

Vice-Chancellor's open staff forum *Making the Future: Delivering our strategy*

June 2015



Agenda



Delivering our strategy

- Research
- Teaching and learning
- Our campus
- Economic and social impact
- Sustainable operating
- Comments and questions



Research: Sussex Impact Day 16 June



- First event of its kind at Sussex
- Aims to celebrate, share and develop the impact of our research
- Keynote speech from Dr Steven Hill, Head of Research Policy at HEFCE (Higher Education Funding Council for England)
- Range of sessions including:
 - How to tell if your research has commercial impact
 - 4* REF impact case studies
 - Influencing government
 - Learning from the STEPS Centre
 - Making the most of traditional and digital media



Teaching and learning: UG student numbers - UCAS



- Sussex doing well despite competitive environment
- Sussex one of only two universities that has grown
 UG student numbers year on year consecutively since 2006
- Current applications (as of June 2015) for September 2015 entry:
 - increase of 4% for Sussex compared to a 1% national increase
 - largest part of this increase is from UK students (up 7%)



Teaching and learning: National Student Survey (NSS)



- A record 2,251 Sussex students completed 2015 NSS
- Largest response ever by Sussex UGs:
 77% of eligible finalists and up on last year's rate of 71%
- Many schools achieved a response rate of 80% or higher
- Not an exit survey we want it to reflect students' time over three/four years
- Results due out 12 August



Teaching and learning: Rankings and league tables



- April: QS University World Rankings
 - 1st in the world for development studies
- April: Complete University Guide
 - 21st overall, 14th for graduate prospects
- May: Guardian University Guide 2016
 - 19th overall, Chemistry 1st, Drama 2nd
 - Seven other top-ten results



Teaching and learning: THELMAs



- Sussex shortlisted for two Times Higher Education Leadership and Management Awards (THELMAs) 2015
- Outstanding Library Team
 - SAGE students, Skills Hub and reading lists on VLE
- Digital Innovation of the Year
 - Sussex and Brighton Research Explorer, a single search interface for all three of the BSMS library catalogues
- 18 June winners to be announced in London good luck!



Our campus: Attenborough Centre



- Creative Director appointed: Laura McDermott,
 - currently Joint Artistic Director of Fierce International Festival
 - starting in the autumn, although already inputting into development
- Autumn 2015 tribute to Lord Attenborough
- Dynamic cultural hub on campus, creating a focus for the University and the wider community's artistic endeavours
- Extensive refurbishment to create a modern environment with a
 - flexible 350-seat auditorium; exhibition spaces; rehearsal studios; and new teaching and office space

Economic and social impact: Sussex Innovation Centre - Croydon



- First off-campus innovation hub due to open autumn 2015
- A base for up to 30 high-growth potential companies with 300+ employees, supporting 100+ local businesses through its network
- Flexible, professional office space and in-house support services, such as investment and expert advice



Recent senior appointments and professorial promotions



- David Cole Director of Planning, Governance and Compliance
- Samantha Cartwright-Hatton: Professor of Clinical Child Psychology
- Alex Faulkner: Professor of the Sociology of Biomedicine and Healthcare Policy
- Anna Franklin: Professor of Visual Perception and Cognition
- Winfried Hensinger: Professor of Quantum Technologies
- Donald McGillivray: Professor of Environmental Law
- Michael Titheradge: Professor of Biomedical Science
- Michelle West: Professor of Tumour Virology



Sustainable operating: Staff survey



- Kitty Inglis (Librarian) and VC co-chairing an overview group to monitor implementation of the institutional action plan
- Equality & diversity and dignity at work
 - review by an independent consultant under way
- Long-service awards for staff with 20, 30 and 40 years' service
- Mini 'pulse' survey November 2015
 to find out if staff views have changed since the 2014 survey



Sustainable operating: Staff



- End of the academic year
- Thanks to all staff for your hard work!



Open discussion



Comments and questions?

Please wait for the microphone so all can hear – including those using the hearing induction loops



