



Reporter gazette

In order to keep staff in touch with institutional decision-making, the Reporter Gazette reports on the main business that has been considered by the Senate, the Council and their principal committees. This edition of the Gazette reports on business that was considered by the Senate and the Council at its meetings in May and July.

Committee papers will continue to be available at <http://papers.leeds.ac.uk/>

STRATEGY UPDATE

The University's Strategic Plan 2014-20

The University-wide consultation on the draft Strategic Plan for the years 2014-20 closed on Friday 27 June. Many valued detailed comments were received, some of which were included in the final draft that was approved by the Council on 24 July, and others which will inform the detailed actions now required to implement the plan and to achieve the ambitions within it.

The plan, *Increasing knowledge and opportunity*, is available on the [Strategy website](#). It focuses upon the University's core strengths in student education and research; on meeting the needs and aspirations of students, present and future, and regardless of their background; on making a step-change in the range and volume of world-leading research carried out at Leeds; and on developing effective partnership working with other universities, industry and the public and third sectors.

The plan also envisages new ways of working, which during the consultation period has been the focus of considerable interest: members of staff have expressed views respecting changes needed to the way that the University operates, with an emphasis on clarity of purpose, less bureaucracy; greater individual responsibility and accountability, and more flexibility and speed.

Further information on the delivery of the Strategic Plan and the new ways of working will be promulgated in the early autumn.

Social Sciences Research Strategy

The Senate has welcomed the University's new Social Sciences Research Strategy, drafted following consultation across the University and drawing on an analysis of REF2014 submissions.

The strategy identifies the following cross-disciplinary research themes as areas in which the University has the potential for world-leading excellence:

- Global Society and Business (international relations & security; global trade and business; international law; modes of governance & regulation in global societies; global development & social justice; culture; media & communications)
- Social Sustainability (economic and sustainable development; social policy; family and community; ethical organisations; work; business, cultural, educational, political, institutional, leadership and legal dimensions)
- Health and Society (applied health; health services and innovation in health management; health technologies and social practice)
- Cities (business; urban culture; institutions; social change and social inclusion; policing and criminal justice; infrastructure; sustainable transport)

- Environmental Resources (social and political impacts of energy; water and food security)
- Climate Change (social; political and economic implications of climate change; environmental management).

Leeds Social Sciences Institute has an enhanced role at the heart of the strategy, which emphasises the need for collaboration and partnerships across the University, the wider community, and society in order to maximise the potential of Leeds research.

Sport and Physical Activity Strategy

The Council has approved a new strategy for Sport and Physical Activity (SPA). SPA has made a great deal of progress since 2005 in raising the standard of provision and level of participation in sport at Leeds. The University is now ranked in the top 10 of UK universities for sporting experience, and usage of its sporting facilities has increased from about 150,000 visits a year to well over 800,000.

The new strategy builds on this progress, with the three key aims of:

- enabling students to reach their sporting potential, at whatever level
- improving health and wellbeing through sport and physical activity
- developing students and their skills through sport and their engagement with the University and wider community.

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The immediate focus in implementing the strategy will be on closer integration between the University and LUU sporting offer and on further improving sports facilities.

Strategy Implementation – Enhancing our standing as an international university

The Senate received a report on the University's progress in implementing its internationalisation strategy. There has been considerable progress in embedding internationalism into student education, particularly in terms of increasing student mobility and improving international employability. International student recruitment has recovered well from a drop in 2012-13.

The strategic partnership with the South West Jiaotong University is a significant development, and could become a model for further partnerships.

The refresh of the University's strategy will provide the opportunity to focus on the academic outcomes that the University wants from internationalisation and on what it really means for Leeds students.

2014 INTEGRATED PLANNING EXERCISE

The Council has considered the key features of the 2014 Integrated Planning Exercise (IPE) and the main issues that had arisen during the exercise, which had been enhanced by Annual School Academic Performance Reviews during the autumn, and had been strategic in its focus.

The Faculty Review Meetings in May had covered key issues identified by the faculty and the central teams and included discussion of the strategic issues and actions for each constituent school or institute in respect of student education, research and innovation and the estates developments required to support delivery of academic plans.

It was acknowledged that developments arising in the context of the (then) emerging new strategic plan and strategic University initiatives were not yet reflected in the faculties' plans;

and, in a similar vein, faculty plans had not included either benefits arising from the University's investments in strategic initiatives, including Academic Fellowships and Anniversary PGR Scholarships, or the as yet unknown financial impacts of REF exercise outcomes. Once known or embedded, these factors will help shape the faculties' strategic and academic development over the course of next session and beyond.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

HEFCE funding for 2014-15

The University has received details of its initial HEFCE grant for the year 2014-15. Total funding will be £83.8 million:

- £32.9 million for teaching
- £48 million for research
- £2.9 million for Higher Education Innovation Funding.

This represents a general reduction of 5.85% in the teaching grant. This is in line with what the University had expected and planned for.

Funding for STEM students has been protected, but there has been a significant reduction in funding for full- and part-time students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Five-year financial forecast 2014-19

The Council has approved a five-year financial forecast for submission to the HEFCE, which had been prepared in the context of cash generation targets to fund academic, capital and other strategic developments, particularly those intended to achieve the University's ambitions to grow research income.

RESEARCH STATISTICS

Income

The University's research income figures for the eight months to March 2014 are:

	Amount	Against plan	Against same period last year
Research income	£ 90m	+1%	+22%
New awards	£ 80m	+8%	-5%
Applications	£272m	-8%	-2%

A summary of research grants and income published by the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) in March 2014 reveals that:

- Leeds had the eighth largest research income in the sector in 2012-13
- Leeds has a market share of 2.7%
- Research income across the sector has increased by 7.5%, compared to Leeds' increase of 6.7%

Publications

The percentage of University outputs within the top 10% most cited publications worldwide is higher than the UK average, but it has produced fewer publications than the three benchmark universities of Manchester, UCL and Edinburgh. Leeds is ranked 21st out of the 24 Russell Group universities for overall field-weighted citation impact.

ACADEMIC FELLOWSHIPS

The Senate heard that the Faculty Management Group has endorsed a proposal to create up to 250 University Academic Fellowships. A working group has been set up to identify areas where recruitment of fellows will be targeted.

PhDs BY PUBLISHED WORK

The Senate received an update on the decision, initially reported to it in July 2013, to withdraw the opportunity for staff to apply for a PhD by Published Work. This opportunity will come to an end on 1 August 2014.

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From 2014-15 onwards staff will instead be able to undertake an alternative PhD including Publications.

Staff who wish to register for a PhD including Publications must register for normal part-time postgraduate research study, and will receive the accompanying benefits of postgraduate training and development.

DUAL PhD AWARD WITH UNICAMP, BRAZIL

From 2014-15 Leeds will offer a Dual PhD Award together with Universidade Estadual de Campinas (UNICAMP), Brazil. The research programme will be a four-year, full-time PhD delivered by both universities: at Leeds by the Faculty of Environment. Years 1 and 4 will be spent at UNICAMP and years 2 and 3 at Leeds. A student who successfully completes the programme will obtain a PhD from each institution.

STUDENT RECRUITMENT FOR 2014-15

Undergraduate

Relative to a competitor set of six universities (Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham and Sheffield) our application numbers are strong:

	Leeds appln. numbers	Change from 2013-14	Competitor change from 2013-14
UK	43,698	+8.9%	+3.4%
EU	2,188	+20.8%	+9.3%
International	6,353	+21.6%	+9.6%

Quality of applicants also compares well, with 72% of applicants to Leeds predicted grades ABB or higher, compared to 61% of applicants to the competitor set.

Postgraduate

At this point in the recruitment cycle the University has typically received around 50% of home/EU and over 90% of international postgraduate applications. Figures so far are:

	Application nos.	Change from 2013-14
FT Home/EU	2,413	+12%
FT International	25,013	+11%
PT Home/EU	844	-5%
PT International	317	- 16%

REVIEWS

School of Healthcare

The Senate received an update on the review of the School of Healthcare:

- Nursing, Midwifery, and Pharmacy will remain in the School
- Cardiac Physiology, Radiography, and Audiology will be consolidated in the School of Medicine from 2015-16 onwards
- Social Work will remain in the School, with further work to be done on the academic plans for this discipline
- options for Counselling and Psychotherapy are still under discussion
- Staff will be consulted about a change of name for the School during 2014-15

Department of Classics

The Department of Classics has exited the organisational change process and is being integrated into the School of Languages, Cultures and Societies.

NAME CHANGES

With effect from 1 August:

- the Institute of Communications Studies became the School of Media and Communication
- the Institute of Psychological Sciences became the School of Psychology
- the School of Modern Languages and Cultures became the School of Languages, Cultures and Societies
- the School of Process, Environmental and Materials Engineering became the School of Chemical and Process Engineering
- the Leeds Institute of Genetics, Health and Therapeutics (LIGHT) became the Leeds Institute of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine (LICAMM)

MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK

The Council approved the University's case for the building of a new 600-space multi-storey car park on the site of the current Orange zone car park next to the EC Stoner Building. The car park should allow the University to implement its strategic campus development plans without impacting on parking provision. Construction work is expected to begin in autumn.

CAMPAIGN

The Council considered a progress report on the Campaign to raise £60 million in philanthropic gifts by the end of 2015. Momentum has been strong and the year had been successful: the Campaign total had reached £45.9 million and remains on track to reach its goal. Plans are being put in place to extend the Campaign beyond 2015 to support a more ambitious goal once the £60 million target has been achieved. A proposal will be developed in the light of the new Strategic Plan.

InTechnology gift

The University has received a £500,000 pledge from InTechnology plc. The gift will fund 80% of the Enterprise Incubation Programme and 20 enterprise scholars over a five-year period.

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In recognition of the gift, the Enterprise Incubation Programme will be named the 'InTechnology Enterprise Incubation Programme' for five years, an area of a building will be named, and the scholarships will be referred to as the InTechnology Scholarships.

ANTI-BRIBERY POLICY

The Council has approved a new Anti-Bribery Policy which takes into account the University's responsibilities under the Bribery Act. Further details will be circulated to staff in the early autumn.

HE SECTOR AND POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

USS Pension Scheme

The trustees of the USS pension scheme are reviewing the scheme's structure, funding and investment strategy in the light of the anticipated results of this year's scheme valuation, expected towards the end of 2014. UUK has submitted a paper to the trustees setting out the views of the scheme's employers, including the University, on the need for changes to the scheme.

The USS trustees will continue discussions throughout the summer with the scheme's employers and with the Universities and Colleges Union before a formal statutory consultation is launched in the autumn.

UUK has published a set of Q&As about the review on the [UUK website](#)

Trends in international student recruitment

Data from across the higher education sector show that the number of non-EU students starting courses in the UK has fallen for two consecutive years. Courses in STEM subjects, which have a higher proportion of overseas students, may be particularly vulnerable to falls in international recruitment. There has been a significant drop in numbers of students from India and Pakistan, whilst the number of entrants from China, Malaysia and Hong Kong has increased.

The international recruitment figures at Leeds compare well against this national picture, with applications for undergraduate and taught postgraduate places for 2014-15 up by 19% and 11% respectively, with a good geographical spread in applications.

The Impact of Universities on the UK Economy

Universities UK (UUK) has produced a report examining the key economic characteristics of universities and the impact of their activity. A summary of the findings and a copy of the full report can be found on the [UUK website](#).

The report for the Yorkshire and Humber region shows that the universities generated:

- economic output of £2.2 billion
- an additional £2.8 billion through knock-on effects in other industries, £2.1 billion of which was generated in this region
- 62,838 jobs in the region

A summary and full copy of the regional report can also be found on the [UUK website](#).

2014-15 Pay Settlement

There will be an increase in non-clinical salaries, effective from 1 August 2014, of 2% on all points of the scale, plus an additional £60 a year on point 1 of the scale to bring that point in line with the current Living Wage. The new rates will be implemented in August salaries. Details of the new scales are available to download on the HR website.

Student finance

UUK has established a Student Funding Panel to review the design of the current student fees and loans system in England. The Panel will consult with a range of organisations and individuals, including the National Union of Students.

HONOURS AND DISTINCTIONS

The Vice-Chancellor has been elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh.

Professor Sheena Radford (School of Molecular and Cellular Biology) has been made a fellow of the Royal Society.

Professors Julia Newton Bishop (Dermatology) and Philip Quirke (Pathology) have been elected Fellows of the Academy of Medical Sciences.

Professor Andrew Shepherd (School of Earth and Environment) has been appointed as a Wolfson Research Merit Award holder by the Royal Society.

Professors Giles Davies and Edmund Linfield (School of Electronic and Electrical Engineering) have won the 2014 Faraday Medal for outstanding contributions to experimental physics.

Professor Daryl O'Connor (Institute of Psychological Sciences) has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

Mr Matthew Pankhurst (School of Earth and Environment) has been awarded one of only five UK and 30 world-wide 2014 AXA Research Fellowships for research contributing to better understanding of risk – whether environmental, social or economic.

Dr Clifford Stott (School of Law) has been awarded the 2014 Celebrating Impact Award for Outstanding Impact in Public Policy by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).

The School of Medicine has received an international award for its excellence in educating its students, joining just three other schools in the world in being recognised by the ASPIRE to Excellence award.

Queen's Birthday Honours

Angela Foley (Work Based Learning – LUBS, 2004), General Manager, Bright Beginnings Childcare Centre, University of Leeds, has been awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM) for services to childcare provision in higher education.

Neil McLean (Law 1974), Chair, Leeds City Region Local Enterprise Partnership, has been awarded a CBE for services to business and skills in West Yorkshire.

Nancy Webb (French 1960), Chairman, Guisborough Branch, Save the Children, has been awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM) for charitable services.

Alan Yellup (Education 1975), Executive Headteacher, Wakefield City Academy and Chief Executive Officer, Wakefield City Academies Trust, has been awarded an OBE for services to education.

APPOINTMENTS

Professor Frank Finlay has been re-appointed as Dean of the Faculty of Arts for a further period of 5 years with effect from 1 August 2014.

Professor Paul Stewart has been appointed as Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Health with effect from 1 August 2014. He will combine this role of Faculty Dean with his current post of Dean of Medicine and Head of School.

Dr Peter Gardner has been appointed as Head of the Institute for Psychological Sciences for a period of three years with effect from 1 August 2014.

Professor Ian Hope has been appointed as Head of the School of Biology for a period of five years with effect from 1 August 2014.

Professor Anne Kerr has been appointed as Head of the School of Sociology & Social Policy for a period of three years with effect from 1 August 2014.

Professor Nigel Wright has been appointed as Head of the School of Civil Engineering for a period of five years with effect from 1 August 2014.

Professor Mark Kearney has been appointed as the Director of the Leeds Institute of Genetics, Health and Therapeutics with effect from 1 June 2014.

Professor Martin Levesley has been appointed as the Pro-Dean for Student Education in the Faculty of Engineering with effect from 1 May 2014 to 31 July 2019.

Professor Calvin Taylor has been appointed as Pro-Dean for Research & Innovation in the Faculty of Performance, Visual Arts and Communications for a period of five years with effect from 1 August 2014.

Professor Graeme Gooday has been appointed as Head of the School of Philosophy, Religion and History of Science for a period of five years with effect from 1 August 2014.

Professor Paul Millner has been reappointed as Head of the School of Biological Sciences for a period of three years with effect from 1 August 2014.

Professor David Westhead has been reappointed as Head of the School of Molecular and Cellular Biology for a period of three years with effect from 1 August 2014.

Ms Jane Campbell (Open University) has been appointed as the new Head of the Careers Service with effect from 1 August 2014.

Dr Ceri Williams has been appointed as Director of Innovation and Enterprise Partnerships.

OBITUARIES

Mr Sani Abdullahi, PhD student in Civil Engineering.

Mrs Josie Buckroyd, who held various clerical positions in both the Registry and the Sports Centre from 1974 until her retirement in 2008 (4 April 2014).

Mr Philip Cale, Technician in the School of Physics and Astronomy since 2006 (1 April 2014).

Dr Alan Apling, Lecturer in the Department of Mining and Mineral Engineering from 1977 until his retirement in 2001.

Mr Alastair Beament, a finalist in Theology and Religious Studies (June 2014).

Mr Colin Belford, Technician in the School of Physics and Astronomy from 1957 until his retirement in 1988.

Emeritus Professor Howel Francis, who was appointed to a Chair of Earth Sciences in 1977; and served as Chair of the Department of Earth Sciences between 1979-82 and 1985-89 before his retirement in 1989.

Professor Rick Jones, who was appointed as an Honorary Tutor in the Department of Chemical Pathology and Immunology in 1985, Senior Lecturer in 1990 and to the Chair in Chemical Pathology and Health Informatics earlier this year.

Mr John Mott, technician in the School of Chemistry and later in the Department of Earth Sciences, from 1950 until his retirement in 1992.

Mr Paul Valois, who joined the library in 1973, and was subsequently a Senior Assistant Librarian and Head of the Accessions Department until retirement in 1999.

Professor David Robinson, who was appointed as Procter Professor of Food Science, and Head of the Procter Department of Food and Leather Science in 1974, retiring in 1998.

Miss Audrey Stead, initially appointed as an assistant in the University Library in 1943, went on to hold both clerical and administrative positions in the School of English between 1949 and retirement in 1991.

Sir Ben Gill CBE, Honorary Graduate of the University (Honorary DSc, 1997).

Rt. Revd. John Satterthwaite, graduate of the University (BA, General Arts – 1946) and Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe 1980-93.

Mr Richard Hoggart, Author, teacher and graduate of the University (BA, 1939).