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Time: 14:00 - 14:30

## Overview of a Higher Education Secure Document Shared Service

**Speaker:** Jonathan Dempsey, Digitary

### **Abstract:**

The Higher Education Funding Council for England ([www.hefce.ac.uk](http://www.hefce.ac.uk)) announced on 7 February 2011 that it will fund the introduction of "a service for the secure distribution of electronic documents including official graduation documents, transcripts, status letters and the Higher Education Achievement Report"(1).(2)

The introduction of this service is intended to make it possible for institutions to move from the current practices of either 1) producing paper documents and responding to authentication requests by phone or fax or 2) the implementation on-site of a system for the secure issuing and authentication of electronic documents. This will be replaced with a shared approach and system for the issuing and authentication of secure electronic documents. The intention of this project is to seed a Shared Service that can in turn make it possible for institutions