ILB - HoD presentation

May 2011

Challenging times for HE

Downward pressure on budgets - now and anticipated.

'Efficiency savings' in current teaching grant.

Research council budgets under pressure.

This year - trebling of fees, removal of 80% state support.

Engineering @ Sheffield

Strong financial and academic position.

Clear headroom in budget to make new appointments and exploit strategic opportunities.

Strong plans to grow - in student numbers and research performance.

Flexible ways of working: Faculty Finance clusters, and Faculty Computing.

Teaching: Rationalisation of small courses, and building on our commonality.

Estates: Have set out strategy to deal with 1, 5 and 15 year timeframes. Ambitious new plans for 2 new Engineering buildings, built with a 3-4 year timescale.

Growing PhD student numbers across the Faculty.

Some CS highlights last year:

- (more than) Doubled our Research income
- Admissions - strong OS performance
- Admissions - doubled our PhD student numbers
- Curriculum review
- Faculty Prize Lectureship appointments
- Three new posts - Chair, SL and L

Research Income

Doubled income from £1.8m to, at least, £3.2m + …

New EPSRC Programme grant in Speech and Hearing (with Cambridge and Edinburgh). Total budget of £7.18M - Sheffield part is £2.2M.

New funding - EPSRC, BBSRC, MRC, EU FP7, Google, Cisco, …

Admissions

(Another) Very good year.

Strong UG cohort - not going into clearing. Strong OS UG numbers.

Maintained PGT student numbers, again strong OS group.

Doubled our PhD admissions - likely to repeat that again this year.

3 New lecturers - 3 bits of good news

Eleni Vasilaki - Machine Learning and Computational Biology. New EU FP7 ITN grant Neuroprosthetics to fund a PhD training network.

Trevor Cohn - Machine Learning and NLP. EPSRC first grant on statistical machines translation - funds an RA for 18 months.

Simon Tucker - OAK and SpandH. Successful with an 18m JISC proposal to look at how we can combine open data sources with University student records.

Faculty Prize Lectureships

5 posts across the Faculty - world class academics, irrespective of subject area…

600 applications, 130 in computer science…
24 presentations…
11 interviews…

James Marshall appointed in COM, and John Terry in ACSE - significantly strengthen our work in Computational Biology and Comp Neuroscience.

More posts:

Three new academic posts in CS - currently shortlisting applicants.

Plans for a VPH - Virtual Physiological Human - Institute together with Medicine and NHS Trust.

Biomedical modelling and simulation of the human body. Aims to improve our ability to predict, diagnose and treat disease.

Project 2012

As part of the changing HE landscape the University is developing 'propositions' concerning the value and content of a Sheffield degree.

They encapsulate why students choose to come to Sheffield and what they can expect when they are here.
It reflects our educational mission and the values we hold in common.

The propositions are intended to inform our internal debate about what we offer - and will drive further change in the student experience.

Project 2012

For example, we are planning:

A 'Skills week' in part of Christmas exam period:
Level 1: Faculty-wide interdisciplinary projects (eg employability projects)
Level 2: Technical skills

A new Faculty module - taught by Mgt School on combination of Mgt, Accounting and Law.

Placements and Projects

Flexible

Students
– Can decide to take a year in industry in their final year in the area they like

Employers
– Any areas as long as appropriate work experience is guaranteed
– No limited lists

7/15/2011   Placement @ DCS © The University of Sheffield

Framework

12 month placement
– Preferred with single employer
– 2 x 6-months placements possible but difficult to organise for the student

University takes supporting role
– Regular contacts + placement visits
– Journal (kept on MOLE)

Final report + presentation

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Selection

Students approach industry and look for placements
– No constraints on sectors – IT needs are everywhere
– Minimum performance in semester 1 – 55%

Once a placement is secured, assessment based on
– Match with degree
– Suitability of project/employment (University)

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Internal advertising

http://www.dcs.shef.ac.uk/intranet/handbook/learning/placements.html

http://www.shef.ac.uk/placements

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Requirements

For Students
– 55 % in Semester 1
– Student registration at reduced rate

For Employers
– Students will need to be paid a salary
– Issuing a contract of employment
– Health and Safety questionaire

For all
– A placement agreement, this is a three way agreement between your organisation, the student and the University.

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Support Services

Careers
– Announcements of Job Events
– Individual job postings – University careers
– Announcements of summer project opportunities

Degree Projects
– Welcome industrial proposals and supervision

A.O.B.