Tariff Entry Requirements for Surveying Degree Courses in the UK

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UK Construction Higher Education Sector
✦ Falling application numbers
✦ Falling graduate numbers
✦ Increasing industrial demand for graduates
✦ Above average earnings for graduates
✦ Consistently top of graduate employment league tables

RICS - Agenda for Change
✦ “Vision of high quality education”
✦ “highly competitive entry to courses at undergraduate and postgraduate level”
✦ “elevate the status of the RICS qualification”
✦ “RICS has access to high calibre graduate output”

Admissions threshold
✦ A-levels are a crude yardstick
✦ Acts against Government and RICS initiatives
✦ Narrows participation
✦ Penalises non A-level students
✦ HE sector very concerned at impact
✦ Much criticism in press

RICS Response
✦ Claim that threshold had increased numbers
✦ Predicted further increases
✦ “New starters will hit 5000 mark”
✦ Published statistics combined UG and PG
✦ At odds with HE experience
✦ Analysis of statistics revealing
Detail of Changes
✦ Increase in number of RICS centers
✦ Increase in number of RICS courses
✦ Massive increase in PG numbers
✦ Reduction in UG numbers
✦ Threshold only effects UG courses - no entry threshold for PG

Degree classification and A-Level correlation
✦ Large body of research
✦ Black and William (2002)
✦ Bekhradnia and Thompson (2002)
✦ Universities UK (2003)
✦ Case study at SHU

RICS New Proposal
✦ Raise threshold higher
✦ No evaluation of impact of original
✦ Full figures unpublished
✦ Very short consultation
Thank you for listening