

UK HE in Transition in a Changing World



University of
HUDDERSFIELD

An Institutional Perspective on Transformations at the University of Huddersfield

Nigel Phillips

Director of Planning & Information

University of Huddersfield

TEMC September 2012

Overview

- Brief overview of Huddersfield & the University
- Developments in HE in the UK in the last 5 years
- How Huddersfield has responded so far
- Future Possibilities
- Conclusions

Huddersfield Images



Epigram

“Only Connect”

E.M. Forster, *Howard's End*, 1910

- Education for workers in Huddersfield since 1825
- Polytechnic from 1960's: chose not to be a Uni
- Strong links to town Council
- Post 1992 university
- Ken Durrans: autocracy & scandal
- Post Durrans devolution & separation of powers

Brief Institutional facts



- 20,000 students – 40% part time
- Second biggest employer in town
- 3 campuses, including Barnsley and Oldham
- 7 schools: broad applied base, plus humanities
- Teaching led, driving to more research
- Focus on employability

Major changes in UK HE: medium term

- Reduction in Govt. funding per student
- Shift to fee based system: public/private benefit debate:-80%
- Increase in Research funding focus (75% to 3 unis)
- Increase in numbers of universities
- Private providers for profit
- International recruitment: UKBA
- Changing student expectations

Lord Browne Review

- Shift to fee based funding
- Fees up from £3,200 to max £9,000 (\$AU5000 to \$AU 13500)
- Repayment above £21,000 earnings (\$AU 31500)
- Untested debt effects
- Immediate surge in applications 2010
- 2012 down nationally by 15%, locally 8%

Undergraduate recruitment

- Cap on standard students at 2008 level
- Fines above income for growth
- No cap for extremely well qualified
- Deliberate fostering of competition (again) on price and quality
- Changing student subject choices
- KIS data
- Institutional differential performance
- Drive to change academic costs, style and roles

Recruitment: the future?

Imperfect market with Gov. interventions

Split by price – sub £6000, and around £9000

Internal border issues

EU recruitment

Differentiation and institutional failures?

Political implications

Mid 2000's: start of a new team



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Changing and Transforming



Steps so far

1. Staff open meetings
1. Transparency of information
2. Retirement and replacement of DVC, PVCs, Deans
2. Changes in middle management and support staff
3. Strategy Map – consultation and implementation
4. Clear, concise, deliverable.
4. Consistent and on-message
4. Social events



- 5. Devolved budgets
- 5. Shared systems – increasingly the norm
- 5. Limiting bureaucracy
- 6. Budget surpluses
- 6. Staffing: for research
- 6. Refurbishment of spaces
- 6. League table improvements
- 6. Changed expectations and buzz

Consolidate and next steps

- 7. Capital buildings and refurbishments: more and more
- 7. Research exercise
- 7. Timetabling
- 7. Getting out of Dodge....
- 7. New subjects
- 8. Paradigm shift

Conclusions



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