Research Project Meeting Notes

‘Survey of student attitudes, expectations and behaviour in a new funding regime’
9 September 2014, University College London

- Summary of analysis and results – see PowerPoint

- Suggestions/things to think about:
  o Fixed effects of 1st/2nd years – could use Scottish and international students as a control for this
  o Or look at module evaluations to see how 1st and 2nd years rate things differently?
  o 2nd years may/will answer differently about their expectations before university compared to when they were in 1st year
  o Normally around 10% self-reporting error but have to think who took the survey/who attended at the end of term
  o How universities treat[ed] high fee paying first years
  o 2nd year marks count towards the degree (independent study and attendance)
  o Compare question of whether students miss lectures because the material has been covered before with whether they have an A-level
  o Demanding more contact hours isn’t new with the higher fees – effects of NSS and previous fee increases

- Individual findings:
  o UEA – attendance dropped in 2014
  o UCL – independent work dropped in 2014

- Ideas for further analysis (some fee related others less):
  o Think about whether students have become more savvy consumers (this may be less noticed at Russell Group universities)
  o Think about if students are satisfied more generally
  o Are students behaving differently overall?
  o Think about different types of students – “good” vs. “lazy” – look at attendance and average A-level tariff for university/A-level result
  o Is the high/low fee a distinction regardless of the actual fee?
  o Different income families may behave differently – look at whether family members went to university
  o Are there regional differences in value judgements (London/South group compared to North)
  o Look at mean/median results (Fisher and Mann Whitney tests)
  o Economics vs. other students – look at HEPI data

- Notes:
  o If you add international students into non-treated group, would have to add a year variable

- Next steps:
  o Release data and Stata file
  o Individual universities look at their data and raise queries to see if other universities have found the same
  o Discussion board on EN website
  o Create small analysis groups to look at certain issues
  o Presentations at DEE 2015