



University of
Reading

AT A GLANCE
2018



The history of advanced education in Reading goes back almost 150 years.

For most of that period, the University of Reading – and prior to that, University College Reading – has been a centre for outstanding education and research. That continues through to the present day.

There is much to be positive about after another very busy 12 months. Student numbers are at a record level, research continues to thrive and expand, and the University's global reach remains a defining characteristic of its identity.

At the same time, exciting capital developments, such as the transformation of our library and the plans for a new health and life sciences building, will ensure that we have modern facilities for students and staff to study and work.

All universities face challenges presented by the volume and pace of change in an increasingly competitive environment. However, the University 2026 vision and strategy will enable us to navigate our way successfully in these turbulent times. Our core values remain unchanged, as does our belief in the benefits of open and positive engagement – locally, nationally and internationally.

Overall, the University is well-placed to respond positively to emerging opportunities, not least because of the commitment and dedication of our students and staff. Long may that continue.



1 Reading ranked 27 out of 129 UK universities in the Complete University Guide 2018

2 Reading ranked 188 out 959 universities in the QS World University Rankings 2018

3 Based on our submissions judged to be world leading, internationally excellent and internationally recognised in overall quality by the Research

THE UNIVERSITY OF READING AT A GLANCE

IN THE
TOP 30
OF UK
UNIVERSITIES¹



AWARDED
SILVER
IN THE TEACHING
EXCELLENCE AND
STUDENT OUTCOMES
FRAMEWORK⁴



IN THE
TOP 200
UNIVERSITIES
WORLDWIDE²



20,265
STUDENTS
FROM AROUND
150 COUNTRIES⁵



98%
OF OUR RESEARCH
IS INTERNATIONALLY
RECOGNISED
AND **78%** IS
INTERNATIONALLY
EXCELLENT³



17,115
STUDENTS
ATTENDING UK-
BASED PROGRAMMES
AND **3,150** STUDENTS
AT OFF-SHORE CAMPUSES
AND PARTNERSHIPS⁵



Excellence Framework 2014 and the Times Higher Education's analysis of REF 2014. See the overall table of excellence at www.timeshighereducation.com

⁴ TEF 2017 www.hefce.ac.uk

⁵ HESA 2016/17 Student Record and Aggregate Offshore Record, figures rounded to the nearest five

12,430

UNDERGRADUATE
STUDENTS AND

7,835

POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS⁵



94%

OF GRADUATES
IN WORK OR FURTHER
STUDY SIX MONTHS
AFTER GRADUATING

79% OF THOSE IN FULL-TIME
WORK ARE IN PROFESSIONAL/
MANAGERIAL ROLES⁷



ACROSS ALL LEVELS OF STUDY

55% OF OUR
STUDENTS
ARE FEMALE

33% ARE FROM
A BLACK
AND MINORITY
ETHNIC BACKGROUND

10% HAVE
DECLARED A
DISABILITY⁵

4,050

MEMBERS OF STAFF



OF OUR 1,700
ACADEMIC STAFF

48% ARE
FEMALE

13% ARE FROM
A BLACK
AND MINORITY
ETHNIC BACKGROUND

OF 2,350 PROFESSIONAL
AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

61% ARE
FEMALE

15% ARE FROM
A BLACK
AND MINORITY
ETHNIC BACKGROUND⁸

84%

OVERALL STUDENT
SATISFACTION
REMAINS HIGH, MATCHING
THE SECTOR AVERAGE⁶



⁵ HESA 2016/17 Student Record and Aggregate Offshore Record, figures rounded to the nearest five

⁶ Based on National Student Survey 2017, see www.timeshighereducation.com

⁷ Based on the 2015-16 Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey of 2,538 University of Reading First Degree Leavers, of which 78% responded

⁸ HESA 2016/17 Staff Record

WE HAVE A

GLOBAL PRESENCE



with our Whiteknights
and London Road campuses
in Reading, Henley Business
School at our Greenlands
campus in Henley-on-Thames,
Henley Business School
(South Africa), University
of Reading Malaysia and the
NUIST-University of Reading
Academy in China.

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IN JULY 2017, THE
FIRST GROUP OF

22 STUDENTS
GRADUATED FROM



UNIVERSITY OF READING MALAYSIA

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

We have achieved a lot since the University Council approved our strategy in 2013.

Since that time, though, competition has grown – in terms of both research and recruitment of staff and students – and the country is now facing a number of economic uncertainties. The strategy still represents our long-term aspiration of being a broad-based university with a global outlook that values world-leading teaching and research equally.

In order to respond to seismic shifts in higher education at home and abroad, we must remain flexible and responsive.

At both strategic and operational level, the four fundamental principles in the University strategy increasingly sit at the core of our planning and decision-making. In the medium-term, however, factors such as Brexit and the government's recently-launched funding review make our financial sustainability a priority.

Our income topped £300m in 2016/17, growing by 16% on the previous 12 months. However, we remain focused on generating a larger surplus each year to enable us to achieve our goals.

UNIVERSITY STRATEGY 2026

VISION



Our vision for 2026 is that the University of Reading will be a **vibrant, thriving, sustainable, global and broad-based institution**, responsive to, stimulated by and informing **changes in the world around us**. As a result, we will also be significantly larger in terms of **students, global reach and presence, and revenue**.

AMBITION



Our ambition, now and towards 2026, is to enhance our standing as a **leader in research and higher education** that defines and responds to the **needs of individuals and societies**, and, by so doing, to be counted among the **very best universities in the UK** and internationally.

Underpinning the University's strategy are **four fundamental principles**:



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT



FINANCIAL STRENGTH



A THRIVING COMMUNITY

SHARING BENEFITS BEYOND THE

The economic, cultural and educational benefits of the University flow well beyond our campuses.

Every day, we are open to the local community, through our SportsPark, four museums and award-winning grounds. Each year, we attract thousands of people to our public events, such as lectures, music concerts and exhibitions. We also train the people that the local community relies on, including teachers and NHS professionals.



OVER **HALF A
MILLION**
INDIVIDUALS
FROM AS MANY AS
190 COUNTRIES
HAVE SIGNED
UP TO
**OUR FREE
ONLINE
COURSES**

CAMPUS



MUSEUMS

COVERING:



FARMING AND
THE ENGLISH
COUNTRYSIDE



RARE
BOOKS



GREEK
MYTHOLOGY



AND PLANTS
AND WILDLIFE

AND ALL FOR FREE



SPORTS PARK

OPEN ALL
YEAR ROUND TO
STUDENTS, STAFF
AND COMMUNITY

WITH:



A GYM



FITNESS
STUDIO



SQUASH AND
BADMINTON
COURTS



NEW TENNIS
DOME



CAFÉ

SUPPORTING THE LOCAL ECONOMY

Now in its fourth year, the Reading Internship Scheme places undergraduate students in start-ups, small- to medium-sized enterprises and small charities. The scheme gives these organisations access to skills and additional resources while providing students with professional work experience that can otherwise be difficult to find. In the 2016/17 academic year, 68 students completed placements with 43 local enterprises.

TRAINING THE TEACHERS OF TOMORROW AND WORKING WITH LOCAL SCHOOLS

Our Institute of Education is recognised by Ofsted for the high quality of support we provide to schools and Reading Partnership Teachers on placement. We work in partnership with over 300 schools in the south east of England.

HELPING MEET GROWING HEALTH CARE DEMANDS

The first group of budding medical professionals to complete our Physician Associate programme graduated in December 2017. Graduates are working in hospitals and GP practices, including the Royal Berkshire Hospital, supporting doctors and helping the NHS meet the demands of the UK's growing and ageing population.





REDUCING OUR ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT

The University won the Large Institution category of the 2017 Green Gown Awards for successfully reducing carbon emissions by 35% compared to a 2008/09 baseline. Over £4 million was invested to improve energy efficiency across the University's estate. In 2018 we continued the crack down on plastic waste, ending the use of plastic straws on our UK campuses.

AWARD-WINNING GREEN SPACES

The Whiteknights campus was voted among the top ten most popular green spaces in the UK in the 2017 Green Flag People's Choice Award – out of almost 1,800 entries. Whiteknights' 130 hectare parkland is open to the public to enjoy.

DELIVERING EXCELLENCE TEACHING AND

Staying at the forefront of new initiatives and developments in teaching and learning is critical to delivering the best possible learning experience and supporting all our students to fulfil their potential.

The University's Silver Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework (TEF) award demonstrates that our institution delivers high-quality teaching and learning, coupled with excellent outcomes for our students, and consistently exceeds the rigorous national quality requirements for UK higher education.

In summer 2018, we will be launching our renewed Teaching and Learning Strategy 2018–21. This builds on our successes in recent years, notably in fostering a culture of innovation and excellence in teaching and promoting staff development and reward. It identifies two clear priorities: delivering academic excellence and offering students an outstanding learning experience.

REWARDING AND RECOGNISING EXCEPTIONAL TEACHING

Each year, our own Celebrating Teaching and Learning Success awards and our University Teaching Fellowships celebrate and reward the remarkable achievements of talented and committed colleagues who go above and beyond to ensure their students have the best possible experience at Reading.

In 2017, two Reading academics were awarded prestigious National Teaching Fellowships by the Higher Education Academy. Professor Elizabeth McCrum, Teaching and Learning Dean, has had a career-long interest in authentic and accessible curricula and teaching, leading a number of projects to improve the academic experience of students. Dr Matthew Nicholls, Associate Professor of Classics, is creator of the Virtual Rome project – 3D digital models of ancient Rome that enhance student learning at the University and enable tens of thousands of people worldwide to experience the ancient city in virtual reality.

NCE IN LEARNING

REVIEWING OUR CURRICULUM

Our new Curriculum Framework is designed to ensure that our programmes align with our core academic and teaching principles. We aim to support our students to develop a range of attributes to prepare them for 21st century lives, including mastery of their discipline, skills in research and enquiry, personal effectiveness and self-awareness, and global engagement and multi-cultural awareness.

FOCUSING ON ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK

We are maintaining our focus on robust assessment and effective feedback, supported by our major investment in the Electronic Management of Assessment programme to provide our students and staff with a more consistent and high-quality assessment experience.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR CAREERS AND EMPLOYABILITY PROVISION

Our University of Reading and Henley Business School Careers Services received the National Undergraduate Employability Award 2018 for Best University Careers Service.

£1M
THE NEW ANNUAL
£1 MILLION
**STUDENT
EXPERIENCE
CAPITAL FUND,**



a joint initiative with the Students' Union, was launched in 2017 to improve student facilities and the student experience on campus. Projects approved include further investment in Personal Capture to record teaching material, improved sporting facilities, and improved study and meeting space.

The University's first Research Engagement and Impact Awards in 2017 recognised and rewarded researchers across five categories who have achieved extraordinary things by engaging and interacting with people outside of academia to drive better understanding of research and to influence change.

INFORM:

Climate scientist Professor Ed Hawkins has brought climate science to a huge audience with his popular Climate Lab Book blog, social media activity and his 'climate spiral' on the upward spiralling of global temperatures. *Mashable* described the spiral as 'the most compelling climate visualization we've ever seen'.

INFLUENCE:

Thanks to the work of Professor Roger Matthews, the rich cultural heritage of Iraq – the world's cradle of civilisation – is getting the help it needs to survive. Along with Dr Wendy Matthews, Roger works on the ground in Iraq, enhancing skills in heritage protection among Iraqi antiquities staff.

INSPIRE:

Working with theatre company Filskit Theatre on the interactive theatre roadshow *Bright Sparks*, Dr Mark Dallas is helping dispel myths about brain function and giving children, teachers and scientists a vital insight into neuroscience.

INVOLVE:

In 2012, Whitley in South Reading secured £1 million Big Local National Lottery Funding for community development. Dr Sally Lloyd-Evans and her team worked with local residents to create a community research network, finding solutions for their community, including improved transport links.

EMBARK (FOR EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS):

By April 2017, more than two-thirds of the countries in the world had abolished capital punishment, but in Japan the death penalty remains. The work of Dr Mai Sato has challenged assumptions of public support for the death penalty in Japan and received notions about its legitimacy.

RESEARCH FOR A BETTER WORLD

Our world-leading research helps to transform the lives of people in the region, the UK and the world.

5 RESEARCH THEMES:

ENVIRONMENT

FOOD

HEALTH

HERITAGE & CREATIVITY

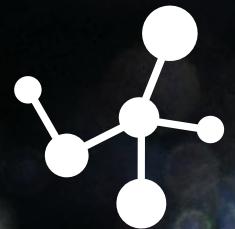
PROSPERITY & RESILIENCE

1,700

ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH STAFF ACROSS 36 RESEARCH DIVISIONS AND INTER-DISCIPLINARY RESEARCH INSTITUTES



RANKED
19TH
IN THE UK
BY RESEARCH
INTENSITY AND 27TH
BY RESEARCH POWER ¹



£14M

Analysis from Times Higher Education in November 2017 showed that Reading researchers won a record amount of research funding from the UK Research Councils in 2016/17 – up more than 40% from 2015/16 – taking our ranking for number of awards to 20th, up from 29th. Our overall success for applications rose – from 22% to 34%, the second highest success rate of any UK university with at least 10 awards.



¹ Based on the Times Higher Education's analysis of REF 2014

LOOKING
AHEAD



A NEW HOME FOR HEALTH AND LIFE SCIENCES

Plans have been approved for a new Health and Life Sciences building, which will consolidate our current dispersed Health and Life Sciences teaching in a brand new facility. The facility will form a critical part of the University's research to find new treatments for conditions such as epilepsy, heart disease and obesity. The project forms part of the University's £200 million capital investment programme 2026: TRANSFORM and completion is expected in 2020.

MEETING THE HEALTHCARE CHALLENGES OF THE REGION

The University is developing an even stronger partnership with the Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust and the Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. Together, we aim to address some of the most important healthcare challenges in the region. In 2016, we opened the Thames Valley Clinical Trials Unit and we plan to develop more joint initiatives in 2018 – and beyond.

A NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH THE BRITISH ARMY

In September 2017, we announced a new partnership between the British Army and the University's School of Politics, Economics and International Relations and Henley Business School. The Army Higher Education Pathway will allow selected Officer Cadets from the world-renowned Royal Military Academy Sandhurst to study towards specially designed Bachelor's or Master's degrees in Leadership and Strategic studies, utilising a state of the art online training portal and e-learning app.

A NEW MODEL FOR LEADERSHIP

For the first time ever, the University has appointed two new members to the University Executive Board in a job-share role. Professors Parveen Yaqoob and Dominik Zaum will join the Board in August 2018 as the University's new Pro-Vice-Chancellors for Research and Innovation. Together they will shape the University's research strategy, lead the submission for the next Research Excellence Framework in 2021 and develop further research links with industry.

THAMES VALLEY SCIENCE PARK

The University of Reading-owned Thames Valley Science Park has opened its doors, with tenants moving into the flagship £35 million 'Gateway' building. It provides flexible office and laboratory space and high-speed digital infrastructure for around 20 technology-led companies. A long-term investment, the Science Park will take up to 20 years to fully develop. It will be amongst the biggest dedicated science parks in the region and one of the largest in the south-east, with a campus-style setting designed to encourage collaboration.

PARTNERING WITH THE BRITISH MUSEUM

In December 2017, we announced an exciting partnership with the British Museum to develop a significant new collection storage and research facility. It is a first of its kind partnership between a national museum and a UK university to deliver study and research benefits to students, academics and members of the public.

