

TEACH-OUT SESSION

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Thursday 12 March 2020 / 11am-12pm
Debating Chamber, Falmer House

Vice-Chancellors' Pay

Australian and UK vice-chancellors' pay, widely seen as excessive, has been a near constant source of public scandal for a number of years. In both countries, this is set in a context of worsening employment conditions for all but senior managers and, in the UK, a decade of fierce pay restraint.

This session explores this issue from a governance perspective, tracing how the commercialisation and marketisation of UK and Australian universities has led to the adoption of corporate-style governance mechanisms in which VCs have become akin to CEOs. However, existing literature suggests that there is little or no relationship between VC remuneration levels and organisational performance. This is a serious equity issue; excessive remuneration undermines principles of fairness and diverts financial resources from educational and research organisational objectives.

Suggestions for reform will be made in conclusion.

