Earning public trust and political confidence

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Universities UK

Sept 2019
THIS. IS. NOT. NORMAL.
The current climate for HE

Challenges

• Brexit and immigration
• Funding
• Reputational issues
• Gaining better public support
EU students entering the UK under European Temporary Leave to Remain system could only stay in the UK for up to three years.

UK institutions would become ineligible to compete for the globally-prestigious research funding

Around 17,000 students in the UK would not be able to study or work abroad as part of Erasmus+

A no-deal exit could jeopardise the UK’s ability to associate with the next Horizon programme from 2021–27.

Uncertainty over EU Student fees/loan status could impact
Preparing universities

Majority of universities well-prepared for no-deal Brexit; but more than 80% ‘very’ or ‘extremely’ concerned about the impact no-deal on their university:

• 50% of institutions have experienced a change in demand from EU students.
• 55% have experienced a change in the level of collaboration with overseas partners.
• 60% have lost existing or potential staff members to overseas institutions.
Government’s International Education Strategy – grow International student numbers 600,000 per year, by 2030.

Change on post-study work visas a significant and positive development.
Key recommendations from Augar review

• Focus on lifelong learning

• Reintroduction of maintenance grant

• Encouraging more people to do post-18 qualifications

• But concern over cutting fees to £7.5K fees without top up
Reputational issues

Father of Bristol University’s 10th suicide victim in 18 months on how to stop the toll

Student mental health support must improve, universities told

One-third of 18-year-old university applicants get unconditional offer

Rise in England, Wales and Northern Ireland fuels debate over student recruitment

Record number of firsts prompts warnings of university grade inflation

Nicola Woolcock, Education Correspondent

January 17 2019, 5:00pm, The Times
What universities are doing

Students and the public must have confidence in university admissions

University 'grade inflation' to be tackled as first-class degrees rise
Public understanding, trust and support
Public sentiment towards universities: pre and post information being shared

Sharing information drives positivity towards the sector
The prism through which universities are seen tends to be the undergraduate student experience

This means that postgraduate study or research is rarely front of mind; however, when presented with information about university research, the public are overwhelmingly positive about it.
There is a real interest in universities’ role in their local community, but this is the area of impact least understood or recognised.

Just 31% say that universities have a positive impact on their local community, while 40% feel that they are not informed to any extent about the impact of universities on their local community.
A lack of understanding of universities’ impact creates a risk that even the most positive lack ammunition to advocate for the sector

- Only a minority say they feel informed to a great extent about what we do.
- In the workshops it was apparent that the majority of people rarely think about universities, largely finding the sector irrelevant.
The Guardian
Cultured robots and prison record labels: the UK’s research breakthroughs

Mail Online
Telling vegans to eat cress, making electricity from URINE and giving robots to the elderly: Top UK university breakthroughs of all time

- It covers health, tech, family, environment, sport and culture and community
- The list celebrates research which has transformed people’s everyday lives
- Research from the University of the West of England (UWE) found a way to make viable electricity from human urine

By JOE PINKSTON FOR MAILONLINE
PUBLISHED: 00:06, 6 December 2018 | UPDATED: 12:05, 6 December 2018

THE IRISH NEWS
Pantridge makes 100 best breakthroughs list

TV, safer scrums and the living wage ‘among top university breakthroughs’

The list, which was published by Universities UK (UUK), celebrates the discoveries which have had a transformative effect on peoples’ lives.

Metro
Water-repellent phones and flatscreen TVs among top tech innovations from UK universities

Jeff Parsons Thursday 6 Dec 2018 10:00 am

UK universities celebrate best breakthroughs

- University of Oxford
- University of Cambridge
- University College London
- Imperial College London
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Strathclyde
- University of Nottingham
- University of Leeds
- University of Bath
- University of Manchester

University challenges historic advances

Among the standout breakthroughs by UK universities are:

- University of Aberdeen
- University of Kent
- University of Leeds
- University of Leicester
- University of Liverpool
- University of Manchester
- University of Nottingham
- University of Oxford
- University of Sheffield
- University of Strathclyde

Made At Uni

TV, safer scrums and the living wage ‘among top university breakthroughs’

The invention of the television, improved rugby scrummaging techniques and the living wage have all been named among a list of the top breakthroughs by UK universities.

The list, compiled by Universities UK (UUK), aims to celebrate significant social initiatives made by academics over the years which have had a transformative effect on peoples’ lives.
World Rugby @UniofBath rugby research in list of ‘most significant’ university breakthroughs, helping to make the game safer for players across the globe #MadeAtUni

bath.ac.uk/announcements/ ...

University of Bath @UniofBath

Today we join universities across the UK in celebrating the ways that universities have improved everyday life with @UniversitiesUK’s #MadeAtUni. See the 100 leading breakthroughs and find out more at MadeAtUni.org.uk

1:52 AM - 6 Dec 2018
13 Retweets 20 Likes

England Rugby @EnglandRugby : Dec 6

Making the game safer for over 9 million players ⭐

Find out why @UniversitiesUK has named @UniofBath’s research into injury prevention in rugby among the most significant university breakthroughs of the year: bit.ly/2zMWtdB

United Kingdom trends · Change

#2018Wrapped🎶
28.2K Tweets

#o2down

BBC News (UK) and Waterstones are Tweeting about this

#ThursdayThoughts
34.2K Tweets

Paul Clement
1,344 Tweets

#MadeAtUni
University of Essex, Sam Gyimah MP, and 4 more are Tweeting about this

#r4today

BBC News (UK), Guido Fawkes, and 1 more are Tweeting about this

Mental Health Act
2,683 Tweets

Sceau Royal

Un De Sceaux

Saint Calvados

Having supported Universities across the UK over the past 10 years, it’s great to see the #MadeAtUni campaign up and running! Santander Universities supports education, employability and entrepreneurship through 84 partnerships and are truly inspired by the amazing work they do.
COMING SOON – WE WOULD LIKE YOUR HELP

• More people realise the importance of universities in shaping the UK’s cultural and creative excellence.

• Recognition of the importance of the arts and culture to the UK economy and our lives.

• Artists standing up for their education

• Rebalancing of STEM and low value degree narrative