What our priorities are

Our priorities

- Our Strategic framework (PDF - 5.62MB)
- The Vice-Chancellor's report in the Annual Accounts (PDF - 1.04MB)
- Current News
- Buzz – our in-house magazine
- The University Annual Meeting 2013

Teaching and learning strategy, academic quality standards, programme approval, audit and review

- **The Policy and Quality Framework** sets out the University's internal mechanisms for assuring the quality of its academic provision for all students. It includes information about the bodies involved in programme approval and review.
- **The Educational Strategy (PDF - 17KB)** sets out how the University aims to achieve its strategic goal of providing students with a distinctive, high quality experience.

Corporate relations

- **Services to Business**

  The University offers a range of **services to business**, whether they are large, multinational corporations or small businesses (SMEs). Examples of services on offer include licensing and intellectual property, consultancy, Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTPs) and student internships and graduate recruitment.

- **Employability services**

  We are committed to preparing students for the challenging economic landscape and **creating graduates who will enrich business and industry**. We offer a range of opportunities for businesses to promote their graduate and undergraduate vacancies, meet with our highly skilled students and share their expertise.

- **International collaborations**

  The University is proud of its **extensive links with universities and other institutions throughout the world**. Our collaborations take an array of different forms, ranging from student exchange and teaching partnerships to joint research on global issues. Through our extensive network of international partnerships we offer opportunities for collaboration on many levels including supporting universities, governments and companies in the development of their staff and providing international experiences for students and staff. Our academic staff research together with colleagues from every continent to address wide-ranging issues such as ensuring future energy demands can be met or to address global poverty.

- **Partnership working**

  The University has a long tradition of working in partnership with organizations in the public and private sector, for both collaborative research and the development and delivery of learning programmes. Recent examples include the **NHS Leadership Academy Programmes** and the **Midlands Energy Consortium and the Manufacturing Technology Centre (MTC)**. The University of Birmingham is proud to be a sub-regional partner for **STEMNET**, a national organisation funded by the Department for Business, Innovation, and Skills (BIS), which creates opportunities to inspire young people in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

- **Economic impact**

  In early 2013 Oxford Economics calculated the **economic impact of the University** on the city of Birmingham and the West Midlands region in 2011–12. The study shows that the University made a valued added contribution of £530 million to the region's economy, and supports 11,830 jobs in the region.

Government and regulatory reports and external review

- The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) checks how UK universities and colleges maintain the standard of their higher education provision. It reports on how they meet their responsibilities, identifies good practice and makes recommendations for improvement. The QAA institutional reports for the University of Birmingham can be found on their **website**.
- **Research Assessment Exercise** gives information about the evaluation of the quality of research in UK higher education institutions, including detailed information about the submissions and exercise process and individual institutional results. This will be replaced in 2014 by the **Research Excellence Framework**.
- The Office for Fair Access (OFFA) is an independent public body that helps safeguard and promote fair access to higher education by approving and monitoring 'access agreements'. The outcomes of OFFA and the Higher Education Funding Council for England's annual monitoring of access agreements and widening participation strategic assessments for 2011-12 and National Scholarship Programme in-year monitoring for 2012-13 can be found in **this document**.
- **Ofsted ITE and ITT Inspection Reports**

Statistical information

- **Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)** is the official agency for the collection, analysis and dissemination of quantitative information about higher education and provides a comprehensive body of reliable statistical information and analysis about UK higher education. The **information** available includes:
  - Student information – on-line tables broken down by a number of variables including student type, mode of study, institution, subject and various demographic information, based on institutions' individualised student returns
  - Staff information - on-line tables broken down by a number of variables including staff type, mode of employment, institution, cost centre and various demographic information, based on institutions' Annual Staff returns
  - Destination of leavers – details of institutions' returns for the Destination of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey, and tables detailing information related to mode of study, institution, level of study and gender
  - Finance – data including income and expenditure by institution and sector level summaries. The link to "Finance Plus" contains the full Finance Statistics

- Finance - data including income and expenditure by institution and sector level summaries. The link to "Finance Plus" contains the full Finance Statistics Return for UK higher education institutions and the associated costs for purchasing the data
- Business & community – statistics are available using HESA's Bespoke Data Service
- Estates management – data related to institutions' Estates Management Survey statutory return
- Further information is available by registering for **HEIDI**, an online interactive tool.
- Bespoke data queries can also be addressed to **HESA**.

- Applications and acceptance data is available from the **Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)**. In particular, data detailing application and acceptance trends from 2006 to 2012 broken down by a number of variables including institution, gender, subject, residence, tariff, ethnicity and socio-economic status is available on **the UCAS website**. (Click on "related documents" to the right hand side of "Annual data files" to download a zip file of available data.)

Compliance with our duties under the Equality Act 2010

- The University's commitment to equal opportunities is enshrined it its **Charter (PDF - 98KB)**.
- The University's Fairness and Diversity Policy, the University Equality Scheme 2011-2015, the Harassment and Bullying Policy, and information about initiatives to promote fairness and inclusivity at the University are available on our **Intranet**.
- Further information including the annual Equality Information Report is available on our **Equality and Diversity pages**.

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