Birmingham Professional Forum

Lee Sanders, Registrar and Secretary
2 April 2015
Agenda

- **Introduction** - Lee Sanders

- **An introduction to...** Chris Granger, Director of Finance

- **Higher Education Review** - Professor Jeff Bale, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Education

- **Life Sciences Strategy** – Professor David Adams, Head of MDS with Professor Myra Nimmo, Head of LES & Dr Emma Robinson, Director of Operations, MDS

- **Tableau Implementation Project** – Olivia Kew-Fickus, Director of Strategic Planning

- **Questions**
Introduction – my background

- Chartered Accountant
- Birmingham Economics graduate
- Married with two teenage daughters, live in Worcestershire
- >25 years private sector experience of financial management
  - Manufacturing
  - Banking
  - Services
- Wide range of roles in finance
- Extensive international experience
80 days in – my initial observations

- Breadth and diversity of activity
- Experienced, committed and able teams
- Positive momentum, e.g. research awards and student recruitment
- Financially strong
  - Important advantage in more challenging times ahead
  - How to deploy resources to best effect?
- Increasing sector competition
  - Differentiate through academic strength and student experience
- Do we recognise, and focus on, on our strengths?
- Complexity$^2$
- Use of information?
Our core systems were designed in a different era

1983
- UoB annual income £52m
- Capital expenditure £3m
- c. 9,500 students
- c. 4,750 staff (?)

2015
- UoB annual income £555m
- Capital expenditure £100m
- 32,000+ students
- c. 7,000 staff

Upay (1984), upgraded to Alta HR (1997)
Research Accounting (1987)

2.9bn global internet users
“New Core” – Supporting the future UoB

Recognising the limitations and risks of our ageing systems we are launching a project to replace key HR, Payroll and Finance Systems “New Core”

An opportunity to create key business systems and processes to underpin the University through the next 15 years

These processes touch all parts of the university so engagement from the wider Academic and Professional Services communities is an important principle for the project

Project will formally launch later this year and aim to deliver the new systems in 2017/18
We face more challenging times….

- **Post-election government funding**
  - Government deficit reduction
  - Tuition fees (and transition impact)
  - Research funding (and allocation)

- **Increasing competition**
  - REF / academic quality
  - International students

- **High level risks**
  - UK membership of EU
  - China slowing

- **Other financial pressures**
  - Pensions / National Insurance
  - Inflationary squeeze
What do we need to do?

• Deliver on our existing strategies
  – REF 2020 strategy for improved academic performance
  – Growing our research market share
  – Continue improving the student experience
  – International student growth

• Extract more value from our resources
  – Alignment to priorities
  – Make the right choices
  – Collaboration (inside and outside)
  – Capturing value from our intellectual property

• Doing things well
  – Simple, effective and efficient processes
  – Better integration and standardisation
  – Don’t “gold plate”
Thank you
Higher Education Review

Professor Jeff Bale
Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Education
Life Sciences Strategy

Prof. David Adams - PVC, HoC MDS & Dean of Medicine
Prof. Myra Nimmo - PVC & HoC LES
Dr Emma Robinson - DoOps MDS

Birmingham Professional Forum
– 2nd April 2015
Overview

- Life Sciences – UK & Birmingham context
- UoB Life Sciences Strategy
  - Vision
  - Priorities
    - BHP-ITM
    - Research Themes
    - Facilities
    - Education
  - Outcomes
UK Life Sciences

Chart 8: Number of science graduates

Chart 9: Government spend on health research and development

Delivering Growth

National Institute for Health Research
How should biomedicine (human biology, clinical and biomedical sciences) respond to the scientific, social and funding challenges of the coming decade.

- Academic Advisory Group – MDS, LES, EPS, CoSS - 4 Work streams
- Data – REF, VC Reviews, Tableau
- External Visits
- Individual/Group Discussion
- Intranet site
Vision:
Birmingham will increase its international standing and become a leading contributor to the successful delivery of the government’s vision for Life Sciences in the UK:

“The UK will become the global hub for life sciences in the future, providing an unrivalled ecosystem that brings together business, researchers, clinicians and patients to translate discovery into clinical use for medical innovation within the NHS. The UK will provide an environment and infrastructure that supports pioneering researchers and clinicians to bring innovation to market earlier and more easily, making the UK the location of choice for investment. Life Sciences will continue to be vibrant in the UK and will be a key contributor to sustained economic growth.”

Extract from the UK Life Sciences Strategy
UoB LSS – Priorities

1. Delivery of a co-ordinated high-quality research programme

2. Delivery of high-quality biomedical teaching

3. Driving the local, regional and national life sciences economy
UoB LSS – Priorities

1. **Delivery of a co-ordinated high-quality research programme**
   - optimise UoB strengths and map to NHS through BHP
   - enhance collaboration and co-operation
   - raise the profile, outcomes and impact of UoB research
   - targeted investment
   - attract, develop and reward the best talent
   - define and deliver facilities at forefront of technical innovation

“Progress of science depends on new techniques, new discoveries and new ideas, probably in that order.”
Sydney Brenner Nobel Laureate
2. **Delivery of high-quality biomedical teaching**

- Integrated teaching/training aligned to research excellence
- Attuned to local/national workforce need for Life Sciences
- Removal of artificial internal barriers and duplication
- Clarity of the UoB training offer
- Delivery of high quality provision
UoB LSS – Priorities

3. **Driving the local, regional and national life sciences economy**

- Drive regional Life Sciences agenda with local government and industry through *Birmingham Life Sciences Campus*.
- Collaborate with regional HEIs to develop a regional strategy that fill gaps in expertise and technology and builds on local strengths.
- Contribute to national Life Sciences through UKTI, DH and Innovate UK.

*Battery Park scheme to create 7,000 jobs in Brum moves step closer.*
Translating discovery science into improved health through technological innovation
BHP Clinical Infrastructure

Building Key
01 QEHB or Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham
02 Centre for Translational Inflammation Research
03 NIHR Trauma Management HTC
04 NIHR Trauma Research Centre Surgical Reconstruction and Microbiology
05 Women’s Hospital
06 West Midlands Regional Genetics Service
07 UHB Trust Headquarters
08 Centre for Clinical Haematology
09 Nuffield House
10 Postgraduate Medical Centre
11 Oncology / Cancer Centre / ECMC
12 Advanced Therapies Facility
13 NIHR Wellcome Trust Birmingham CRF
14 Institute of Translational Medicine
15 Institute of Biomedical Research and NIHR BRU Liver Disease
16 Medical School
17 Cancer Clinical Trials Unit / Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit
Birmingham’s Institute of Translational Medicine (ITM)

Houses all components of an effective translational infrastructure:

• Clinical Research Facilities focussed on early drug discovery with a Centre for Rare Diseases embedded
• Clinical academic groups with a dedicated Stratified Medicine Floor
• Integrated Bioinformatics platform
• West Mids Genomics Medicine Centre
• Joint R&D Office
• Education centre delivering clinical and stratified medicine CPD
• Commercial business hub for pharma/biotech SMEs
LSS Priority 1 – Research Themes

Life & Environmental Sciences

Metabolism, Development & Reproduction

Immunity, Infection & Inflammation

Cancer

Applied Health Research

Medical & Dental Sciences

Cardiovascular Diseases

BHP Themes

Chronic inflammation
Autoimmunity
Trauma
Cancer
Rare diseases
Endocrine/metabolism
LSS Priority 1 – Cross-Campus Themes

LES
Environment, Health & Wellbeing

MDS
Biomedical Technologies, Devices & Nanotechnology
Ageing, Regeneration & Rehabilitation

EPS

CoSS
Cognitive & Translational Neurosciences

CAL
LSS Priority 1 - Facilities Group

- Detailed analysis of the research facilities across campus
- Establish most effective mechanisms for access, use and sustainability in support of LSS delivery
- Technical Academy & Technology Partnership development
LSS Priority 2 – Education Strategy Group

- Scoping of biomedical/health related UG and PG programmes and current CPD provision
- Establish with key stakeholders regional strategy and priorities for Life Sciences manpower development
- Establish an integrated education and training strategy for UoB Life Sciences
LSS - Outcomes

Financial and academic sustainability

High quality environment (staff, students, facilities)

Attract and retain leaders in their field.

LEADING GLOBAL UNIVERSITY
Further Info/Comments

- Intranet site to launch after Easter

- Contact: lifesciencesstrategy@contacts.bham.ac.uk
Tableau Implementation Project

Olivia Kew-Fickus
Director of Strategic Planning
Questions?

Feedback and topic requests can be sent to: internalcomms@contacts.bham.ac.uk

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