Academic Board
Professor Chris Day
Vice-Chancellor and President

Wednesday 15 May 2019

From Newcastle. For the world.
Topics

• University today at a glance
• Update on the changing regional, UK and global context
• Update on our Vision and Strategy
• Focus on the Engagement and Place Strategy
• Look ahead
University today at a glance

- £300 million invested in improving our campus
- 2nd in the world for responsible consumption (7th in the world, No. 1 in Europe) for Climate Action (THE Impact Rankings 2019)
- Horizon 2020: 140 awards worth 62 million Euros
- National leader in promoting fair access
- 220,000 Alumni worldwide
- Newcastle helix: £350 million partnership with Newcastle City Council

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Regional context

• We are working closely with NELEP and the North of Tyne Combined Authority to inform their plans.

• Following the election the first Mayor of the North of Tyne, the Combined Authority will begin to develop investment plans totalling £100 million (£20 million per year for the next five years).

• Opportunities to work closely with the Combined Authority as it develops its priorities in areas that complement our strengths, including rural economy, ageing and health and energy.

• Mayor’s office is in The Lumen, on Newcastle Helix, close to our National Innovation Centres and the Urban Sciences Building.

• NE Local Enterprise Partnership (NELEP) is producing a Local Industrial Strategy (LIS) that will aim to address the productivity gap and contribute to UK Industrial Strategy - likely to frame significant investment, including future Shared Prosperity Fund.
National context

• **Augar Review of Tuition Fees**
  - an interim report was expected in Autumn 2018, but has not been published. Universities, Newcastle included, have lobbied government on the negative impact of lowering tuition fees without appropriate top-up funding.

• **Regulation**
  - OfS: Access and Participation Plans; Grade inflation; TEF subject-level pilot
  - Government intervention on unconditional offers
  - UUK and NUS report: BAME attainment gap
  - Gender pay gap

• **Research: UKRI Strength in Places Fund (SIPF)**
  - £236m fund bringing together research organisations, business, and local leadership on projects that will lead to significant economic impact, high-value job creation, and local economic growth. **We were one of 24 projects successful in first wave with an outline bid around ageing: NE-CHAIN.**

• **Pensions**
  - USS 2018 valuation outcome.
Global context

- **Brexit delayed until 31 October**
  - Strategy group working on the impact on staff, students, research, mobility.
  - Clear message: ‘**we are international**’ – we value our EU and international staff, students and alumni
  - **£1 million underwrite for 2019/20 ERASMUS+ mobility programme supporting 350+ student exchange programme**

- **International students**
  - Lobbying government on the issue of international students being included in the net migration target in the Immigration Bill currently going through Parliament.
  - UUK proposing a two-year post-study work visa – the temporary **Global Graduate Talent Visa** would enable Tier 4 universities to sponsor their graduates to search for and gain work experience in the UK for up to two years. **Jo Johnson led a cross-party supported amendment to the Immigration Bill tabled last week**
Student recruitment

• National context
  - Population of 18-year-olds has declined by almost 15% in the decade from 2009-19. The number of applications to university has increased by 5% over the same period.
  - We saw year-on-year increases up to 2017, but since then we’ve been impacted by the demographic dip and a decline in participation rates from our main recruiting areas - home UCAS applications down by 14% in the last two years, with some subject areas affected more than others.

  But:
  - Our conversation rate looks better this year
  - Investment in marketing and recruitment to benefit both home and international recruitment
  - Demographic dip will begin to reverse in 2019/20 and the number of 18-year-olds is forecast to increase by almost 25% by 2030.
Student recruitment

• **International context**
  - International entries peaked in 2014/15, but we've since experienced a couple of years' decline not seen elsewhere in the Russell Group.
  - In response:
    • Investment in the International Office (and regional presence in India, China and Malaysia)
    • Investment in Marketing – including inbound-marketing for student recruitment, paid media and search-engine optimisation
    • Portfolio development – to include international year-one in Engineering.
  - Good news: we're starting to see some recovery:
    • International PGT applications are up just over 20% over the past two years, and UG applications have stabilised;
    • Further recovery expected as the regional presence matures;
    • Promising numbers on pathway programmes.
Update on our Vision and Strategy

From Newcastle. For the world.
Vision at a glance

Our Vision

NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY
We are a world-leading university, advancing knowledge, providing creative solutions and solving global problems
1. Education for Life

1. Engaging, challenging and support students to discover and fulfil their potential

- Work is progressing to establish an infrastructure that will support staff in the development of blended online resources in specific areas identified and endorsed by faculties.

- School X: currently being taken forward on a cross-institutional basis, with an initial focus on establishing an honours degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences.

- A task and finish group has been established to review the personal tutoring system, and a pre-arrival online induction course is planned for new undergraduates starting in September 2019.

- A new Graduate Framework, approved by Senate in March, will enable students to develop attributes that will enhance their employability and prepare them to be responsive to current and future challenges.

- Annual Monitoring and Review (AMR) will be used in 2019/20 to enable academic unit-led reflection and action planning on all taught programmes in respect of the values and objectives in the Education Strategy.
2. Research for Discovery and Impact

2. Catalysing transformative research within and between disciplines

- The first NUCoREs are on track to be launched in Autumn 2019 and more are at the workshop stage of development.
- The first of the regular calls for NUAcT (Newcastle University Academic Track) Fellowship applications was very popular; appointments will be announced in June 2019 when interviews are completed across all disciplines.
- A Newcastle University Enterprise Academy is being established, led by the Dean of Innovation and Business (Professor Michael Capaldi).
3. Engagement and Place

Improving the economy, health and social wellbeing, and cultural richness of the places in which we operate.
4. Global

Influencing globally

- Six major projects have been identified to provide a practical framework for our Global Strategy – post-Brexit Europe; attracting international students and staff, mobility of students, SE Asia, international partnerships and networks
- UN Sustainable Development Goals are changing the landscape. Aspiration to align our research and teaching with the SDGs
- Global Challenges Academy established – an example of how we are working with partners around the world to help meet the UN’s 17 SDGs.
- Chosen to lead two Global Challenge Research Hubs on water security and safeguarding river deltas and their communities
- ‘One Planet’ research hub being created to address the question of how Planet Earth will support a human population of over 9 billion by 2050.
Values-led decision making

- We have declared our commitment to climate change action by declaring a Climate Emergency
  - aim to achieve net-zero carbon dioxide emissions by 2040
  - review of travel policy
  - THE Impact Rankings 2019: 2nd in the world for responsible consumption and 7th in the world (top in Europe) for climate change action

- Commitment to seeking accreditation as a University of Sanctuary and have recently become members of the Race Equality Charter

- Introduction of the Real Living Wage for all our staff

- Commitment to addressing the BAME attainment gap
  - Student support: through our Access and Participation Plan and Closing Attainment Gaps project with AdvanceHE.
  - Pledge to address the poor representation of BAME staff in academic and professional leadership roles.
  - Armed Forces Covenant – commitment to provide members of the Armed Forces and their families with better access to HE

- Ethical partnerships
  - systems in place to ensure potential partners align with our values.
Implementation – the Dean team

Phil Ansell
Dean of Sport

Mike Capaldi
Dean of Innovation and Business

Rene Koglbauer
Dean of Lifelong Learning and Professional Practice

Anya Hurlbert
Dean of Advancement

Vee Pollock
Dean of Culture and Creative Arts

Peter Hopkins
Dean of Social Justice

Judith Rankin
Dean of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Jane Robinson
Dean of Engagement and Place
Focus on Engagement and Place

From Newcastle. For the world.
Engagement describes the ways in which the benefits of our education and research can be shared and enhanced through partnership working beyond the University. It is a multi-directional process with the aim of delivering mutual benefit for both the University and our external partners.

“Newcastle University has a proud history of civic engagement and social purpose on the part of staff, students and alumni. Our Engagement and Place strategy puts work with partners from all sectors and inclusive approaches at the heart of our thinking.”

Professor Julie Sanders, Deputy Vice-Chancellor
Engagement and Place Strategy

Engaging for economic benefit
Working closely with regional industries and businesses to address their needs
  - Arrow £3.4m innovation programme to help SMEs engage with us
  - Enterprise Academy to help research-active staff and students operate in the R&D environment

Engaging for Societal benefit
Be an effective partner for local government, the NHS, the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector, the public and cultural and sports organisations.
  - Newcastle City Futures
  - VOICE citizen engagement programme

Engagement from local to global
Use our global reach to improve the international connectivity of our region.
  - Working with partners including the Newcastle City Council, NGI, NE1 and businesses to attract students, staff and new investment from around the world
  - Establishing global networks on key themes such as ‘Place’.
Engagement and Place Strategy

Engaging for cultural benefit
Contributing to the vibrancy and cultural richness of our region through our expertise in creative arts practice, culture and heritage.

- The Vital North Partnership with Seven Stories
- The NewBridge Project: a base for 20 artists, and creative professional graduates as they begin their careers

Engaging with policy and practice
 Equip academic and professional staff with the skills to address policy challenges facing governments locally, nationally and internationally.

- The Policy Academy to support our staff in developing effective relationships with policy makers.
- Knowledge Exchange Seminar Series (NU-KESS)

Engagement for access and participation
Improving social mobility for people from underrepresented and disadvantaged backgrounds

- Expanding the PARTNERS Programme to all eligible students from the UK.
- Offering placements to all students across all of our undergraduate programme.
Engagement and Place Strategy: progress

Improving the economy, health and social wellbeing, and cultural richness of the places in which we operate

• Dean of Engagement and Place appointed (Professor Jane Robinson)

• Showcasing the Engagement and Place Strategy at the vision celebration (17th May)

• A Social Justice Advisory Group has been established with the aim of co-designing solutions to social justice challenges with practitioners and communities

• We are seeking accreditation as a University of Sanctuary and with the Race Equality Charter Mark.

• Proactively influencing and engaging with local, national and international policy development through the University Policy Academy and NU-KESS (Newcastle University Knowledge Exchange Network).
An example of our economic benefit

Newcastle Helix

- £350m regeneration project, the largest of its kind in the UK

- Two National Centres for Innovation – Ageing & Data

- Brings together industry leaders, businesses and world class researchers in a new innovation community.

- Attracting inward investment, bringing renewed vibrancy and sustainable, city-centre living.

- Partnership between Newcastle University, City Council & Legal & General
Upcoming highlights and opportunities
Looking ahead

• 10th anniversary of the establishment of Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia (September 2019)

• New buildings on Newcastle Helix:
  - Catalyst (home of NICA, NICD and NIHRIO), opening October 2019
  - Frederick Douglass Building (Learning and Teaching Centre): official opening 13 November 2019 (52nd anniversary of Dr Martin Luther King’s honorary degree)

• Appointment of a new Chancellor

• Upcoming opportunities to learn more
  - Professional Services Conference: 1 July
  - Staff Experience Day: Tuesday 1 October
  - Town Halls: 15, 16 and 29 October
Questions?