



Regulatory Policy Institute
300 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7ED
www.rpieu.org

Annual RPI conference, Merton College Oxford, 7 and 8 September 2015

This year's conference will take a slightly different form from usual, with fewer platform presentations and more time for discussion of thorny issues.

Each session will have one opening presentation focused on the relevant topic, followed first by comments and thoughts from each member of a small platform panel, convened from conference participants, and then by extended discussion among those attending.

Monday

Session 1, 2pm

Mapping the boundary between consumer protection policy and competition policy: when does consumer protection become anti-competitive?

Lead speaker John Fingleton, Fingleton Associates

Panel discussants Jenny Block, Pinsent Masons
 David Stewart, Towerhouse

Break, 3.30pm

Session 2, 3.50pm

The economics and law of vertical restraints: where have we got to?

Lead speaker Mike Walker, CMA

Panel discussants Patrick Harrison, Sidley Austin
 George Yarrow, RPI

Keynote speech, 5.30 pm

Jonson Cox, Ofwat

Distinguished Fellows Dinner, 7.15 pm

Tuesday

Session 3, 9 am

Regulatory implications of networks in decline

Lead speaker Chris Decker, Oxford University

Panel discussants Martin Crouch, Ofgem
 Kyran Hanks, Royal Mail

Break, 10.30 am

Session 4, 10.50 am

Unbundling, ring-fencing and business separation policies across sectors: retrospective and prospective

Lead speaker Mary Starks, FCA

Panel discussants David Gray, GEMA
 Steve Unger, Ofcom
 Alan Sutherland, WICS

Lunch, 1 – 2 pm

Session 5, 2 pm

International competition among regulatory systems: how much does relative performance matter?

Lead speaker George Yarrow, RPI

Discussant Joe Perkins, NAO.

Zeeman lecture, 3.15 pm Steve Smith, Lloyds Banking Group, “The use and abuse of the notion of effective competition: Carroll, Orwell and McCarthy revisited?”

Close 4.15pm