design, Horticulture and Business.