

# The Benefits of Having New Providers in HE

**Sarah Macdonald, Pearson Higher Education Awards**

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## New Providers?

- 19<sup>th</sup> Century – Durham, London, Belfast, Wales
- Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century – the civic universities
- The younger civic universities
- 1960s – “plate-glass”
- Open University
- 1992
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century – “new universities”
- Private providers and different models of HE provision

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# New providers .....

- allow the sector to evolve and move forward, reacting to or anticipating needs and opportunities while keeping the excellence of its heritage
- provide an opportunity to examine higher education through a new lens
- contribute to the development of a rich and diverse pedagogy
- enable wider participation and access to HE

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# What do today's new providers bring?

- Diversity of organisational structure and mission statement
- Greater freedom
- Clarity of vision and differentiation
- Greater choice for students (and employers) allowing the sector as a whole to adapt to the changing needs of society and the economy
- Imperative for excellence and rigorous QA

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# Case study - Pearson

- **Organisational Structure:**

- A FTSE 100 Company with diverse educational experience encompassing schools, FE, HE and professional education

- **Degree Design**

- Academic, employer and student voice of equal importance
- Degrees in the workplace and in liaison with employers
- Flexibility of delivery

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What will tomorrow's new  
providers bring?