

## A HIGHER PARTNERSHIP TKP joins THE

15 December 2020

The Knowledge Partnership (TKP) is pleased to announce that it has been acquired by THE (Times Higher Education), bringing together two specialists in higher education, data insights and reputation consulting.

Founded by David Roberts and Louise Simpson in 2004, both former directors of university communications and marketing, TKP has supported many UK and global universities with strategic insights to enhance reputation and university courses.

The Knowledge Partnership will continue as a separate company, under its own brand, working with UK and global clients and running its World 100 Reputation Network for leaders of the best universities independently. However, its collaboration with THE, one of the best known names in higher education for five decades, means that both organisations will be able to work together to provide global universities with a wider range of insights around student choice, portfolio management and reputation consultancy.

It joins THE's portfolio at an exciting time. THE, formerly part of TES Global, was acquired by Inflexion Private Equity in February 2019 following a period of rapid global growth, with offices in the UK, US, Australia, Hong Kong and Singapore collecting data from more than 3,500 universities and working with 800 clients globally across its data, consultancy and hiring services.

**Louise Simpson, Managing Director of TKP** said: *“THE and TKP already have a long history of collaboration through research, events and sharing platforms. By bringing our two companies together under the THE brand, we're able to share our rich depositories of data and experience of the higher education sector to take that relationship to the next level. With our combined expertise, we will provide even deeper insights for universities across the globe. Equally, The World 100 Reputation Network will continue to function independently, through TKP and its steering committee of university leaders. However, the new partnership with THE will unlock many synergies for our member universities. Altogether it promises to be a very exciting time.”*

**Paul Howarth, CEO at THE,** commented: *“Despite Covid-19, THE continues to experience the rapid organic growth it has seen over the past five years of its evolution into a powerful global data business. Now, with the backing of our investors at Inflexion Private Equity, we're in a position to strengthen our position in the market through strategic acquisitions, like that of TKP. We look forward to working with Louise, David and the wider TKP team to provide an unparalleled global data insight service for higher education.”*

\*\*\*ENDS\*\*\*

## NOTES FOR EDITORS:

### ABOUT TKP

Founded in 2004 by David Roberts and Louise Simpson, The Knowledge Partnership (TKP) is a dedicated higher education consultancy, supporting universities with data insight to enhance reputation, student recruitment and university portfolio management. It is known for its high standards of advice, data analysis, and benchmarking tools, and the World 100 Reputation Network, which it established and manages.

The World 100 now delivers reputation research and events each year to over 40 of the best global universities in the world.

### ABOUT THE

THE is the world's most authoritative source of data, analysis and information on higher education, with five decades' experience dedicated to the field:  
[www.timeshighereducation.com](http://www.timeshighereducation.com)

### Contacts and more information:

- [www.timeshighereducation.com](http://www.timeshighereducation.com)
- [www.theknowledgepartnership.com](http://www.theknowledgepartnership.com)
- [www.theworld100.com](http://www.theworld100.com)
- Louise Simpson, Managing Director, The Knowledge Partnership, Director, The World 100 Reputation Network: 00-44-7977506722
- Harry Huskisson, Head of Communications, Times Higher Education: 00-44-7471355250
- The acquisition was negotiated by Frazer Hall Limited:  
[stephen.frazer@frazerhall.com](mailto:stephen.frazer@frazerhall.com): 00-44-7770986763