



AHUA 2017 Spring Conference

hosted by



AHUA ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE, BELFAST (3 – 5 APRIL 2017)

Joining Instructions

We look forward to welcoming you to Belfast next month for the AHUA Spring Conference 2017.

Below is further information about the conference.

Conference hosts

The 2017 Spring Conference will be hosted by Ulster University, Monday 3 April - Wednesday 5 April 2017.

Ranked in the top 3 per cent of universities worldwide, Ulster University is a modern, multi-campus institution delivering high-quality teaching informed by world-leading research. Over 92 percent of Ulster University graduates are in employment or further study within six months of graduating, and this year Ulster University was recognised for the Most Improved Student Experience at the national Times Higher Education Awards.

We are very grateful to our sponsors for their generous support of the conference.

Gold Sponsors: Shakespeare Martineau, Mills and Reeve, Pinsent Mason and Unite Students

Silver Sponsors: Veale Wasbrough Vizards and Unitemps

Evening Sponsors: Saxton Bampfylde and Eversheds Sutherland

Conference itinerary

The conference runs for two days, and incorporates two evening functions.

Monday 3 April Conference and exhibition (12.00 – 17.00)

Welcome dinner at Parliament Buildings (19.30 – 22.30)

Tuesday 4 April Conference and exhibition (08.00 – 16.30)

Tour of Ulster University Belfast campus (17.00 – 18.00)

Gala dinner at Belfast City Hall (19.45 – 23.00)

Conference programme

Details of the conference programme can be [viewed here](#).

Accommodation

Accommodation has been booked at the Europa Hotel in Belfast city centre. Delegates may check in from 15.00.

Information on the hotel can be found [here](#).

Airport Transfers

Delegates are responsible for their own airport transfers. There are taxi ranks at both Belfast International and Belfast City Airport. A taxi from Belfast City Airport to Titanic Belfast takes approximately 10 minutes and will cost in the region of £6. The journey to the Europa Hotel will take 15-20 minutes (longer at peak periods) and cost approx. £10.

Transfers from Belfast International Airport will be approximately 40 minutes and cost in region of £25.

The two main taxi companies in Belfast are:

Value Cabs T. 028 9080 9080

FonaCab T. 028 9033 3333

Transport between conference venues

Complimentary coach transfers from the Europa Hotel to and from the conference venues will be provided. Coach pick up times are as follows.

Monday 3rd April

11.15	Rendez vous Europa foyer for transfer to Titanic Belfast
16.30	Coach departs Titanic Belfast for Europa Hotel
19.00	Rendez vous Europa foyer for transfer to Parliament Buildings
22.30	Return journey from Parliament Buildings to Europa Hotel

Tuesday 4th April

08.50	Rendez vous Europa foyer for transfer to Titanic Belfast
16.30	Coach departs Titanic Belfast for Ulster University Belfast campus
18.00	Coach departs Ulster University Belfast campus for Europa
19.20	Rendez vous Europa foyer for transfer to Belfast City Hall
23.00	Return journey from Belfast City Hall to Europa Hotel

Conference venue/ registration

The Conference is taking place at [Titanic Belfast](#), the world's largest Titanic visitor experience (recently pronounced World's Leading Visitor Attraction 2016).

Address: Titanic Belfast, 1 Olympic Way, Queen's Road, Titanic Quarter, Belfast BT3 9EP

Conference registration will open from 11.30 on Monday 3rd April at Titanic Belfast. Delegates are encouraged to arrive at Titanic Belfast between 11.30 and 12.00. Please make your way by lift to the conference level (5th floor) where lunch will be served at 12.00 before the conference gets underway promptly at 12.45.

Evening functions

The conference's evening functions will take place in two of Belfast's most iconic buildings, Parliament Buildings and Belfast City Hall.

[Parliament Buildings](#), commonly known as Stormont because of its location in the Stormont Estate, is the seat of the Northern Ireland Assembly. The welcome supper will take place in the 'Long Gallery', the location for political announcements and for receiving visiting dignitaries. The evening is being sponsored by Saxon Bampfylde.

The conference gala dinner will be held in [Belfast City Hall](#) by kind permission of the Lord Mayor of Belfast, Alderman Brian Kingston. Located in the heart of Belfast city centre, it first opened its doors in August 1906. A drinks reception hosted by Belfast City Council will be followed by dinner, sponsored by Eversheds Sutherland.

Dress code

The dress code for both evening functions is business attire. We recommend smart casual wear for conference sessions.

Delegate materials

This year, we will be minimising the use of hard copy brochures and papers. Delegate materials including the conference programme, workshops sessions, speaker profiles, sponsor information and maps will be available instead via the AHUA conference app. This can be downloaded from the App Store or Play Store at any stage before the conference. Please search for **AHUA Events 2017**. Please use your email address to sign in where your customised Agenda will be available.

Workshop sessions

During the registration process you were asked to indicate your choice of workshops and sponsor sessions. If you made a selection at that stage, your workshops will be detailed on the App..

Filming

This year, we will be employing a film crew to record members' views about HE policy issues, the current environment and their experiences of the conference. This will be used on the AHUA's website and social media to enhance our blogs and conference promotion. We would greatly appreciate your input to this and trust you will contribute.

Visitor information

For useful information on things to see and do during your stay in Northern Ireland, please [click here](#).

Key contacts

Finally, please feel free to contact me at any stage if you have any queries. My contact details are as follows:

Corinne Weatherup
T. + 44 28 9043 4320 or + 447899666043
E. corinne@event-ful.co.uk

We look forward to meeting you in April.
Yours sincerely



Corinne Weatherup

On behalf of the AHUA and Ulster University (Hosts of the AHUA Spring Conference 2017)

 SHAKESPEARE
MARTINEAU

MILLS & REEVE


Pinsent Masons

UNITE
STUDENTS


www.unitemps.com

 Veale Wasbrough
Vizards

Saxton Bampfylde

EVERSHEDS
SUTHERLAND