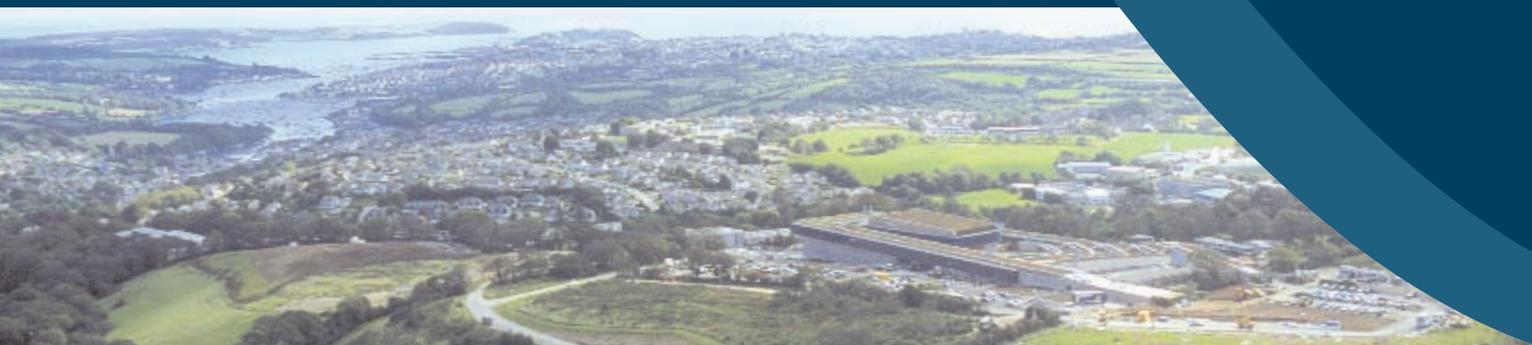
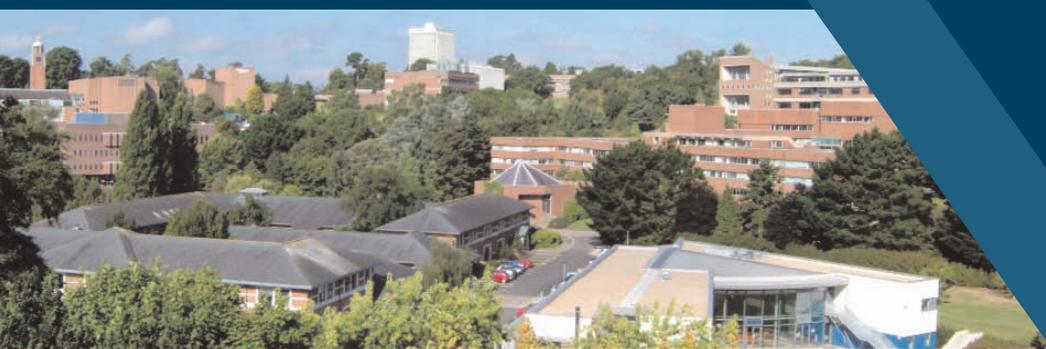


UNIVERSITY OF
EXETER

Annual Report 2005



Vice-Chancellor's introduction

The University's Golden Jubilee year saw a step change in the University's performance.

Research awards increased by nearly 70%. The University came joint tenth in the National Student Survey. High quality new staff were appointed. Important new facilities like the campus nightclub strengthened the student experience. Major projects like Great Western Research were secured. Income from business and other non-traditional sources rose by 40% to nearly £16 million.



Higher education is becoming ever more competitive, particularly amongst the top ranking universities. And it's not just competition in the UK. Increasingly, we have to compete against universities in the USA, Europe and Australia.

Competition takes place against a background of major national change. That change is clustered around three main areas of activity. The first is variable fees. The second is research concentration. The third is widening participation.

The term variable fees is a bit of a misnomer, since most universities will charge students £3,000 a year from October 2006. The significance of this change, for universities, is that it turns higher education into much more of a marketplace than ever before. Students are becoming much more demanding in terms of the support they receive, the facilities they use and the likelihood of their getting a good job at the end of their studies.

In that context, spending £1 million on the Lemon Grove nightclub becomes a sensible investment. It also informs our thinking in raising the quality of student accommodation, updating lecture theatres and putting aside funds to revamp the Students' Guild building, Devonshire House, this summer.

Research concentration is pressure number two and it simply means that available resources are increasingly being concentrated in the highest quality research teams. Such is the impact of this change that after the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), I expect there to be only 20 to 25 universities that are properly funded for research. Exeter must be one of those universities and we are therefore putting a great deal of effort into maximising our performance in the 2008 RAE. This includes running a 'pilot' RAE with external assessors in 2006.

'2005 was a pivotal year for the University of Exeter. Following major restructuring of academic activities, staff in all areas have responded magnificently to the challenge of making Exeter a top 20 university.

I believe we are well placed to achieve that aim by the end of the decade.'

The amount won in new research awards rose from £11.5 million to £19 million. Monitoring of the research outputs of each member of academic staff shows a major improvement in the quality and quantity of publications. Our research outputs will be further strengthened by the £14 million Great Western Research project led by Exeter and also involving Bath, Bristol and the other South West higher education institutions. External validation of research quality came in the shape of Exeter's third Queen's Anniversary Prize.

Exeter has become a place which easily attracts high quality new staff and we have been able to make some wonderful appointments at levels ranging from lecturer to professor. In all, we have announced 112 new academic jobs, including 13 new professors. The people we appointed in previous years are also living up to their promise, so much so that we need to make sure that we retain them at Exeter. 2006 is likely to be an active year in the RAE 'transfer market'.

Widening participation means recruiting students from a wider range of backgrounds. We do very well in supporting disabled students and have just picked up a *Times Higher* Award for this achievement. We are improving when it comes to recruiting students from different ethnic backgrounds and from poorer backgrounds. Our bursary scheme for students from poorer backgrounds will see around £3.5 million a year going into bursaries once the scheme is running at steady state. Bursaries of up to £2,000 a year will be available nationally and up to £4,000 a year in the region from September 2006. In 2005 we conducted a trial of the scheme, putting £100,000 raised from alumni into bursaries.

In Cornwall, we finalised plans for Phase 2 of the Cornwall campus near Falmouth. This represents an investment of £24.5 million on top of the £65 million invested in Phase 1. Work will begin on Phase 2 in 2006, enabling the launch of new degrees in 2007. The Cornwall campus has quickly established itself as a popular choice for students with applications rising year on year, bucking the national trend for 2006 entry.

2005 was a pivotal year for the University of Exeter. Following major restructuring of academic activities, staff in all areas have responded magnificently to the challenge of making Exeter a top 20 university.

I believe we are well placed to achieve that aim by the end of the decade.

PROFESSOR STEVE SMITH
VICE-CHANCELLOR

Research developments

Creating a university that 'is recognised internationally as research intensive and world class.'

UNIVERSITY CORPORATE PLAN

Professor Roger Kain, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of research, said:

'The 2008 RAE is absolutely vital to the University's future success so we are taking a great deal of care to get it right. The signs of growth in both the quality and quantity of research are very encouraging and a testament to the hard work of staff.'

Gearing up for the RAE

The University's research strategy underwent a major overhaul in 2005 to help the institution prepare for the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise. The aim is to improve both the quantity of research grant awards and the quality of research publications and other outputs. Both measures are showing significant growth.

The value of research grant awards rose by nearly 70% from £11.5 million to £19 million in 2005. Monitoring of individual staff research outputs is also revealing a significant rise in quality. Assessments to date indicate that nearly all staff are already working at the University's quality target. These encouraging results will undergo further analysis with the help of external assessors in a 'pilot' RAE to be held during 2006.

The research strategy also sets targets for the number of research council studentships awarded to the University, the number of postgraduate research students, compliance with research council requirements for training and supporting students, infrastructure, and developing a Bioscience Strategy.





Strengthening the South West – £14 million research collaboration announced

South West Universities, with the South West of England Regional Development Agency and HEFCE, have formed a ground-breaking £14 million partnership to boost research in areas of vital economic importance to the region. A total of 145 new researchers are to be appointed in areas ranging from nanotechnology and economic psychology to sustainable development and advanced engineering.

Called Great Western Research, the project is led by and run through the University of Exeter on behalf of its lead partners, Bristol and Bath universities, and the other ten South West higher education institutions. It is the first step in a much wider plan to build stronger relationships between researchers in the region. The director of GWR will be David Billington, former Head of the School of Life Sciences at Aston University and currently Director of Discovery at L'Oréal Research in Paris. He will take up the post in April 2006. Funding for the project comes from the South West of England Regional Development Agency (South West RDA), the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), businesses and the universities themselves.

Professor Steve Smith, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Exeter, said: 'It will enable universities to collaborate on research which is both of international quality and important for the future prosperity of the region. Universities have, of course, often worked together in the past, but this project signals a step change in the degree of collaboration. We believe we can do a much better job for the region if we pool our strengths and develop joint projects. This in turn will enable the region's businesses to be a step ahead of the competition.'

The 145 researchers comprise 15 postdoctoral Research Fellows and 130 Postgraduate Research Studentships, which will be awarded to meet industry needs. A South West Postgraduate Training Network will be established. This will provide collaborative high-level training and new training space for future research professionals who will be needed in knowledge intensive industries. The project will run through until 2010.



Major recruitment drive boosts research performance

The University has launched a major recruitment drive to gear up for the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise. In the spring 52 new academic posts were advertised followed by a further 60 in January 2006, including 13 new Chairs.

Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor Paul Webley said: 'The next RAE is crucially important for Exeter and we need to be as strong as we possibly can. The calibre of candidates has been extremely high and we have been able to make some stunning appointments. People have always been attracted to the quality of life in Exeter and the beautiful campus, but now there is a growing realisation that the University is going places. This makes the University a very attractive proposition for ambitious staff.'

Professorial appointments made so far include:

David Butler, previously Professor of Water Engineering at Imperial College. He joins the School of Engineering, Computer Science and Mathematics.

Allen Moore, previously head of department and head of the environmental biology group at Manchester. He has joined the School of Biosciences and is based at the Cornwall campus near Falmouth.

Murray Grant, previously a Reader at Imperial, who has been appointed to a Chair in Plant Biology in the School of Biosciences.

Paul Cloak, previously Head of Geography at Bristol, joins the School of Geography, Archaeology and Earth Resources.

Getting (researchers) together

A scheme to bring together academics from different disciplines to develop joint research projects has been launched by the University. It is designed to showcase beacon areas of excellence which have been identified as strategic priorities. It also responds to changes in national research funding. Increasingly, research funders demand that projects be multi-disciplinary, co-funded, sustainable, and often developed in partnership with non-academic users of research.

The University's aim is to focus on areas of research excellence by developing ITNs (Interdisciplinary Thematic Networks). A fund of £480,000 has been set aside to support eight ITNs. This will pay for 40% teaching buyout for ITN directors, administrative support and an operational budget.

The Director will manage major funding applications and contribute to funding applications by members of the network.

Research findings

Queen's Anniversary Prize for pioneering Exeter diabetes researchers



The Queen's Anniversary Prize recognises the world-class work of the Peninsula Medical School in combating diabetes. Scientists have identified new forms of diabetes, developed new treatments and then trained frontline medical staff to use them. Their work has meant that hundreds of patients, many of them children or babies, have been able to come off insulin injections and transfer to tablets. This has made it much easier for patients to control their blood sugar levels and dramatically improved their quality of life.

The scientists' research focuses on monogenic diabetes. This is much less common than Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes, but nevertheless affects around 50,000 people in the UK alone. Monogenic diabetes itself comprises many different subtypes, all resulting from changes in a single gene.

'A team of scientists who have transformed the lives of hundreds of diabetes sufferers have been awarded one of higher education's most prestigious prizes.'

Professor Andrew Hattersley, who leads the research team, said: 'It is only in recent years that we have begun to identify and unravel monogenic diabetes. It means that many patients have been misdiagnosed and treated as if they were suffering from the more common forms of the condition. We have patients who have been injecting insulin for 20 years or more who can now treat their diabetes with tablets'.

As the genetic subtypes of diabetes were unknown until the 1990s, integrating this new genetic knowledge into clinical care is a major educational problem. Most healthcare professionals have had little or no training in genetics. Dr Maggie Shepherd and Dr Sian Ellard, who work with Professor Hattersley, have therefore launched a variety of educational initiatives. These include a website for patients and healthcare professionals (www.diabetesgenes.org) and educational programmes for doctors and nurses. Most importantly, with funding from the Department of Health, they have set up a training programme in genetics for specialist diabetes nurses throughout the UK.

Diabetes patient Tracey Davies, from Yeovil, is one patient who has benefited from this work. She was able to transfer to tablets after 17 years of injections.

Said Mrs Davies: 'It's made an amazing difference. For years I had to inject insulin before every meal. I was a walking pincushion! When I was first diagnosed no-one knew about monogenic diabetes so the research done at Exeter has really made a difference to people like me.'



A major future challenge is to define the genetic susceptibility to Type 2 diabetes, the commonest form of diabetes, and to use this information to improve both treatment and prevention. This will only be achieved if studies can be performed with a large enough sample size to ensure sufficient power to enable the multiple genetic components to be defined. The Exeter scientists have collaborated with colleagues in Oxford, Imperial College, Queen Elizabeth College, London, Cambridge and Newcastle to establish a unique collection of DNA from patients with diabetes and have played a central role in collaborations within the UK and internationally.

This trailblazing work is important because it points to the next phase of medicine. Rather than trying to define what is best for a group of patients with a condition such as diabetes it becomes important to subdivide this group so that doctors can make a more individualised choice on medicines that are best for this specific patient.

This is the second Queen's prize won by a member of staff at the Peninsula Medical School. The Dean, Professor John Tooke, won a Queen's Prize in 1996 also for work on diabetes. It is the third Prize won by the University.



Applying the Nelson touch to today's leaders

Nelson fan and Director of Exeter's Centre for Leadership Studies Jonathan Gosling has co-authored a new book which looks at how the great seaman led his sailors to success after success. He believes there are ten leadership lessons to be drawn from Nelson's life.

Lesson 1: Why be a leader?

Simple. Nelson wanted to be the top man in his field and he believed he could do it better than anyone else.

Lesson 2: Can you succeed if you're not an expert in the particular field you're working in?

Nelson was the ultimate professional, having begun his training whilst still a boy and assuming command in his teens. It's more difficult to carry people along with you if you're not one of them.

Lesson 3: Can you make the jump from middle to senior management?

The Royal Navy of Nelson's time was extremely good at training lieutenants and captains, but admirals had to find their own way. This is just as true today for leaders of big organisations.

Lesson 4: Leading from the front.

Nelson was almost fanatical about this, losing various bodily parts in the process. When his ships were under fire and bearing down on the French, ratings were allowed to get under cover but officers were expected to stand up and take their chances. As well as tremendous physical courage, Nelson also had a great deal of moral and mental courage. He believed that what he was doing was the right thing and he saw situations as they really were.

Lesson 5: Don't compromise.

In these days of work-life balance, the reality might be that you are more likely to succeed as a leader if you are single-minded about your objectives. This was certainly the case for Nelson.

Lesson 6: Teamwork.

A great deal has been written about Nelson's devoted sea captains, known as his 'band of brothers.' This was certainly true at the Battle of the Nile in 1798 where he had brought on a group of captains, but by the time of Trafalgar he had a much larger fleet and shared that bond with only a few others. However, those few communicated his orders and spirit to the others. This is similar to large organisations today where leaders usually have a small number of senior managers with whom they work very closely and others they see less often.

Lesson 7: Trust.

When Nelson's captains disappeared over the horizon he had to trust them to do things as he wanted. Despite email and other modern forms of communication today, leaders of multinational organisations have to rely on their managers to get the job done.

Lesson 8: Leading and managing.

There is a cliché which says that leaders change things and managers sustain things. Nelson did both. He was a great strategist, but he also spent a great deal of time trying to make sure his sailors had the right food and equipment. Respected leaders today are often diligent about the detail as well as the bigger picture.

Lesson 9: Why should others follow you?

It's not just because it says so in your contract. There is no set formula for doing this, but you have to inspire people and make them believe in you. Nelson was a master at this.

Lesson 10: What's your legacy?

Nelson was definitely thinking about his legacy, but even he would probably have been surprised that it has endured and grown to such an extent. Great leaders are usually very good at articulating how actions taken now will lead to longer term and wider benefits.

Nelson's Way: Leadership Lessons from the Great Commander is published by Nicholas Brealey Publishing at £12.99



Fish and coral reefs are good for each other

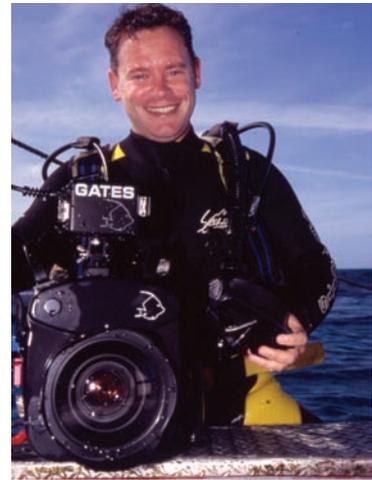
It may be no surprise that marine reserves protect the fish that live in them, but now scientists from the University have shown for the first time that they could also help improve the health of coral reefs.

In a paper in the prestigious journal *Science*, Dr Peter Mumby and colleagues looked at how a marine park in the Bahamas was affected by the return of the reef's top predator, the Nassau Grouper. Researchers were concerned that an increase in groupers could have an adverse effect because they feed on parrotfish, which play a vital role in maintaining the reef ecosystem.

Dr Mumby, from the School of Biosciences, said: 'While an increasing number of larger predators is essentially good news we had concerns that this might result in a decrease in the numbers of parrotfish, which could ultimately damage the health of the reef. More than 20 years ago sea urchins in the Caribbean were wiped out by disease, leaving parrotfish as the main grazer of reef surfaces. The fish use their teeth to remove seaweed from the reef, which allows new corals to settle and grow. This grazing process is essential to the health of the system.'

Caribbean reefs are still trying to recover from the devastating effects of an El Nino bleaching event in 1998, which caused widespread damage to coral around the world. Dr Mumby found that marine reserves might provide exactly the right conditions to allow this to happen. Interestingly, once parrotfish reach a length of around 28 cm, they become too big for even the largest grouper to swallow. This 'escape' from a risk of predation means that most reserves are unlikely to reduce the amount of grazing even after the number of predators rises.

Added Dr Mumby: 'Diving in the Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park was fun because a large number of sharks turned up to watch us work. Sharks have been heavily fished on most coral reefs so it's always a thrill to visit one of their sanctuaries.'





'It's very surprising that a notion of common law marriage has survived after so long and that it's still so widely held to be true.'

The project was funded by the Nuffield Foundation.

Common law confusion

Six out of ten cohabiting couples think they're in a common law marriage which offers them the same rights as if they were actually man and wife. But there has been no such concept in English law since 1753. Is it any wonder they're confused when the law sometimes treats them as if they were actually married and sometimes as completely separate people?

More and more couples are choosing to cohabit and more than a quarter of all children are born to cohabiting parents. The fact that so many of these couples are confused about their legal rights is a serious problem. The extent of the problem and the issues surrounding it have now been revealed for the first time by a team led by Professor Anne Barlow, of the School of Law.

She said: 'It's very surprising that a notion of common law marriage has survived after so long and that it's still so widely held to be true. It still exists in some countries, such as certain parts of the USA and Canada, but it has been long dead in England and Wales.'

Part of the confusion is undoubtedly caused by the law treating people who cohabit in different ways in different contexts. Married and cohabiting couples are treated exactly the same when it comes to social security. Both, for example, are entitled to Child Tax Credits if they have a child and are treated as married when claiming means-tested benefits. But with important issues like inheritance and state pensions, cohabiting couples are likely to get nothing or at best a much worse deal. Similarly, when relationships break down, cohabiting couples do not get the family law remedies designed to protect family members on divorce. They are dependant instead on property law which largely ignores the family relationship. It affects not only what adults do, but what standard of living their children can expect if their parents' relationship ends through separation or death.

Added Professor Barlow: 'If you're married and you get divorced then you are entitled to maintenance and some redistribution of family assets in appropriate circumstances. If you're cohabiting you aren't entitled to anything, except for the children if you have any. There is a similar problem with inheritance when one partner dies. If you're married your partner automatically inherits all or most of the property if you do not leave a will. If you're cohabiting, you have no will and the property is in your partner's name, then you get nothing. Even if the property is in joint names then you may well only get to keep your half with the remainder going to your deceased partner's family.'

The evidence is that cohabiting couples don't look into these issues and blithely assume that if the relationship breaks up they will be looked after by the law as if they were married. So seriously is the research being taken that the Law Commission has begun a study to see if the law needs to be changed to give cohabiting couples more protection. It is due to report in 2007. In the meantime the Department for Constitutional Affairs has set up a website to advise couples on their rights. Called the Living Together Campaign it can be found at: www.advicenow.org

Exeter Professor wins national prize for Naval History book

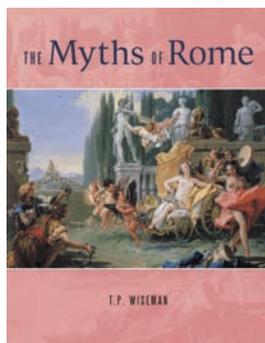
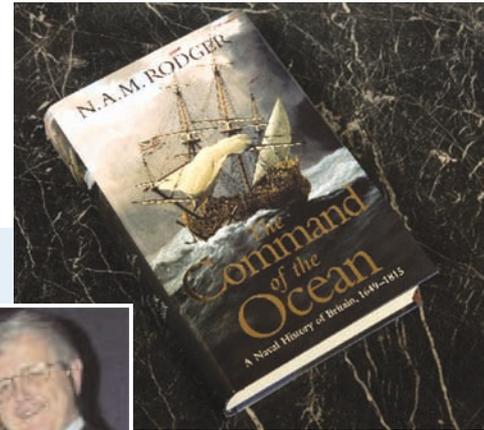
Professor Rodger has been writing his naval history of Britain for 15 years, and the end result will be in three volumes.

He said: 'Naval history has shaped our agricultural, medical, religious, political and economic life. We cannot understand the history of Britain as an island if we do not have naval history at the centre.'

The second volume of a comprehensive naval history of Britain has won the 2005 British Academy Book Prize. *The Command of the Ocean: A Naval History of Britain, 1649-1815* is by Nicholas Rodger, Professor of Naval History at the University of Exeter. Another Exeter Professor, Peter Wiseman, also reached the shortlist with his book *Myths of Rome*.

The Academy's Book Prize celebrates scholarly works within the humanities and social sciences that will also appeal to the non-specialist general reader.

At an award ceremony held at the Academy in December, Professor Alan Ryan, Chairman of the judging panel, said: 'Professor Rodger's book securely anchors the Royal Navy on the bedrock of the nation, instead of leaving it to drift in the backwaters of maritime history. Rodger shows that in striving for command of the ocean between 1649 and 1815, Britain was undertaking a project of unrivalled size, length, complexity and expense. His exhilarating breadth and authoritative depth of scholarship enable us to understand how this was achieved in the face of formidable odds.'



The Command of the Ocean: A Naval History of Britain, 1649-1815 is published by Allen Lane, Penguin Books. *The Myths of Rome* by T.P. Wiseman is published by the University of Exeter Press. Peter Wiseman is an Emeritus Professor in Classics and Ancient History at the University.

Established by Royal Charter in 1902, the British Academy is an independent learned society promoting the humanities and social sciences. It is composed of about 750 Fellows elected in recognition of their distinction as scholars in the humanities and social sciences.

Top awards for stargazing duo

'...the group will expand their work modelling the birth of groups of stars in clouds of gas and dust light-years across.'



Two Exeter astrophysicists have been named amongst the brightest and best young researchers in Europe. Dr Matthew Bate has won a prestigious award worth around £800,000 to create a world-class research team, which will investigate how planets and stars form. Dr Bate beat more than 500 applicants from across Europe to win one of the 25 European Young Investigator Awards, which are given to help outstanding scientists carry out cutting edge research. By using computer simulations the group will expand their work modelling the birth of groups of stars in clouds of gas and dust light-years across, and study how young planets evolve as they are assembled in the discs of gas and dust around newly born stars.

Dr Andy Bunker has won a £50,000 Philip Leverhulme Prize, one of just 20 awarded each year to young researchers whose work is already of international quality. He has developed techniques using the Hubble Space Telescope and the largest telescopes on the ground to discover the most distant objects yet seen in the universe. These are about 12 thousand million years away – so light has been travelling more than twice the Earth's age to reach us.



Teaching and Learning

‘Providing a living and learning environment with the quality to attract the best research, graduate and undergraduate students.’

UNIVERSITY CORPORATE PLAN

Top ten for student satisfaction

‘...we must use this result as a platform to improve still further the educational and social experience that our students have, on all our campuses.’

The first ever National Student Survey surveyed more than 170,000 students at 128 universities and colleges about the quality of their course.

According to a ranking devised by the *Times Higher*, Exeter ranked joint tenth in that list on the basis of a response rate of some 70% of our final year students. A total of 1,743 Exeter students gave their views on teaching, assessment and feedback, academic support, organisation and management, learning resources, personal development and overall satisfaction.



Schools were provided with a breakdown of how they scored within the overall Exeter result and have made service improvements during the course of the year.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Janice Kay said: ‘The result was particularly gratifying since the survey took place in the middle of a major refocusing process. It is a real tribute to the dedication of the University’s staff and the quality of the educational experience that our students receive. However, we must use this result as a platform to improve still further the educational and social experience that our students have, on all our campuses.’

The Survey was commissioned by the funding councils for England, Wales and Northern Ireland, the DfES and the National Union of Students. It is designed to give potential students information about the quality of courses at different institutions. The results are published on a new Teaching Quality Information website – www.tqi.ac.uk/home/index.cfm – and will no doubt find their way into the league tables published by various newspapers. The 2006 survey took place in January and February.

*Cornish couple
Terence and
Margaret Trevorrow
set up a new fund
in memory of their
two children to help
students at the
University's
Cornwall campus.*

*The Carolyn
and Andrew
Trevorrow Memorial
Fund provides
grants towards the
cost of home and
overseas field trips.
Five awards were
made in the
summer.*

Bursaries to aid access for poorer students

Bursaries for students from poorer backgrounds are becoming an increasingly important part of the University's recruitment activities. Exeter was one of the first universities in the UK to commit to a bursary scheme in the run-up to the enactment of the 2004 Higher Education Bill. The University has now finalised details of its scheme which will support up to 700 students from families earning under £37,500 a year. This will see a commitment of £1.1 million in the first year rising to £3.5 million a year after three years. The money will come from the increased tuition fees which are being charged nationally from September 2006. Bursaries of up to £2,000 a year will be available for UK students with special provision of up to £4,000 for students from 'partner schools' in Devon, Cornwall and Somerset.

As a 'trial run' the University invested £100,000 in a bursary scheme in 2005 and around 30 students signed up. Among them is Psychology student Ashley Coad, from Bodmin. He said: 'This has certainly made things a lot easier. It has helped towards the accommodation and opened up a lot of opportunities.'



A further 60 students benefited in 2005 from scholarships provided by the Iraqi businessman Naim Dangoor. He settled in the UK in the 1960s and decided to give something back to the country that befriended him by donating £1 million to be shared amongst members of the 1994 Group of universities, to which Exeter belongs. A thousand awards of £1,000 each have been made with Exeter receiving 60. Again, the awards were aimed at students from poorer backgrounds.

'Preparing students for a life of learning.'

UNIVERSITY CORPORATE PLAN

Education which is fit for the future

'Active learning not only provides benefits in terms of degree awards, but is designed to equip students with the skills that employers value most highly.'

A new education strategy designed around teaching that is both 'active' and research-led was launched by the University.

The strategy sets out the fundamental principles of an Exeter undergraduate and postgraduate education over the next five years. It aims to deliver the 'best possible educational experience for the University's students.'

Research-led teaching means that students will be taught by high quality academic staff, the majority of whom will be internationally recognised in their fields. Students will not only receive the most up-to-date teaching, but will also benefit from the high quality support staff, facilities and resources required by top researchers. They will have the opportunity to participate in original research and scholarship. The University will also help undergraduates to see the potential to continue as Master's level and Doctoral level students from the outset of their university education.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Janice Kay said: 'Active learning not only provides benefits in terms of degree awards, but is designed to equip students with the skills that employers value most highly. It requires academic staff to think carefully about teaching methods and assessment and requires investment in support for staff in developing e-learning resources, so that learning can take place not only in the classroom and laboratory, but also independently and wherever students are based. Students will have to learn to reflect more on how and why they are learning as well as what they are learning. This requires support and training, especially in personal development planning, development of teamwork and tutorial support.'

Supporting active learning will be an increasing range of employment-related opportunities and work experience modules which will be integrated as far as possible into the curriculum. Students will be encouraged to become independent and lifelong learners who can also provide leadership, support and mentoring to others. This emphasis has long been reflected in the considerable amount of volunteering work that Exeter students carry out (over 100,000 hours a year). The approach of developing self-sufficiency in the context of a strong community spirit will be augmented by the emphasis the University will place on personal health, community action, and social well being. The University will continue to invest in an attractive and stimulating physical environment, including high quality student residences, sports facilities, and campus. Sustainability and green issues will be at the forefront of our development, and will be reflected in programme portfolios and research, especially at the Cornwall campus.





Postgraduate developments

A number of service improvements to the postgraduate experience have been developed over the last year.

The appointment of Dr Steve Gaskin as Director of Skills Training within the Graduate School has resulted in an expanded and enhanced generic skills training programme. It is very important that postgraduates have the opportunity to add other skills to the subject knowledge they gain through teaching or research.

The programme for 2006 now includes over 45 different workshops and seminars, many with external consultants. New sessions in project managing the PhD have proved to be especially popular. Exeter is now one of the top universities in the UK for the provision of this type of training. Confirmation of this fact is provided by UKGRAD choosing Exeter to organise a national training event here in the summer.

Allied to generic skills training are a number of other new opportunities.

These are:

- An e-portfolio which gives postgraduates a professional-looking space to post their research on the University website.
- A monthly PhD forum where students can present their research to fellow postgraduates and practice the art of making academic presentations.
- More opportunities for postgraduates working in similar areas to work together on generic research issues.



Students

Getting involved in record numbers



2005 was a remarkable year for the Students' Guild with a massive upsurge in interest in clubs, societies and volunteering.

More than 8,500 students signed up to 90 different Guild-affiliated societies at the 2005 Squash. This is 2,000 more than the same time in 2004.

Community Action, the Guild's volunteering arm, now boasts the highest number of student-led projects in the country. More than 500 students are taking part in Community Action's ten student-led projects and 100-plus community partnerships.

The Vice-Chancellor Professor Steve Smith said: 'Volunteering has grown massively in recent years and has become one of the things that makes Exeter stand out from other universities. I am deeply impressed by the scale and the range of volunteering activities. They begin each September with the work of the Welcome Team who help the Freshers to settle in. And they carry on right the way through to August when the Kids Activity Week volunteers provide a break for disadvantaged young people. Equally impressive is the way in which the volunteers themselves manage these diverse contributions to student and community life.'

RAG started the academic year in rude health, with a record-breaking 2,000 people signing up to take part in fundraising activities. The aim is to break the 2005 record total of £78,000 and raise over £100,000 by July 2006. RAG events range from the traditional, such as a three-legged pub crawl and pool tournament, to some that are uniquely Exeter like the legendary Safer Sex Ball, the largest World AIDS Day event outside of London.

To complete the record-breaking start to the year, more than 600 students joined Exeposé (the students' newspaper), Xnet (online news and views), Xpression FM (the radio station) and XTV (the tv station). Week 4 of the autumn term saw the publication of Exeposé's 500th issue. Having started as an A4 newsletter back in 1987, Exeposé has developed dramatically over its 18-year lifespan. Xpression FM will turn 30 in 2006 and a number of large events are already being planned.

The Students' Guild also adopted a new corporate identity in 2005 and relaunched its website in the new livery.





The University has played its part in developing the student experience at Exeter by investing £1 million in refurbishing the Lemon Grove nightclub. This included fitting it out with the same sound system used in top clubs in London and Ibiza. The investment is part of the University's strategy of developing the student experience in a holistic way, including social as well as academic facilities. This will continue in the summer of 2006 with the refurbishment of the Guild's building, Devonshire House.

On the same day in September as the opening of the Lemon Grove, the Guild and the University opened 'The Works'. This is an employment shop designed to find students part-time work at university and also to provide them with information about careers and training opportunities. In keeping with this year's trend of students getting involved, The Works has been hugely successful and exceeded its annual targets in the first quarter.

Exeter student volunteers are an example to all

Community Action, the volunteering service offered by the Students' Guild, was adopted as a model of best practice by the Higher Education Active Community Fund (HEACF).

The work is based on a successful partnership between the University, Students' Guild, Volunteer Centre and community organisations. HEACF funding enabled Community Action to employ a full-time officer, Patrick Weaver, to run their various projects. He has put in place a Community Partnership Programme, ensuring organisations and opportunities are screened and student volunteers are trained, inducted and supported. Since then the Programme has gone from strength to strength with more students than ever before volunteering in their local community.



Enquires from organisations wishing to join the programme average one per week and by the end of July 2005 Community Action had sustained active links with 16 community organisations and developed links with 20 new organisations.



Feedback from local volunteer organisations involved with Community Action has been hugely positive.

Cathy Pelikan, Social Support Co-ordinator for Age Concern Exeter, said: 'Working with you wonderful people has been probably the loveliest job I have done in my life. Thank you – it's been a real pleasure.'

Jonathan Lear, former co-ordinator of Exeter's Side by Side scheme, a project which matches volunteers with learning disabled adults living in the city, said: 'Great organisation, great volunteers. The students who have volunteered with Side by Side have made a real difference to the lives of their clients and also those of the clients' parents. Community Action has really proved to be a success for Side by Side.'

Stephanie Chivers, Manager of The Ivy Project, said: 'I have to say in all my time working with young people I have never worked on such an exciting project; everyone who worked on it was fantastic. We were in awe of Community Action's efficiency and attention to detail.'

David Wright, of The Olive Tree Project, said: 'The classes we run in the community tend to include a very diverse range of learners, with very different needs. This always makes it difficult for the tutors to make sure everyone in the classes gets the full attention they need. The volunteer students from the University, working alongside the teachers, have made it much easier for the tutors to offer one-to-one support.'



Induction is fun

Having to jump through hoops and climb over the backs of fellow Freshers might not sound like the ideal start to student life. But over 1,000 first years have done just that – and claim to have enjoyed the experience!

A growing number of first years are taking part in special induction events early on in their first term. These involve a number of exercises and presentations which help them get to know one another faster and to develop skills like team work and problem solving. It also links to personal development planning which encourages students to think about how to get the most out of their course and a job at the end of it.

University Learning and Teaching Adviser Liz Dunne said: 'The team development programme started off in a small way but has grown each year as more and more of the University's academic schools come on board. Next year we hope to involve the entire first year.'

Supporting disabled students

The University won a national award for its support for disabled students.

The award, made by the *Times Higher*, was announced at a ceremony at the Dorchester Hotel in London. It recognises the work carried out by the University's Disability Resources Centre. Due to their efforts, the number of disabled students at the University has risen from 60 in 2000 to 748 in 2005. Nearly 5% of students are in receipt of a disability allowance.

The Disability Resource Centre was opened in 2000 and has grown to provide a comprehensive range of services for students. It is home to a team of professionals who provide services for students with Specific Learning Difficulties. It is unusual for a research-led institution to have such a comprehensive additional learning support service for disabled and/or dyslexic students. The Centre also provides an assessment service for any disabled students in the region who are planning to go to university. The students are assessed for the Disabled Students Allowance before they leave home and a report is sent to their university detailing their specific needs. There is no waiting list for this service, which also provides a quick turn-around time for reports.



The Centre has an impressive assistive technology service, which includes a CCTV magnifier for people with visual impairment, ergonomic keyboards, and a tactile diagram printer, which creates embossed diagrams. There is a supply of dictaphones, digital voice recorders and laptops that can be loaned out to students in need of immediate support.



Busy sport

The completion of the fourth and final phase of an £8 million facilities development plan was completed by the summer of 2005. This allowed staff to turn their full attention to developing sports performance and improving management of the facilities. 2005 was also the busiest ever year for sport at Exeter with a total of £684,000 generated directly from users.

The focus of the Sports Office was directed in two key areas. Firstly to support talented sportspeople through the government-funded Talented Athlete Scholarship Scheme (25 Exeter athletes are now funded through this scheme) and the University's own Sports Performance Programme. Secondly, to encourage more staff and students to adopt healthier lifestyles through the Sport and Wellness Board. This has entailed running an increasing number of courses and classes aimed at encouraging people to take regular exercise and adopt a healthy diet.

The University's Sports Scholars continued to make an important contribution to sporting success. Sailing scholars Nick Thompson, Charles Baillie-Strong and Andy Brooks took the top three places in the laser class to secure the University victory in the BUSA (British Universities Sports Association) Fleet Racing Championships. This confirms Exeter's reputation as the leading UK university for Olympic class sailing. Women's Badminton, led by sports scholar Caroline Simpson, reached the BUSA semi-final. The Golf 1st team, containing five sports scholars, won the BUSA title while squash scholar Marcus Yeap won the BUSA Plate Individual Championships. Lucy Boulton was selected for the England volleyball team and the Great Britain beach volleyball team.

In rugby, three students became regular starters for Exeter Chiefs in national league division one. In hockey, two students made it into the England U21 team that went to the U21 world cup. In golf, Exeter was awarded 'Royal and Ancient Foundation Status' (one of only three in England). In tennis, Exeter was awarded 'regional performance centre status' by the Lawn Tennis Association to develop talented young players.



Online registration

For the first time all students were able to register on-line for 2005 entry. The process was highly successful with 10,893 students using the on-line facility thereby reducing the time spent in queues at the start of term.

Outreach

‘Generating diverse income sources with less reliance on the state.’

UNIVERSITY CORPORATE PLAN



Investing in giving

‘...alumni feel very warmly towards the University and positive about the new direction being forged by the Vice-Chancellor.’

A major expansion of the Development and Alumni Office began with the appointment of Elizabeth Smith as Director of Development and Alumni Relations. Philanthropic giving will become of increasing importance over the next decade as the University aims to become less reliant on public funding. The expansion is founded on research into the attitudes of alumni and other supporters towards the University.

Said Ms Smith: ‘We know from the research that alumni feel very warmly towards the University and positive about the new direction being forged by the Vice-Chancellor. This is a very good foundation on which to base fund raising.’

Immediate priorities for the Development and Alumni Relations team are to expand the annual giving programme so that all alumni are contacted every year and offered the opportunity to support the University. Beacon projects are to be identified and there will be opportunities for donors to choose how they can work with the University to make a difference to causes close to their heart. Lay volunteers are being recruited to lead fund raising initiatives, communications with donors and alumni will be improved and a research programme set in place to identify more clearly those companies, charitable trusts and individuals, including alumni, who might give their support. A recruitment drive is now underway to add additional staff to the Development and Alumni Relations team.



‘International in outlook and impact expressed through reputation and profile with strong teaching and research collaborations with quality partners overseas.’

UNIVERSITY CORPORATE PLAN

It is hoped to grow the international student population at Exeter to 1750 by 2010.

Developing the international dimension

The University has begun a new initiative to enhance its reputation overseas. Growing the international student population is an important objective for the University and it takes place against a backdrop of increasing competition not just from other UK universities but also worldwide. A new strategy has been adopted which builds on the ‘mechanics’ of international recruitment by launching initiatives to enhance reputation and create new education and research links with overseas institutions.

Director of Student Recruitment and Admissions Dr John Withrington said: ‘Our strategy is based on the fact that you can only get so far by concentrating solely on traditional recruitment activities such as international recruitment fairs and overseas agents. We believe there is still the potential to recruit more from traditional activities, but we also need to reinforce this by creating overseas collaborations and undertaking reputation building activities.’

With so much competition in the marketplace the University has developed a three-pronged approach to recruitment. Firstly, Exeter will compete as effectively as possible in existing markets such as China and India. This will require extra investment in the International Office. Demand for courses will be mostly in the postgraduate taught area. Programmes offered by the Schools of Business and Economics, Education and Lifelong Learning and Humanities and Social Sciences will be in particularly high demand. Secondly, and in common with many other universities, Exeter is also looking to recruit more students from new markets such as Libya and Pakistan. Thirdly, Exeter is putting extra effort into developing markets where its reputation is already established, most notably in the Arab and Islamic world.

International collaborations with universities in China and Egypt are currently being explored. The benefit of such collaborations could include joint research and educational initiatives, a higher profile within the partner university leading to students wanting to study at Exeter, and a general raising of Exeter’s ‘brand awareness’ in the partner’s country as a whole. Enhancing Exeter’s reputation overseas will be partly delivered through overseas collaborations, but it is also hoped to engage alumni more and to encourage more staff to travel overseas.

The University currently has four active spin-out companies in which it has a share interest.

Over £1.4 million investment was raised for these companies during the year.



Major growth in business income

Work with business and other organisations continues to grow in value and volume. Total income from all interactions of this kind grew by 40% on 2003-04 and now amounts to £15.7 million.

Over half of our research funding is now derived from sources other than research councils and charities. Highlights of the year have been:

- the creation of two joint chairs with the Met Office;
- the £3.4 million EPSRC Basic Technologies Award between Physics and Biological Sciences for 2D Attogram Surface Plasmon Imaging with the University of Nottingham and industry partners;
- growing links with Rentokil Initial on the Psychology of office space; and with the Environment Agency and others on the impact of pollution on natural aquatic systems.

The University Link fund has been used by academic staff to offset the costs of making first links with new partners. Projects have been started with international players such as Shell Global Solutions, Corus Group, Glaxo SmithKline, TNT Express and Sony Computer Entertainment; national companies such as Bookham and Thales Optical Systems and local firms such as Graphic Electronics, Cornish Mines Rescue and the Cardrew Tea Pottery.

More than 40 projects involving intellectual property exploitation are now being developed by the Enterprise Development Office based in the Innovation Centre. Projects to detect malaria more quickly; improve skin quality; produce next generation recording media; develop software for rapid prototyping; produce driver road safety assessments; marine sensing techniques; and antimicrobial technology for use in agriculture all have the potential to deliver financial returns to the University and to the Schools and academics involved. Nine patents in photonics have been licensed by the Electromagnetic Materials group in Physics to a world leading defence and security company.

The University's Business Leaders Forum celebrated its 10th anniversary this year with its 50th event in December. The Forum has become a key part of the business life of the City. Its Shaping the Future series of presentations now regularly attracts audiences of over 250.

There has been success too in generating further external funding to support work with business. In October we won £700,000 from the European Social fund to support projects worth £1.8 million with women leaders in the Centre for Leadership Studies and organisational development in Psychology. The Careers and Employment Service will also be able to boost its careers advice service to new graduate leavers. In November we won a further £360,000 from

For the second year running income from consultancy via Exeter Enterprises topped £1 million, delivering over £300,000 back to Schools.

the South West Regional Development Agency – our share of the £4.3 million Knowledge Exploitation South West project which helps all South West higher education institutions to support local businesses. The project is being coordinated by Exeter.

A further project led by Exeter is the £14 million Great Western Research initiative which will fund up to 130 research studentships with South West organisations and a number of research fellowships. The project, supported by Higher Education Funding Council and the South West Regional Development Agency aims to launch an international profile for South West based research.

The School of Business and Economics has taken over the development of the University's Continuing Professional Development programme and strengthened its own Leadership Development programme for executives. Over 350 people are now engaged on bite-sized training building towards a Master's degree. The Centre for Leadership Studies also runs Leadership SouthWest which coordinates leadership research and resources in the region – and runs the Institute of Directors' development programme.

A science park in Exeter moved closer with the creation of a partnership board led by the University to seek a site and raise finance. A science park has been an aspiration for over 15 years and is now becoming a reality. It is hoped that this will create a follow-on space (see picture below) for the University's own successful Innovation Centre which is due for expansion in 2006-07.

‘Embedded in our local community, and playing a leading role in the South West region.’

UNIVERSITY CORPORATE PLAN

STEPPING to success



The University has achieved national success in a scheme to boost the employment prospects of students. The Shell STEP programme places students with small and medium-sized companies to undertake 'real world' business projects. Exeter is the Shell STEP provider for Devon and Somerset and put 39 students through the programme last year – the second highest number in the country. Exeter also has the fourth most employable students leading to one of the best recruitment rates to the scheme.

The Shell STEP programme complements the University's own Graduate Business Projects scheme, which places graduates with companies in the region. In partnership with Plymouth University, Exeter has recently secured European Social Fund money to run a new programme aimed at finding employment for unemployed or under-employed students in Devon. Called Devon Graduate Futures, the project aims to help 40 students over a two-year period.

National award for university-industry partnerships

The University's efforts to work with industry to turn academic research into marketable products and services earned it a prestigious prize from the Department of Trade and Industry. Exeter has been expanding its work in this area using a DTI-funded scheme called Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTPs). Since establishing a KTP Office at the University in February 2005 the number of KTPs has increased to 13 and the aim is to have a rolling programme of at least 18.

Projects are typically worth around £100,000 and last between one and three years. They are funded with help from the DTI who provide up to 60% of the project cost. One of those projects, involving the Department of Engineering and Exeter-based CH Medical, has been awarded a prize by the DTI for 'exemplary performance resulting in significant benefits to all partners.' CH Medical specialise in developing orthopaedic implants and anaesthesia products and the KTP involved developing a plate implant for use on femoral fractures. The development and production of the new plate and further projects at the R&D stage are expected to increase sales by £340,000. KTPs also involve the employment of a postgraduate student to run the project. Christos Pappas was able to complete his PhD, publish conference and journal papers and take up a full-time position as Biomedical Research Engineer.



Governance

Top 20 target for 'Project 2010'

*'...if you do what
you've always done
then you get what
you've always got.'*

Council has set the University's senior management the target of making the University top 20 by the end of the decade. The target will be based on a series of 'key characteristics' and 'key performance indicators' (KPIs) contained in a new University Strategic Plan.

Chair of Council Russell Seal said: 'It's very much my experience in industry that if you do what you've always done then you get what you've always got. The Plan therefore challenges the University to come up with new and more effective ways of delivering existing activities and also to develop new activities, such as creating international research and education partnerships. We have set our own measures of what constitutes top 20 performance rather than relying on the various newspaper league tables which all seem to have different agendas.'

The key characteristics and targets set in the Strategic Plan are:

- 1 Research-led and research intensive with work recognised internationally as world-class. The Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) relate to the percentage of research outputs rated U, 1*,2*,3* and 4* (the measures to be used in the forthcoming Research Assessment Exercise denoting research from ungraded to international excellence), research income per member of staff, and the number of postgraduate research students per member of staff.
- 2 A living and learning environment of the quality necessary to attract the best research, graduate and undergraduate students. The KPIs are student qualifications on entry and proportion of postgraduate students.
- 3 Offering an educational outlook that prepares students for a life of learning. The KPI is the proportion of graduates in graduate-level employment or postgraduate education.
- 4 International in outlook and impact as expressed through strong teaching and profile. The KPI is the proportion of overseas students.
- 5 Autonomy conferred through sound governance, strong management, diverse income sources with progressively less reliance on the State. The KPIs are non-State income as a proportion of total income and total income from consultancy and Intellectual Property Rights.
- 6 Embedded in the local community, socially inclusive and playing a leading role in the South West region. The KPIs are the percentage of UK students from the South West by level of study and the percentage of students from State schools and lower social class.

- 7 Sustainable environmentally and financially. The KPIs are income/expenditure, the strength of the balance sheet, the number of suppliers and staff costs as a proportion of total costs.
- 8 Investment-led. The KPIs are IT spend per student, library spend per student and capital expenditure.
- 9 Providing professional services with the skills necessary to support a market-led, creative and income-generating academic community. The KPI is the ratio of support staff to academic staff.
- 10 Tolerant, humane and liberal-minded, placing importance in values such as respect for others, pursuit of truth, equity and openness. The KPI relates to results from the staff survey.

New Chair appointed to University Council

A former Joint Managing Director of British Petroleum was appointed as the new Chair of the University's Council (its governing body). Mr Russell Seal took over as Chair of Council from Dr Geoffrey Pope, who sadly died in October 2005. Council has the job of making major policy decisions for the University on matters such as finance and personnel. Its membership comprises students, staff and members of the public.

Said Mr Seal: 'This is an exciting time to become Chair of Council. The higher education world is changing massively with new developments such as variable fees, widening participation and the increasing concentration of research funding into the UK's best departments. The University has undergone some important structural changes to enable it to prosper in this new environment and all the signs are that it is now on the up. Major improvements are underway in research, teaching and facilities. It is an honour to serve as Chair of Council.'

Mr Seal retired in 1997 as the Joint Managing Director of BP, where he ran BP Oil, BP's worldwide refining, marketing and shipping company. During his career he travelled widely and lived in New York, Rotterdam and Singapore. Educated at Keele University, Mr Seal moved to Devon in 1998 and has been a member of the University of Exeter Council since 1999. Two of his three sons were students at Exeter.

Council effectiveness

A review of the effectiveness of Council has made a series of recommendations to improve the way it works. These range from improving communication and discussion of strategic issues to better induction arrangements for members. The recommendations have been accepted by Council.



Satisfied auditors

An audit of the University's internal control arrangements has been carried out by the Higher Education Funding Council. It concluded that governance, audit arrangements and financial, strategic and risk management were all satisfactory.



Equal opportunities employment

Figures for the percentage of female staff employed in professorial, lecturer and senior administrative posts are showing a steady improvement. 16.1% of professors are female, 24.4% of lecturers and 44.2% of senior administrators. All exceed the Human Resources (HR) Strategy Initial Target. The percentage of Black Minority Ethnic (BME) Readers and Senior Lecturers has increased for the third successive year and now stands at 8.3%. This exceeds the HR Strategy Long Term target. There were no BME improvements in other staff categories.

Harassment

The number of cases of alleged harassment within the University fell from 17 to 11. Five of the complaints came from students and six from staff. There were no complaints of harassment on racial or ethnic grounds.

Student diversity

The proportion of students from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups increased last year from 9.9% to 11.5%. The number of students declaring a disability also increased, from 4.9% to 5.4%. Kate Devlin has been appointed as the University's first Equality and Diversity Manager.

The search for a new Chancellor

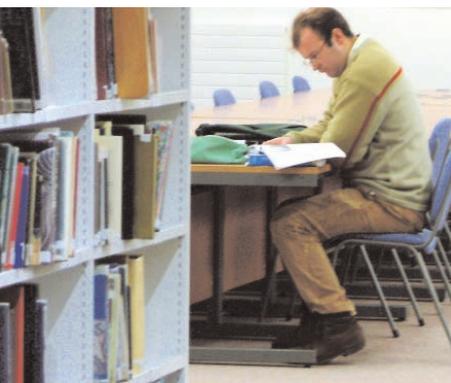
Recruitment consultants were appointed to headhunt a new Chancellor following the death of Lord Alexander in November. The consultants have drawn up an initial list of 17 names. It is hoped to make a decision in February 2006, appoint in April and have someone 'in post' in time for the summer degree ceremonies in July.

Investment

The Foundation reports back

The generous gifts of alumni, parents and other supporters were used by the Exeter University Foundation to help current students.

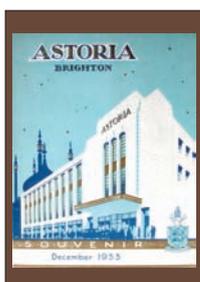
The first of 50 scholarships offered by the Foundation for students from the South West were awarded in the summer. The awards were designed to encourage students in partner schools who might not otherwise consider university, to raise their sights and apply to Exeter. Further scholarships will be awarded in 2006 and 2007.



The Foundation was able to make a generous grant of £15,000 to the Library to ensure continued online access by staff and students to multi-disciplinary e-journals. Exeter is now one of the top UK universities for provision of e-journals and has some of the most up-to-date metasearching and contextual linking facilities for researchers to find exactly what they want within the journals. A further £15,000 was used to provide new PCs used to access on-line works and £30,000 to provide a group study area in the main library equipped with mobile desks, screens and wireless network coverage for laptops.

Parents and families of graduating students gave £8,300 for books in the subject of their choice under the Student Family Library Bookplate Scheme.

The Foundation was keen to support the Sports Board's recognition of its wider responsibility for helping all students, not just those most interested in sport. The Foundation is funding a 'wellness' project officer for two years to develop student physical activity. The Athletic Union and the Sports Office have, in the past, jointly funded a programme for a restricted number of sports to assist talented players to improve their performance. Resources limited the number of sports they could help and they were particularly keen to include more women's sporting opportunities. With the Foundation's help they are now able to include Women's Cricket, Football and Rugby.



For a second year, the Foundation made a grant towards the costs of the Guild Arts Festival in June, which offers both performance and project management opportunities for students, their orchestras, bands, dance and drama troupes.

Following the tenth anniversary celebrations for the Bill Douglas Centre for the History of Cinema and Popular Culture, a Foundation grant underwrote the production of a new leaflet with four accompanying postcards to draw visitors into viewing the treasures held in the Collection.

The Foundation also helped the Centre put on an exhibition at an international film theory and practice symposium in April.

The University's Fine Arts Collection will have brand new specialist storage racks installed in their store in the Old Library following a grant from the Foundation.

Thanks to an endowment by friends and family in the memory of student Victoria Pearse, the students' Counselling Service is now able to regularly update their website and to produce leaflets describing the support they can offer ready for the new academic year. Victoria was tragically killed in a fire in her lodgings just before Christmas 2001.

A second annual grant of £5,000 has been made to the Fund for International Students' Hardship (FISH). This assists students from outside the UK who are experiencing hardship or facing unexpected crises.

The Foundation is a registered charity which supports the University and its students. A Board of mainly lay trustees oversee the University's fund-raising activities and ensure that gifts are disbursed to those for whom they were intended or used for the purposes agreed. Care is taken to ensure that Foundation funds are not used as a substitute for routine University expenditure.

Green light for dental school

A new £28 million dental school for the South West has been given the go-ahead. It will be based at the Peninsula Medical School and will have bases in Plymouth, Exeter and Truro. There will be places for 62 graduate entry students per year. The successful bid was chosen for its innovative approach to dental training.

Bill Rammell, Higher Education Minister, said: 'In developing a new Peninsula Dental School, Plymouth and Exeter Universities are building on their achievements in medical education by seating the training of dentists within the primary care services in which most of them will work after qualification.'

The Dean of the Peninsula Medical School, Professor John Tooke, said: 'We are all absolutely delighted at this news. A major driver for many of us involved in the Peninsula Medical School project has been the uplift in local healthcare that follows the development of an undergraduate medical school. The same is true of dental schools. Knowing how much unmet dental care need there is in Devon and Cornwall spurred us on in this intense competition.'

The Peninsula Medical School was also awarded an extra 33 undergraduate medical student places bringing its intake up to 214 a year. The dental school bid was approved by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) on the advice of a Joint HEFCE/Department of Health Implementation Group.





Cornwall Campus Phases 2 and 3

The first £65 million phase of the Cornwall campus has been a great success both in terms of attracting high quality staff and students. Opened in September 2004, the campus is shared with University College Falmouth and occupies a 70-acre site near Falmouth. Finance was provided by European Union and UK government funds.

Work on the second £24.5 million phase is due to begin in 2006 and be complete by September 2007. New degrees are to be launched in History, Politics and Law as well as an expansion of the existing English and Geography programmes.

With Cornwall eligible to receive another £450 million of European funding between 2007 and 2013, the University has been urged to be ambitious with its plans for Phase 3 of the Cornwall campus. Proposals have been tabled for three substantial research institutes, each with a core academic complement of up to 40 staff plus postdoctoral researchers and postgraduates. To underpin the recurrent costs the University would make a substantial bid for a further 1,000 undergraduate and 500 postgraduate numbers plus a substantial research fund.



Birks mark two

The generally unloved Birks student residences have been largely demolished and the University is now in the process of building a modern replacement. In the place of Brendon, Haldon and Raddon halls will be a new building comprising 361 en-suite student rooms. By the end of 2005 the project was 60% complete and is due to be finished in time for the start of the 2006 academic year.

This will be the last major student residence project financed by the University for the foreseeable future. New projects are to be provided by housing associations on a lease back arrangement to avoid the need for the University to further increase its borrowings. A number of potential sites have been identified to meet the needs of future expansion of student numbers.

The Crossmead conference centre site was put up for sale following the acquisition of outline planning permission for housing. The site is now surplus to requirements following the creation of new conference facilities on campus.



A lovelier Library

The Library has benefited from a £100,000 'makeover' in response to comments made by users in the Library Quality Survey. The University of Exeter Foundation has also funded a new group study area and wireless network points have been installed throughout the Main Library with the help of IT Services.

Saving energy

The University's water consumption dropped by 25% due to more effective leakage control and efficiency measures. In spite of increased water prices, the cost was reduced by 17%. Electricity consumption rose by 2% on the Streatham campus and by nearly 16% on the St Luke's campus. The University spends about £2.14 million a year on energy (£1.3 million on electricity, £613,000 on gas, £226,000 on oil) and £841,000 on water. Its CO₂ emissions are about 20,000 tonnes a year. Energy prices are expected to rise by 40% in 2006 making efficiency measures increasingly important.

Improving disabled access

A £1.1 million programme of access improvements was completed. Funded by a special grant from the Higher Education Funding Council (HEFCE), completed work includes new lifts in Amory and Haighton, new accessible accommodation at Rowe House and College House and improved access to Hatherly and South Cloisters. Further works include a lift and accessible entrances for Northcote House, remodelling of the entrance to the Old Library, access improvements to Laver and Streatham Court and a system to alert deaf people to fire alarms.

Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies extension

A benefaction of £650,000 has been pledged for the construction of an extension to provide extra offices. In addition, the Exeter University Foundation is to provide funding for a pond at the entrance to the building. It is hoped to complete the work by the end of September 2006.



People

A sad goodbye to some good friends

2005 saw the deaths of some major figures from the University's present and past.

The University's Chancellor Lord Alexander of Weedon died on 6 November following a long illness. Bob Alexander became a very well-known barrister and later Chairman of the NatWest Bank. He was installed as Chancellor of the University in October 1998 and was enormously successful and influential in that post. He was fascinated by the dilemmas and problems of running a university and devoted himself to finding out, in detail, what was going on and, crucially, how staff and students felt about their institution. He served as a sounding board for senior management, and as a passionate advocate for the interests of students.

Dr Geoffrey Pope, the University's Chair of Council, died in October. Dr Pope had been a member of the University's Council for 10 years and Chair of Council since 1999. He did a huge amount for the University and is remembered for his energy, his incisiveness and his good humour. A graduate of Imperial College, Dr Pope spent his career in the defence industry, acting as Director of the Royal Aircraft Establishment and Deputy Chief Scientific Adviser at the Ministry of Defence.

Professor Ted Wragg suffered a cardiac arrest while out running and died on 10 November. During his 30 years at the University of Exeter, Ted Wragg secured millions of pounds worth of research projects and wrote 800 academic articles and 50 books. He made many important contributions to UK education policy, a fact recognised by the award of five honorary degrees. Ted was not only a world class academic, but he was also the life and soul of the University.

Professor Harry Kay, who was Vice-Chancellor at Exeter from 1973-1984, died in December. His time in charge was a particularly difficult one as universities suffered swingeing cutbacks in public funding. Despite this, he was able to introduce new posts, fresh disciplines and some new buildings. A former Professor of Psychology at Sheffield University, during his time at Exeter he introduced the Research Fund and oversaw the St Luke's merger. The University awarded him an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Sciences in 1985.

Lady Aileen Fox spent 25 years as a lecturer in Archaeology at the University, retiring in 1972. She made a massive impact on our understanding of the archaeology of South Wales and the Roman archaeology of the South West. It was Lady Fox who persuaded the Exeter Cathedral authorities to allow the excavation of Cathedral Yard which revealed the legionary bathhouse and basilica. She died aged 98 in November.

Awards and appointments

Dr Sian Ellard, of the Peninsula Medical School, was recognised by the Department of Health CSO Healthcare Science Awards 2005 with an award for Innovation in Research. She is part of the research team of the Molecular Genetics Laboratory which has been investigating the genetics of diabetes.

The Glass Man is the title of the fifth radio play written by Professor Martin Sorrell, of the School of Modern Languages. It was broadcast on Radio 4 in December. The play is inspired by a short story of 1610, written by Cervantes. It concerns the strange case of a young man who becomes convinced that he's turned into glass. The cast included Saskia Reeves and Barbara Flynn.

The Dictators by Professor Richard Overy, of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, won two national book prizes – the Wolfson Prize in June and the PEN Foundation Hessel-Tiltman Prize for History in July. Professor Overy was also the British historical advisor to the most expensive drama ever produced by German television – *Dresden* – and consultant to the BBC's forthcoming three-part documentary on the Nuremberg Trials.

Janet Draper, of the School of Education and Lifelong Learning, was appointed as a Secretary of State nominee to the council of the General Teaching Council for England.

John Somers, of the School of Performance Arts, together with Glenn Roberts, of Devon Partnership NHS Trust, and Carly Mays, of the Exstream Theatre Company, have won the Southern region, Mental Health section of the Health and Social Care Awards for their interactive play *On the Edge*.

John Adair, the internationally recognised authority on leadership and management, was the first recipient of a new award sponsored by the University's Centre for Leadership Studies, Hewitt Associates, and Honda (UK). He was the first Visiting Professor of Leadership Studies at Exeter and played a crucial role in formulating the original plans for what became the Centre for Leadership Studies. The award honours lifetime achievement in the field of leadership studies.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Roger Kain, of the School of Geography, Archaeology and Earth Resources, received a CBE. He is a Fellow of the British Academy and also its Vice-

President and Treasurer, and a Fellow of University College London.

Professor Michael Winter, of the School of Geography, Archaeology and Earth Resources, received an OBE. He is Director of the Centre for Rural Research and his interests lie in the fields of rural policy, sustainable agriculture and food systems, and rural social change.

Professor Alan Gregory, of the School of Business and Economics, was one of five Competition Commission panel members on the London Stock Exchange takeover inquiry.

Emeritus Professor Peter Wiseman, of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, was awarded the Goodwin Award of Merit by the American Philological Association. The Award is the only honour for scholarly achievement given by the Association and is presented at the annual meeting for an outstanding contribution to classical scholarship. It's been given annually since 1951, and this is the first time it's ever gone to a British scholar not based in North America.



Golden Jubilee

The 2005/06 academic year marks the 50th anniversary of the granting of the Royal Charter which turned the University College of the South West into the University of Exeter

The award of the Charter on 21 December 1955 was the culmination of 100 years of higher education development in the city sparked off by the enthusiasm for educational progress created by the Great Exhibition of 1851.

First of all a School of Art was established in 1855. Then there was a School of Science. It was followed by the Exeter Technical and University Extension College which in turn became the Royal Albert Memorial College. The University College of the South West was created in 1922 and that became the University of Exeter 33 years later.

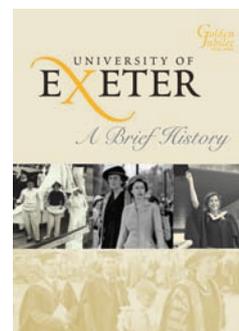
In 1955 the fledgling university had less than 1,000 students compared to the 13,500 students of today. Teaching was split between Gandy Street in the city centre and the few buildings then existing on the Streatham campus.

It wasn't until the 1960s that the move to Streatham was complete and the campus began to assume the shape we would recognise today.

The Vice-Chancellor Professor Steve Smith said: 'In deciding how to celebrate the Jubilee we were determined to come up with a selection of events which were inclusive. The history of the University teaches us that thousands of people have contributed to its development. As well as its staff and students, the University has been fortunate to gather together many friends over the years who have contributed their talent, time and money to help the institution progress. That is still very much the case today.'

On 21 December 2005 – 50 years to the day since the University was created by Royal Charter – more than 150 academics and other University staff held a torchlit procession through the city centre culminating in a spectacular firework display and a dinner in the Guildhall.

Golden Jubilee
1955-2005





On 1 October 2005 – the start of the Jubilee Year – more than 200 alumni, staff and supporters celebrated the Golden Jubilee at the Exeter Stars dinner in the Great Hall.

Still to come in the Golden Jubilee

17 March

Real Time Crises: New Real Time Tensions

A presentation by Nik Gowing, international news reporter and BBC World Presenter on how news will be reported in the future.

28 April - 7 July

Bridget Riley Prints 1962-2005

An exciting exhibition by the celebrated abstract artist Bridget Riley, in the Northcote Gallery, University of Exeter.

23 April

Jubilee Parents Day

A day dedicated to parents of current students. Come and explore the campus and hear about the latest developments at the University of Exeter.

11 May

Golden Jubilee Alumni Dinner

For the University's friends and alumni.

4 May

Shaping the Future lecture – Lord Robert Winston

A rare opportunity to encounter the eminent fertility expert and to hear first-hand about his vision for the future.

4 May

Employers' Information Day

A special open day for graduate recruiters to visit the University and meet staff and students.

17 - 18 June

Jubilee Weekend Festival

A weekend of concerts, lectures and performance for alumni, staff and students.

21 June

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra: the Jubilee Gala Concert

The Orchestra performs some of the all time great symphonies and concertos in the Great Hall.

VIP Visitors

A large number of influential people visited the University during the course of the year. The visits took place for a variety of reasons, including international delegations, honorary graduations and visiting speakers.



Abdullah Gül (LLD)



Jane Henderson (LLD)



Ben Ainslie (LLD)



John Allwood (LLD)



Sir Tom Shebbeare (LLD)



Michael Fish (DSc)



Floella Benjamin (DLitt)



Tony Robinson (LLD)



Jane Lapotaire (DLitt)



Admiral Sir Jonathon Band (LLD)



Stewart Purvis (LLD)



Baroness Usha Prashar (LLD)

Honorary Graduates

Abdullah Gül, Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey

Jane Henderson, the new Chief Executive of the South West Regional Development Agency

Michael Fish, weather forecaster

Floella Benjamin, actress, producer and writer

Ben Ainslie, Olympic Gold Medal winning sailor.

John Allwood, Executive Director of the Telegraph Group

Sir Tom Shebbeare, Chief Executive/Director of Charities, The Prince's Trust

Admiral Sir Jonathon Band, First Sea Lord

Jane Lapotaire, actress and author

Baroness Usha Prashar, Director of the Runnymede Trust

Tony Robinson, actor and author

Stewart Purvis, former Chief Executive of ITN

Sir Peter Mansfield, Nobel Prize-winning physicist

VIPs

Andrew Lansley MP, Shadow Health spokesman

Michael Barber, Head of the Prime Minister's Delivery Unit

Jonathan Porritt, Programme Director of Forum for the Future

Laurie Taylor, THES columnist

Bronwyn Hill, Regional Director of the Government Office for the South West

Michael Lake, former EU Ambassador to Turkey

Ian Diamond, Chief Executive of the ESRC

Lord Hannay, former British Permanent Representative to the United Nations

Lord Patten, former Governor of Hong Kong and co-chair of the International Crisis Group

Adrian Bailey MP

The Rt Hon Lord Butler of Brockwell

Michael Caines, Chef and Hotelier

Lord Edward George, former Governor of the Bank of England

The Hon Justice Sir Robert Owen, High Court Judge

The Rt Hon Lord Justice Stephen Sedley, High Court Judge

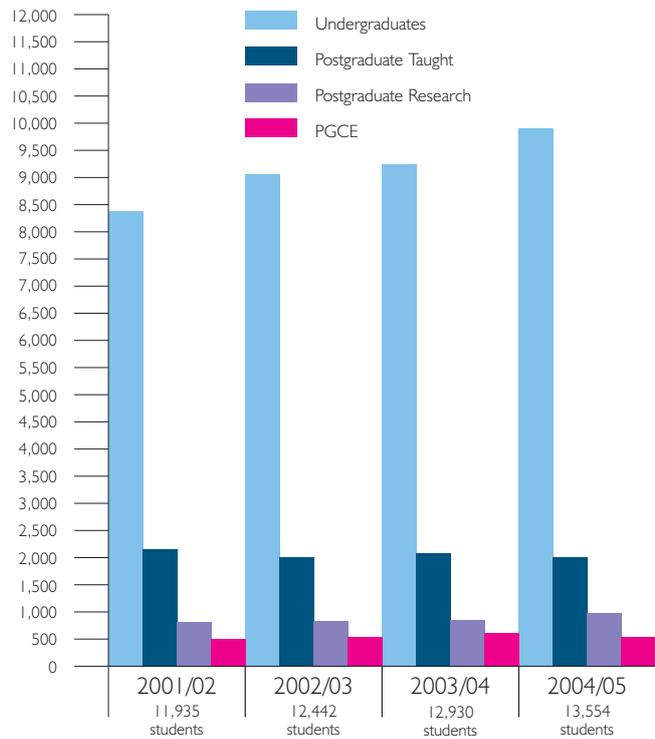
Ade Edmondson, comedian

Statistics

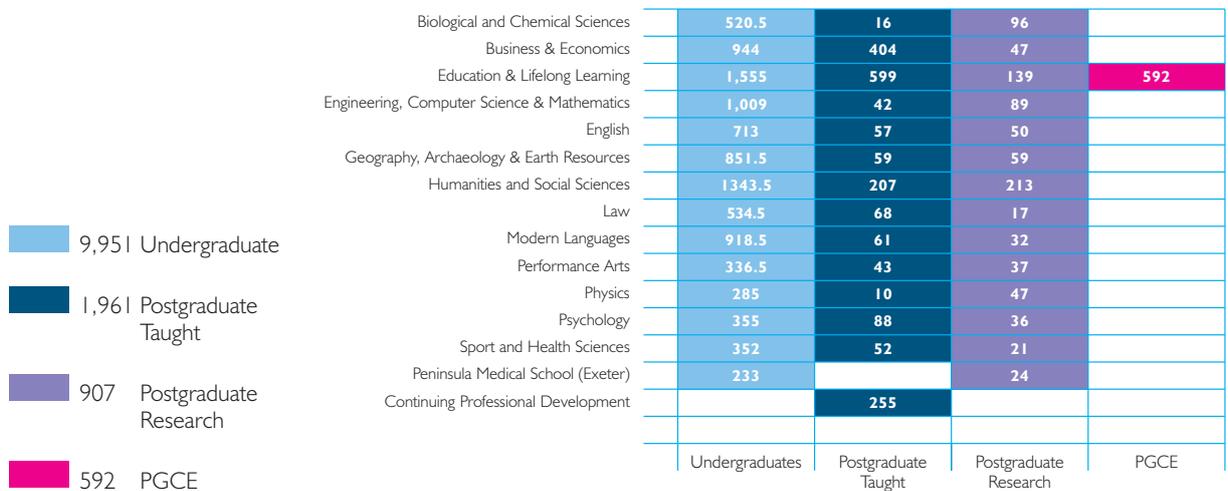
Total student numbers as at 1 December 2004

Male/Female Ratio 04/05

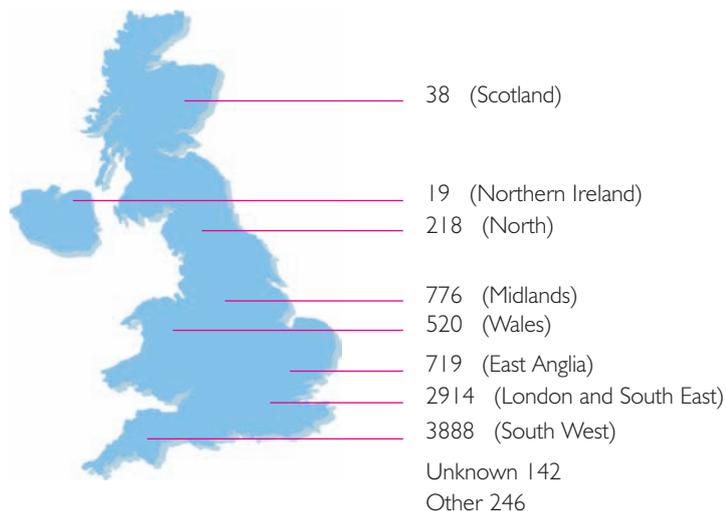
Female 53.10%
Male 46.90%



Student population of schools 04/05



Undergraduate UK student domicile 04/05

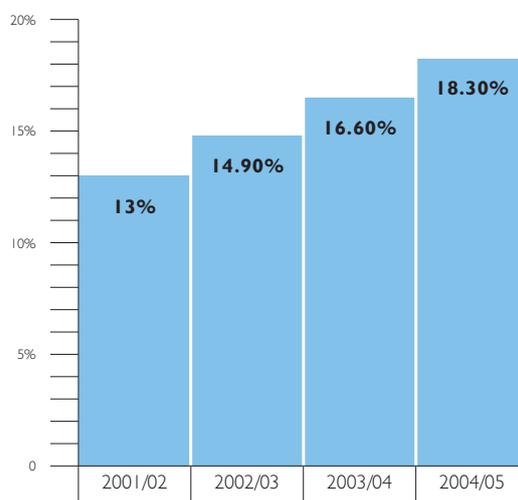


International student numbers by region of domicile 04/05

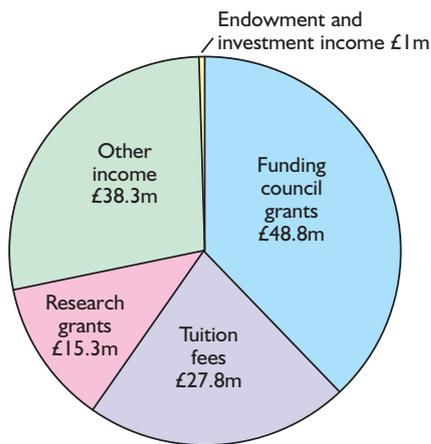
- 1 North and South America 183
- 2 Africa 67
- 3 Australasia/Oceania 7
- 4 Middle East and Gulf 120
- 5 Europe and Russian Federation 278
- 6 Asia 652



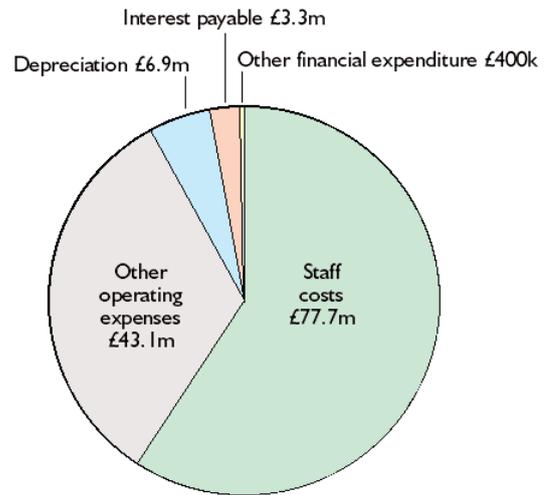
Proportion of students from lower socio-economic class



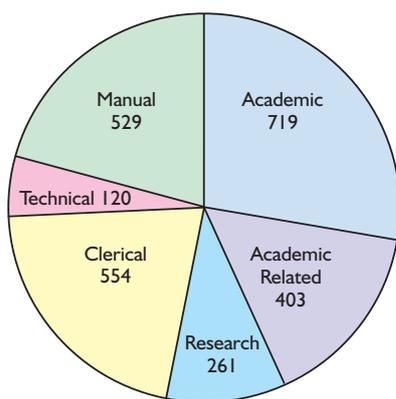
Where the money comes from



...and how the money is spent



Staff numbers



Research Awards

