



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

Office
Of The
President &
Vice-Chancellor.

The Senate, 23 October 2019

President & Vice-Chancellor's Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This paper presents a summary of key background information on recent developments, and is based on the President & Vice-Chancellor's report to Council on 8 July 2019.

The President & Vice-Chancellor will introduce the report at the meeting and will provide members of the Senate with the opportunity to raise questions on any aspect of the report.

1. EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT

1.1 Augar report published

- The most significant development since the last report has been the publication of the panel report supporting the Government's Post-18 Education and Funding Review. A summary of the key findings relevant to the HE sector were circulated to Council on 30 May. The full report, with over fifty recommendations, can be found on the Department for Education website [here](#), along with further documentation on methodology and cost impact studies. We will continue to assess the impact of the recommendations and make representations alongside other institutions to Government. The greatest danger is that the Government decides to cherry pick individual recommendations without considering the overall implications for the sector.
- The response of the sector has been mixed. The Russell Group [responded](#) by welcoming the additional resource for further education and lifelong learning, but also warned that there must be a guarantee that any lost income through a reduction in tuition fees is covered by an increase in the teaching grant and that the funding system should continue to support the full range of academic disciplines. It also noted caution that the proposed new repayment system may unfairly increase the burden on lower and middle-income graduates, which is something the Institute for Fiscal Studies noted in its [analysis](#).
- Universities UK [raises](#) concern about the removal of funding for foundation year courses, which it views as an important route for widening participation and the potential knock-on impact for universities in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland. The Chief Executive, Alistair Jarvis, also warns against reducing tuition fees without a corresponding increase in funding.
- **TUoS interest:** any significant change to the funding system for Post-18 Education is likely to have significant financial implications. Augar is correct that STEM subjects are underfunded and that this provision is strategically necessary in delivering the University strategy, and so we welcome proposals to rebalance the funding system towards those higher cost subjects. It is positive that additional funding would not come in the form of differential tuition fees, which that could create perverse incentives for potential students. However, there is concern about the impact on arts and social science subjects where the fee would reduce without a similar grant top-up. If the Government simply cherry picks the parts of the Review it finds favourable, there would be severe financial implications for Sheffield and the wider sector. Furthermore, the University's

civic function of our University goes far beyond the core functions of teaching and research. The University continues to advocate for a Post-18 funding system that benefits all students.

1.2 Brexit

- With the Prime Minister's resignation and the lack of progress towards a deal with the European Union by 31 October, the chances of a no deal Brexit are increasing again.
- **TUoS interest:** The Brexit Co-Ordination Group, chaired by Professor Gill Valentine, has overseen the University's no-deal planning. This process was put on hold following the news of the extension to the Article 50 deadline, but will now be resurrected. The Group will meet in September to review and reassess the University's no deal preparations, set out in a Brexit Risk Register. We continue to work with other universities to lobby on key issues such as Erasmus and senior university leaders met with one of the Brexit Ministers, Kwasi Kwarteng MP, on his recent visit to Sheffield.

1.3 Post-study work visas for international students

- The [return](#) of post-study work visas in the UK, seven years after they were abolished will provide a new "graduate route" allowing eligible students to seek work at any skill level for two years after completing their courses. Any international student who will complete their course in or after the summer of 2021 will be eligible to apply for the new two year Graduate route. Unfortunately the Graduate route will not be open to those who have completed their studies or are due to complete them in the summer of 2020.
- **TUoS interest:** the University, along with others in the sector, had consistently argued that post-study work visa restrictions were counterproductive and damaging to the competitiveness of the UK's HE sector. Along with former Universities Minister Jo Johnson MP, one of the key architects behind an amendment was the MP for Sheffield Central, Paul Blomfield, and the University continues to work closely with him on related issues.

1.4 Mental Health for Staff

- A [report](#) from the Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI) suggests a serious and growing problem of poor mental health among university staff. The findings are based on Freedom of Information requests submitted to 59 institutions showing counselling referrals increased by 77% between 2009 and 2015, with occupational health referrals increasing by 64% over the same period. Dr Liz Morrish, the author, suggests remedies including sustainable career pathways, more autonomy and control over workload and responsible use of metrics.
- **TUoS interest:** The University was recently successful in securing a grant to work in partnership with Sheffield MIND to deliver the Mentally Healthy Universities Pilot Programme between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021. The programme will be piloted in ten universities over two years (a number will start from September 2019) and aims to support mental health across universities by focusing on prevention and early intervention for both staff and students. The programme has five main goals of which the following relate primarily to staff: Goal 4 to reduce stigma and improve peer support for university staff; Goal 5 to make positive changes to the way universities think and act about mental health.

1.5 BME Attainment Gap

- On 1 May the Office for Students (OfS) led an Insight Event which discussed disadvantaged students' access to university, the BAME attainment gap and the

issues faced by local commuter students. Universities UK (UUK) and the National Union of Students (NUS) released a [report](#) urging universities to commit to institution-wide changes in their efforts to address attainment gaps for Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) students. It found a 13% gap between the chances of white and BME students obtaining a first or upper second-class degree. Amatey Doku, NUS Vice-President for Higher Education, introduces the report and calls for radical changes in improving the pipeline of BME students into academia.

- **TUoS interest:** The University's President & Vice-Chancellor is one of 93 to have signed a commitment to implement the report's recommendations. The University has adopted a BAME Strategy and Action Plan. The University led the Raising Awareness, Raising Aspiration ([RARA](#)) project along with King's College London and the University of Portsmouth looking at the role of personal tutoring in narrowing attainment gaps.

1.6 OfS on contextual admissions

- The Office for Students (OfS) has [called](#) on universities to look beyond exam results when admitting students and to radically rethink how they judge merit. OfS produced a [briefing](#) on contextual admissions and held an insight [event](#) on this issue and on the BME attainment gap. OfS suggests that universities should take much greater account of the context in which exam results are achieved and institutions with high tariffs for access need to be more flexible in order to improve access and participation.
- **TUoS interest:** the University has worked hard to increase the tariff of successful applicants in recent years and continues to prioritise recruiting the highest quality students. However, A level results are just one measure of student potential and we will look for ways to widen participation to students from disadvantaged backgrounds, e.g. through foundation years and by offering a diverse range of subjects to suit a variety of student needs and aspirations. The University also has a contextual data scheme to highlight students from disadvantaged backgrounds and enable informed and holistic decision making by admissions selectors.

1.7 Education Secretary on unconditional offers

- The then Education Secretary, Damian Hinds MP, [called](#) for a review of university admissions, citing "unacceptable" practices to lure students into accepting places. Writing to 23 universities, including one Russell Group member, he argues that the use of "conditional unconditional" offers – where students are given an unconditional offer only if they list the institution as their first preference – should end. He has asked the Office for Students (OfS) to review admission practices, including how the process affects students from under-represented groups, [reports](#) Times Higher.
- There has been a robust response from the sector on the content of the announcement as admissions are a key aspect of university autonomy, protected in law in all significant HE legislation over the last few decades. Dr Greg Walker, Chief Executive of Million Plus, [argues](#) that universities have to take their admissions responsibilities seriously and their autonomy to do so has been protected by Parliament. Similarly, Nick Hillman, Director of the Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI), argues against ministerial intervention in comments [reported](#) by Times Higher. Damian Hinds subsequently publicly defended his intervention on this issue after facing heavy criticism and questions of the legality of his intervention from some academics.
- **TUoS interest:** the University does not use unconditional offers, but will continue to monitor developments in the sector on this issue.

1.8 Strategic projects and bids

- The final external report of the **Empowering Students** project, “Empowering students to take an active role in the University community – combating harassment, sexual violence and hate crime”, has been published. The Report shows the progress made in this area through the joint work of the University and Students’ Union, and sets out plans to support students. The University will look at ways to embed learning from this project.
- The University submitted a joint funding bid with Sheffield Hallam University to the OfS Challenge Competition to create the Sheffield Wellbeing Hub: cross-city wellbeing infrastructure and service design to deliver a step change in student mental wellbeing, and to trial a model of social prescribing in Higher Education. Unfortunately, despite progressing through the various stages of the process, the bid was not successful in the end. The list of successful bids for this funding has been [released](#) by the OfS. (see also 2.10, below)

1.9 Cyber Security

- For a number of reasons, Cyber Security in HE institutions has been in the news over the last month. This topic has been covered twice by Radio 4’s Today programme and the second item in early June was repeated on the World Service. The first BBC story was triggered by a report by HEPI and JISC which dramatically stated that ‘Hackers beat university cyber-defences in two hours’.
- The initial report highlighted concerns about the threat HE institutions face from cyber-attacks and their ability to respond to the threat. However, the report was not shared with HE security teams in advance. The reporting in June was based on the first report and a number of follow up FOI requests that the BBC submitted to various HE institutions. The University received such a request but the University Secretary declined to respond based on legal advice.
- While the story has been sensationalised, nevertheless, there is a very real and growing cyber security threat facing the sector and the University is taking positive action to tackle it. Council approved spend on the Cyber Security Programme in 2017/18 and this work is ongoing with oversight from the UEB IT Sub-Group, and policy support from UEB Information Management Group, CiCS Information Security Team, and more broadly across the University.

2. EDUCATION AND STUDENT EXPERIENCE

2.1 Submission of Statutory Returns.

- **Access and Participation Plan 2020-25:** the University has submitted its first Access and Participation Plan in the new style required by the OfS. The new Plan covers a 5-year period and sets targets aligned with Government priorities as well as emphasising areas for intervention and improvement in University performance.
- **Institutional Profile Return:** the annual IPR return has been submitted to the OfS. It confirms the structure of the University and will be used as the framework for statutory reporting in 2019/20.
- **HESA Student and HESA Staff Returns:** preparations for the Staff and Student HESA returns are ongoing ahead of the 31 July census date.

2.2 Annual Planning Cycle

- UEB has reviewed and recommended a draft action plan for 2019/20. The planning discussions have been used to inform the financial forecasting process

and to inform where investment should be targeted. The action plan will be considered by Council in July with the final version of the Financial Forecasts.

2.3 Receipt of the OfS Grant Letter

- The University has received its annual Grant Letter. Under the new regulatory structure, funding for teaching is administered by the OfS and research funding by Research England. We are still awaiting confirmation from Research England regarding future funding.
- Total teaching grant has increased by £339k (+1.4%) due to an increase in the high-cost subject-based funding, mitigated by a drop in the targeted allocations element of the grant. High-cost subject based funding has seen an increase of £565k (+3.1%). The total fundable FTE has remained stable, but there has been a shift in the concentration of FTEs to the higher-funded price groups. This is most notable in Price Group A, clinical funding, with increased numbers of fundable students due to the continuing transfer of funding responsibilities to the OfS for programmes in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health.

Targeted allocations have decreased by £226k (-3.8%). Notable changes are:

- A reduction of £515k in the Postgraduate Taught Supplement (-83.5%). This is because funding for students eligible for postgraduate loans from this element of the grant has now ended.
- The Nursing and Allied Health Supplement has increased by £117k (39.0%). This is because the supplement will now apply to three cohorts as the supplement is in its third year.
- Other individual movements of <£100k because of changing FTEs in the relevant areas contribute a further £171k to this element of the grant.

2.4 Student Recruitment

The University's approach to confirmation, adjustment and clearing placed an emphasis on quality in home student intake and aspiring to meet our widening participation commitments, in line with the agreed recruitment strategy. A very positive outcome has been achieved. Although home undergraduate numbers fell marginally below our target, associated widening participation targets were met whilst overseas undergraduate numbers exceeded the target. At the same time the percentage of students with grades at or below BBB reduced from last year (excluding foundation years).

2.5 National University Performance Metrics / Tables

- The following table shows the University's ranking in a number of league tables published since the April meeting of Council:

Complete University Guide (CUG) (published 28 May 2019)
www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/league-tables/rankings

- 2020: 2019: 33rd 30th
- Ten measures are used to compile the ranking, including those for student satisfaction, research quality, entry standards and graduate destinations.
 - Overall score has increase by 4.2%, however the average change in score across the sector shows an decrease of 9.6%
 - There were two subjects in the top 10% in their table, these are:
 1. Architecture
 2. Communication & Media Studies

Guardian University Tables (published 7 June 2019)
<https://www.theguardian.com/education/ng-interactive/2019/jun/07/university-league-tables-2020>

- 2020: 2019: 45th 39th
- The aim is to provide a guide to first-time students. The tables focus on teaching and do not include measures relating to research. Nine measures are used to create the ranking, including those relating to student satisfaction, career prospects and entry tariff.
 - Overall score has decrease by 13.8%, however the average change in score across the sector shows an decrease of 17%
 - There were two subjects in the top 10% in their table, these are:
 1. Architecture and 2. Journalism, Publishing & Public Relations

2.6 Programme Level Approach

- The Programme Level Approach (PLA) continues as a Learning & Teaching priority for academic departments in 2018-19. Departments have either completed, or are in the process of completing, a survey of current assessment (methods, volume, and content) with a view to reducing assessment burden. They have also reflected on the balance of assessments across the academic year, and taken action to improve the distribution and management of these. Departments have engaged with students to understand how they experience assessment and feedback within programmes and how this might be improved.
UEB have agreed to establish a “Supporting & Enabling PLA” project to support departments in the successful adoption of PLA. A range of resources have been developed and circulated to departments.
- In addition to ensuring PLA plans are implemented, student engagement continues, and the agreed priorities for 2019-20 are:
 1. a) Strengthen programme content and assessment to ensure there is opportunity for students to develop and evidence employability and the Sheffield Graduate Attributes throughout their programme.
b) Ensure students have a good understanding of when and how they will develop these skills and are able to recognise and articulate these when seeking employment.
 2. To work on developing an inclusive curriculum, to close attainment gaps for students from underrepresented groups and to foster a sense of belonging for all students with equal opportunities for all to succeed
 3. To engage students in reflection on how programmes can embed education for sustainable development, which would equip them with the knowledge, skills,

values and attributes needed to work and live in a way that will bring about solutions to environmental, economic and social challenges.

2.7 Teaching Excellence Framework

- The University has provided Heads of Departments with the second round of data identifying indicative performance against the proposed Subject-Level Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF). The data will be discussed in a series of forthcoming departmental visits, which will enable departments to assess key issues and agree a series of priority actions.
- A TEF Preparations Task Group has been established to oversee the process on behalf of UEB. The group will establish a roadmap and principles for preparing for Subject Level TEF. The review of Subject-Level TEF, chaired by Dame Shirley Pierce, is expected to report to the Secretary of State in mid-July. This report will make recommendations with regard to metrics and timescales o.
- The University has been awarded Silver in the Year 4 TEF awards. This award is valid for up to two years and the full submission is publicly [available](#).

2.8 Senate Awards

- The [winners of the 2018-2019 Senate Awards have been announced](#). The Senate Awards Scheme rewards those who are inspirational or who demonstrate an exceptional contribution in the area of learning and teaching and/or supporting and enhancing the student learning experience. The panel commented on the incredibly high standard of applications this year, which is testament to the excellent teaching across the institution.

2.9 Learning and Teaching Professional Recognition Scheme

- The panels for the Personal Pathway met on 29 April. In total, 65 staff gained HEA fellowship for their teaching practice as follows:
 - 5 were recognised as Associate Fellow of the HEA
 - 39 were recognised as Fellow of the HEA
 - 21 were recognised as Senior Fellow of the HEA

We have received 86 applications in the latest round of submissions. The LTPRS Management Group will meet in May to discuss the development of the Scheme going forward.

2.10 Office for Students Challenge Competition Student Mental Health

- In October 2018, the OfS launched a £6 million Challenge Competition to help higher education providers, working with students, students' unions and partners such as the NHS and charities, to generate new approaches to mental health issues. As reported at 1.8, The TUoS bid to create the Sheffield Wellbeing Hub, joint with SHU, was unsuccessful. However, we are delighted to be a partner on a bid led by the University of West of England entitled Student Mental Health Partnerships. This project aims to improve care for students in crisis and with complex needs through the development of partnerships between universities and local NHS to streamline pathways to care. Sheffield will be working with UCL, to provide evaluation of partnerships in the 5 regions involved; Liverpool, Manchester, Sheffield, Bristol and North London.

A recent positive internal audit review of Student Wellbeing is covered in the report of the Audit Committee.

Mental Health First Aid training for staff is being rolled out from May - July and will see an additional 128 staff trained by the end of July.

2.11 Work Experience Bursaries

- Using central and Faculty of Science funding we have been able to support 24 students from WP backgrounds to undertake work experience in a variety of charities, voluntary organisations, and SMEs. These bursaries ensure that our most disadvantaged students can access work experience that allows them to explore their career ideas and build their skills and confidence.

3. RESEARCH AND ITS IMPACT

3.1 Research awards

- New awards for the last 12 months to the end of May 2019 now stand at £153.2m. This is a decrease of £22.2m (12.7%) on the value of awards in May 2018 (£175.4m). The main reason for this fall is £15.3m less Catapult funds in the May 2019 figures compared to May 2018.
- There have been 6 new awards since the last report for over £1m. The Medical Research Council, Department of Health and the Science and Technology Facilities Council have funded awards for £2.9m, £2.6m and £2.2m respectively, whilst there were other awards of £1.2m from the European Commission, and £1m from both Innovate and the EPSRC.
- The value of new awards for the 12 months to May 2019 has risen in the RCUK and Overseas Sponsor Categories by £8.6m and £11.6m respectively compared to May 2018. There was a large fall in the UK Government Sponsor Category (£32.2m) and smaller reductions in the value of EU Framework (£3.7m), Charities (£3.3m) and Industry (£3.4m).
- There has been a fall of 81 in the number of new grants opened for the 12 months to the end of May 2019 (909), compared with the 12 months to May 2018 (828). The number of new awards has fallen in all categories apart from Charities, which has risen by 23 between May 2018 and May 2019. The biggest fall was in the number of Government awards (-66), mainly due to 39 fewer UK Government Catapult awards compared to May 2018.
- As at May 2019, research grants Work In Progress (Research Order Book) stands at £277.4m (£267.2m excluding AMRC) which is an increase of £5.1m on May 2018 (£272.3m).
- The University has secured an additional £6.8m of European Regional Development Funding (ERDF) matched against a Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) capital and revenue grant for £7m, which secures the build of the Translational Energy Research Centre close to the existing three engineering centres which opened last year.

3.2 Sheffield Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE)

- Thanks to the provision of Strike Allocation Funds, the 2019 cohort of SURE students will be the largest yet, with 131 UG students undertaking research projects this summer. The SURE scheme offers undergraduate students an opportunity to become directly involved in the research activity of the University, take part in real-life research projects in subject areas that are of special interest, and experience an academic research environment. The experience can deepen participants' subject knowledge and enhance transferable skills.

3.3 Research development

University Research Institutes – Flagships:

The first four research flagships (Sustainable Food; Neuroscience; Energy; and Healthy Lifespan) successfully 'soft launched' at the end of April. The individual URIs will have their own launches with stakeholder communities, and continue

to work internally on their academic engagement. Work has begun on a recruitment campaign, as well as supporting business planning and evaluation.

- **Research Excellence Framework:**

Achieving a strong outcome in REF2021 is a key objective as it delivers both reputational and financial benefits. The University submitted its proposed Code of Practice for approval by the Funding Councils. The annual stocktake, which indicates preparedness in terms of research outputs (publications and other artefacts) and exemplars of how our research has had impact beyond academia, will be reported to UEB. The academic year 2019/20 will see us finalising output selections (to maximise the quality of our return); supporting the case studies of impact to refine narratives and collect final evidence; and drafting statements which outline the quality of our research environment. The final submission deadline is November 2020.

3.4 Impact, innovation and knowledge exchange

- The University's MindSphere Lounge in The Diamond hosted the first Symposium for Siemens' MindSphere Innovation Network (MINE). This involved 40 academics from 20 UK universities (including University and AMRC representatives), alongside Siemens and other industry representatives to set challenges for discussion around Industrial Internet of Things.

The Symposium was followed by an academic workshop led by the Pitch-In project, a Sheffield-led consortium funded by Research England's Connected Capabilities Fund. The workshop looked at developing co-authored guidance relating to the development of Internet of Things (IoT) Knowledge Exchange projects focused on how to overcome barriers and ensure impact.

- Professor Vanessa Toulmin in Partnerships and Regional Engagement has won an Arts Council England (ACE) award of £120,000 over 2 years for the 'Off the Shelf' festival of words, the annual literary festival supported by the two universities in the city. This award will fund the festival in 2019 and 2020.
- Over 60 academics from across the University took part in the annual international festival, 'Pint of Science'. Talks took place in six pubs in the city giving researchers the opportunity to hear new ideas and see their research in a new light. The 'Meet the Academic' event at DocFest (Sheffield's International Documentary Festival) is now in its fifth year and provided eight colleagues with dedicated media brokerage for platforms for engaged research collaborations.
- Following recent confirmation of ERDF funding, the University will continue to partner on the following continuation projects: an enhanced RISE programme in partnership with Sheffield City Council and Sheffield Hallam University and, the Sheffield Innovation Programme in partnership with the Sheffield City Region Growth Hub and Sheffield Hallam University.

4. STRATEGIC PARTNERS

4.1 Alumni Volunteering

- **eMentoring** - 320 alumni and students completed the spring eMentoring programme led by the Careers Service. Alumni from a range of different sectors and job roles provided one to one support and guidance to students from across the faculties helping them to explore their career options and develop their networks.
- **National Volunteers Week** To mark National Volunteers Week we shared a series of stories via social media about the alumni who volunteer their time to help enhance the student experience.

5. OUR PLACE: LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY

5.1 Outbound visits:

- **Going Global:** The University attended the British Council's Going Global conference in Berlin this May. Meetings took place with the National University of Singapore, and the universities of Deakin and Freiburg to discuss existing and potential collaborations.
- **Worldwide Universities Network (WUN):** The President & Vice-Chancellor led a delegation including the Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Students' Union President, and Global Engagement colleagues to the WUN Annual General Meeting and Conference, hosted by the University College Dublin, this May. As a result of individual meetings with key WUN partners, a call for staff to apply for seed funding for projects with the universities of UFMG and Renmin will open shortly.

5.2 Inbound visits

- **Nanjing University:** The President & Vice-Chancellor hosted a visit from a delegation of eight members of staff. A seed fund agreement to encourage increased collaboration was signed and representatives from each faculty met with the visitors to discuss existing and potential collaboration.
- **Renmin University:** Following a visit by the Vice-President Research and Innovation to Renmin University in April 2019, a delegation from Renmin visited the University in May to discuss the implementation of a pump priming scheme supporting Official Development Assistance-compliant research projects, and student and staff mobility. There are synergies across a number of areas, including the Healthy Lifespan and Sustainable Food research flagships.
- **University of Auckland:** The University hosted a delegation to share best practice in the management and governance of Student Advisory and Support Services.
- **British Council Mexico:** The University hosted a workshop, attended by more than 35 academic members of staff, on upcoming British Council funding opportunities in Mexico. The recently launched Higher Education Alliances, the Newton Fund Institutional Links 2019, and the Newton Fund Impact Scheme calls support collaborations focused on transnational education strategies and innovation challenges with direct relevance to the social welfare and economic development of Mexico.
- **Czech Consul General:** The new Czech Consul General in Manchester, Ivo Losman, led a delegation of members from the Senate Committee on Compatriots Abroad, representatives of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the University. A number of areas where there is a possibility for support for the University's programmes were identified. The visit included meeting members of staff from the Czech studies programme, one of only two in the Consulate's area.

5.3 AMRC

- In accordance with the recommendations of the AMRC Governance review, future reports will include an update on AMRC activity through the the UEB-AMRC Group Executive Board. The Board's next meeting is on 1 July.

5.4 Other Activities

- Nanjing Technical University have confirmed that they will be officially terminating the Joint Institute with Sheffield, as requested by us. This has allowed discussions to start with them on renewing the 3+1 programme outside

of a Joint Institute; confidence in the business case and quality control will be key to a successful outcome.

6. PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY

6.1 Communications

- The University received more than 4,000 pieces of national and international media coverage between 9 April 2019 and 17 June 2019. This includes international coverage in countries such as India, China, the US, Australia and Germany. Examples of University stories in the media during this time include:
 - The launch of the four flagship University Research Institutes (see 3.3, above).
 - Research from the Department of Chemistry discovered a compound that is able to kill antibiotic-resistant superbugs such as E. coli.
 - Researchers from the School of English uncovered a lost play by celebrated author Barry Hines.
 - A report from the University of Sheffield's Political Economy Research Institute (Speri) found that some leading retailers are failing to fulfil their commitments to pay fair wages to workers in garment factories. The development of an online tool which provides personalised information on the risks and benefits of having a joint replacement.

6.2 Success and achievement

- The University overtook Imperial College London to be the top university in the UK for income and investment in engineering research, according to new data published by the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA).
- The University has been recognised for its ongoing commitment to progressing gender equality by the renewal of its silver award to 2022 under the flagship accreditation scheme, Athena SWAN Charter.
- The University launched the new Future Electrical Machines Manufacturing Hub, which aims to put UK manufacturing at the forefront of the electrification revolution in aerospace, energy, high value automotive and premium consumer sectors.
- The Students' Union accepted the Whatuni Student Choice Award for Best Students' Union in April.
- Researchers from the University of Sheffield have been named a key partner in the UK's first Centre for Cultural Value.
- Professor John Rodenburg, (Electronic and Electrical Engineering) was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society for his work on microscopic imaging.
- Professor Thomas Helleday, (Oncology and Metabolism) was named among the Nation's Lifesavers, being recognised for his exceptional contribution to keeping the nation healthy through his research into cancer treatment.
- Professor Neil Lawrence (Computer Science), an artificial intelligence (AI) expert, will join an independent committee advising government on the technology.
- University academics held a series of free talks on their world-leading research at Sheffield's Millennium Gallery.
- An award of €2.1 million to help develop technology to monitor how well people walk – a vital sign of health and wellbeing.

6.3 2019 Queen's Birthday Honours List Summary

The following Sheffield alumni, staff and former staff received honours:

- **CBE (Commander of the Order of the British Empire)**

- Mr Jim Grant (aka Lee Child) (LLB 1977, Hon LittD 2009) “Author. For services to Literature”
- **OBE (Officer of the Order of the British Empire)**
 - Mr Clive Humby (BSc 1975 – Applied Maths/Computer Science, Hon DEng 2016) Chief Data Scientist, Starcount. For services to Data and Business in the UK.
 - Professor Lee Elliot Major (BSc 1990, PhD 1994 Physics, Hon DSc 2017) Lately Chief Executive Officer, Sutton Trust and Trustee, Education Endowment Foundation. For services to Social Mobility.
 - Professor Michael James (Jim) Norton (BEng 1974, Hon DEng 2003) Visiting Professor in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering for services to Engineering and the Digital Economy.
- **MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire)**
 - Dr Keith Clarkson (BSc 1979, PhD 1985 Zoology) For services to Wildlife Conservation
 - Mr David McKown (member of staff in Accommodation and Commercial Services for services to Hospitality Training and Education)
- **CMG (Companion of St Michael and St George)**
 - Professor Richard Carwardine (honorary graduate - Hon LittD 2015) For services to the study of American history in the UK and the USA
- We are now checking all 1,400 names to see if there are any other alumni who have been honoured.

6.4 Events Held

- John Piper painting event for local alumni. Held in the Council Room, with Pro-Chancellor and alumnus Richard Mayson, who has donated a painting to the University, and art historian Anne Goodchild.
- American Annual Alumni Reunion, held in San Francisco and hosted by the President and Vice-Chancellor, for alumni based in USA.
- 50th, 60th and 65th Anniversary Alumni Reunion luncheon held in Firth Hall for Classes of 1954 and 1959 and 1969.
- University Quiz night, held in the Octagon and attended by over 400 staff, students and alumni, raising funds for scholarships.
- Alumni football tournament, quiz and club night, held on campus in conjunction with Sport Sheffield and the Students’ Union.
- Major Gifts Summer Dinner

6.5 Upcoming Events

- Former Staff Event - A dinner for former staff and friends of the University held in Firth Court.
- Summer Graduations.

7. CHALLENGE OF RESOURCE

7.1 **Financial Results to 30 April 2019:** The financial results to 30 April 2019 were circulated on 21 June 2019.

Headlines – underlying activities:

- Operating surplus to 30 April 2019 of £23.9m compared to a budgeted surplus of £6.7m, an improvement of £17.2m.
- Income of £519.8m compared to a budget of £509.9m, a positive difference of £9.9m (+1.9%).

- Expenditure of £496.0m, compared to a budget of £503.2m, an underspend of £7.3m (+1.5%)
- Cash generated from operations remains strong at £90.2m (April 2018: £80.3m); liquidity days are 39 (April 2018: 30)
- Capital expenditure for the year to date £83.0m (April 2018: £55.8m)

The positive year to date performance is mainly due to additional fee income and net income from patents and licences. In addition, Faculties, Professional Services, shared costs and other central cost areas are reporting year to date underspends.

Tuition fee income is £9.0m higher than the year to date budget (full year £12.0m). This is mainly due to higher than target recruitment of overseas PGT students, primarily within the Faculty of Social Sciences. These gains are offsetting shortfalls in undergraduate recruitment, which impacts on both 2018/19 and future years. By Faculty, the picture is variable, ranging from a fee income shortfall of £1.1m in Arts to a gain of £8.0m in Social Sciences. The shortfall in undergraduate recruitment has also meant that residential income is less than budget, with Residences reporting a deficit.

The year to date results include a shortfall in underlying research income of £18.4m (14.1%), largely offset by a reduction in research expenditure. These results were also considered by Finance Committee on 9 May.

8. POWER OF PEOPLE

8.1 New Key Appointments

- Professor Adrian Wilkinson has been appointed as a Chair in Employment Relations in the Management School with effect from 1 May 2019. Professor Wilkinson was previously a Professor of Employment Relations at Griffith University.
- Mr Keith Jackson has been appointed as Chair in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship in Automatic Control & Systems Engineering with effect from 20 May 2019. Mr Jackson was previously Chief Technology Officer at Meggitt PLC.
- Professor Tracey Moore has been appointed as the first Dean of the new Health Sciences School. Professor Moore was previously Head of the School of Nursing and Midwifery and Faculty Director for Engagement and Development.

9. LEGAL AND REGULATORY MATTERS

9.1 Reportable Events

- In its role as principal regulator of HEIs, the OfS requires that serious incidents have been appropriately notified under registration condition F3(i). Reports are made on behalf of Council, and it is therefore appropriate that Council should be informed on a regular basis about incidents reported to the OfS. The OfS defines a reportable event as 'any event or circumstance that, in the judgement of the OfS, materially affects or could materially affect the provider's legal form or business model, and/or its willingness or ability to comply with its conditions of registration'.
- Details of reportable events notified to the OfS will be notified to Council and, if necessary, will appear as a separate agenda item. No events have been notified to OfS since Council in April.