



CREATING THE UNIVERSITY OF THE FUTURE

NOTTINGHAM
TRENT UNIVERSITY 

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The greatest strengths of Nottingham Trent University are the energy, expertise and experience that colleagues bring to their academic disciplines and professional backgrounds. These attributes have enabled us to develop our reputation for outstanding campuses, teaching innovation, research excellence, exceptional scholarship, commitment to corporate social responsibility and sector leading information systems. The University has stewarded its resources effectively over recent years.

However, over the next five years changes to the domestic undergraduate student fee and number regimes will create further turbulence during a period when the competition to attract a broader range of students will increase. The contribution anticipated from universities to economic growth and social cohesion will intensify. There will be financial challenges as the value of UK fees reduces and other budgets come under pressure. Imperatives around widening access and improving retention will accelerate.

At the same time, students' expectations will understandably rise, in particular in relation to the enhancement of technology to underpin their studies. Employers will become more engaged in the design and delivery of a portfolio of more flexible courses that connect their requirements for talent with the aspirations of our students for their careers.

This document sets out the ambitions of Nottingham Trent under five key themes: Creating Opportunity, Valuing Ideas, Enriching Society, Connecting Globally and Empowering People. It summaries the approaches we will adopt in achieving these ambitions. It provides case studies which demonstrate our capability to deliver.

CREATING OPPORTUNITY

AMBITION

All our students excel in developing the knowledge, skills, and resilience to play the positive role in society they envisage for themselves. They personalise their learning, combining theoretical rigour, practical relevance, and personal development. As the destination of choice for an increasingly diverse group of students and professionals, we collaborate with employers to challenge, surprise, and inspire all those who study with us.

APPROACH

- We will integrate the development of intellectual capability, vocational skills, work experience and personal insight into the design of all our courses.
- Every course will contain strong links to employers.
- We will enable students and professionals to personalise their studies and experiences.
- New pathways into and through our taught courses and research programmes will expand the diversity of our student community.



DR PETRA MOLTHAN-HILL | PRINCIPAL LECTURER | NOTTINGHAM BUSINESS SCHOOL

CREATING OPPORTUNITY | CASE STUDY

GREENHOUSE GAS CONSULTANCY PROJECT

Winner of *The Guardian University Award 2015 in Business Partnership*, the Greenhouse Gas Consultancy Project is an example of innovative course delivery, in partnership with industry, to surprise and challenge students and benefit the organisations with whom we and they work.

Nottingham Business School and Investors in the Environment Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire combine leading-edge knowledge of current environmental technologies with practical application across different sectors. Students are trained in environmental management and, as part of their core curriculum, gain direct experience serving as consultants with local businesses and public bodies to advise on the reduction of environmental impact and assist in achievement of *Investors in the Environment (iE)* accreditation. In 2014 thirty two local business and organisations participated in the project, including public bodies such as four local Clinical Commissioning Groups and Broxtowe Borough Council. SMEs were supported through the University's Future Factory project, part funded by the European Regional Development Fund.

To be involved in the project as a business, public body, or academic institution, or for more information about the work contact Nottingham Business School, Dr Petra Molthan-Hill at petra.molthan-hill@ntu.ac.uk

VALUING IDEAS

AMBITION

We possess strong relationships and robust processes that enable discovery, drive innovation, and change the world, our students, and ourselves. They promote our disciplinary breadth, our intellectual depth, and our commitment to working across boundaries.

APPROACH

- We will implement a robust strategy to expand our research excellence and further our capability and capacity to be a valued partner in projects of high commercial and public salience.
- We will invest to sustain outstanding scholarship across all of our provision and continue to expand demonstrable ways in which research, scholarship, and innovation underpin our curricula.
- We will develop and nurture the next generation of researchers.



PROFESSOR PHILIP BREEDON | PROFESSOR IN SMART TECHNOLOGIES | SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, DESIGN AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

VALUING IDEAS | CASE STUDY

FACE TO FACE

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Invention for Innovation (i4i) interdisciplinary funded research project led by Nottingham Trent University exemplifies our drive for innovation, discovery, and commitment to working across boundaries.

In partnership with Nottingham CityCare Partnership, University of Nottingham, Maddison Product Design, patients, clinicians and engineers, researchers have developed a prototype system with the potential to revolutionise the treatment and management of those suffering facial weakness following a stroke. Affecting an estimated 26,000 of the 152,000 stroke victims each year, treatment protocols call for repeated facial muscle exercises. The prototype uses a 3D camera with depth sensor, a small form factor PC, and a monitor to recognise and track facial expressions. Employing technology to register movement across the face and apply the recognised motion to an on-screen representation of the user, the system is both intelligent and interactive. Through recording and monitoring development, and visualising the improvements that the patient is making from repeated exercises, the system provides feedback in response to the exercises and patient progress. Early clinical trials indicate that Face to Face motivates patients to practice their exercises, improves the effectiveness of the exercises, and speeds patient recovery thus benefitting patients as well as those involved in managing their care.

For further information about the project contact the School of Architecture, Design and the Built Environment, Professor Philip Breedon at philip.breedon@ntu.ac.uk

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ENRICHING SOCIETY

AMBITION

We play a leading role in the social, cultural, economic and environmental development of the City, East Midlands and United Kingdom. We deploy our resources and expertise in close alignment with strategic partners and engage with a wide range of organisations in order to enhance their prospects and those of our students.

APPROACH

- We will develop strategic relationships with civic and commercial partners that enable each party to achieve mutually agreed goals.
- The focused investment of our resources will help sustain the vitality of the regional economy thereby extending local opportunities for student employment.
- Through purposeful engagement, we will play a significant leadership role in shaping the national policy and practice of education and relevant professional initiatives.
- We will play an active role in the social, cultural, and environmental life of the City and Region.



DR BELINDA WINDER | READER IN FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY, SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES | HEAD OF THE SEXUAL OFFENCES, CRIME AND MISCONDUCT RESEARCH UNIT

ENRICHING SOCIETY | CASE STUDY

THE SAFER LIVING FOUNDATION

The Safer Living Foundation UK Charity No.1155788

Nationally recognised for outstanding work, and awarded the *2015 Robin Corbett Award for Prisoner Rehabilitation*, the Safer Living Foundation deploys expertise in close alignment with local and regional civic partners in the support of high risk sexual offenders and protection of communities.

An initiative between HMP Whatton, National Probation Service (East Midlands), Nottinghamshire Police, Circles UK and Nottingham Trent University, the Foundation focuses on reducing sexual (re)offending through rehabilitative initiatives that promote the protection of people from, and the prevention of, sexual crime, and supports the rehabilitation of those who have committed or who are likely to commit sexual offences against others. Working with older and intellectually disabled offenders, who often have little or no social support, trained volunteers meet on a regular basis with offenders to assist their reintegration into society by acting as a support network and safety mechanism for offenders and for protection of the community at large. Uniquely, the offender support commences prior to release from custody, and continues through the release and into the community.

To find out more about the work of The Safer Living Foundation, including new and ongoing projects, contact the School of Social Sciences, Dr Belinda Winder, Reader in Forensic Psychology and Head of the Sexual Offences, Crime and Misconduct Research Unit, belinda.winder@ntu.ac.uk or see www.saferlivingfoundation.org

CONNECTING GLOBALLY

AMBITION

As an international University, we nurture global citizenship, engage with the international research community, and attract talented students and staff from around the world.

APPROACH

- We will grow our numbers of international students to stimulate a vibrant multinational learning community and diversify our income streams.
- We will further promote internationalisation in the curriculum and enhance opportunities for our students to acquire the international perspective needed to succeed in the global community.
- We will focus on building a strategic network of international partnerships with peer universities, businesses and civic authorities in selected territories.



CELEBRATING OUR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AT THE GLOBAL WEEK FESTIVAL

CONNECTING GLOBALLY | CASE STUDY

GLOBAL WEEK

Runner up in the *NUS-UKCISA Internationalisation Awards 2014 for Internationalising the Student Experience*, NTU's Global Week is a vibrant, inspiring festival of our multinational community on campus. Connecting and celebrating the different cultural heritages of our students as integral to the life of the University, and providing opportunities for students to extend their international outlook, the event contributes to a truly global NTU student experience.

Jointly developed by the University, Nottingham Trent International College, and Nottingham Trent Students' Union, Global Week explores the rich cultural diversity of our students and staff. An extensive programme of events shifts from Europe to Africa, Asia, the Middle-East and the Americas over successive days in celebration of over 100 countries. Students experience exotic foods, cultural shows, guest lectures, dance and music, art exhibitions, taster language sessions, and even try new, or unfamiliar, sports. Global Week also promotes international opportunities, with an education fair for our Erasmus partners from across Europe, and presentations and workshops on international careers and volunteering. Schools of the University participate through hosting allied events within the Global Week calendar.

To get involved in Global Week 2016 contact **NTUGlobal@ntu.ac.uk** or visit our website for more information **www.ntu.ac.uk/global_week**

EMPOWERING PEOPLE

AMBITION

We champion an environment of collective pride in the University in which the contribution of our colleagues is recognised and respected. We encourage their creativity and voice and have a reputation for attracting, rewarding and retaining colleagues who share our ambitions and display the expertise, experience and enterprise to deliver them.

APPROACH

- Our core attributes and organisational behaviour will reflect our pride in NTU and our respect for others.
- We will foster a culture that expresses confidence in individual and collective creativity, competence, and contribution.
- Recognising and supporting high performance at every level, we will reward and celebrate success and excellence.
- We will invest in the development of our colleagues to enable them to impact positively on the delivery of our ambitions.



A RANGE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES SUPPORT AND ENRICH THE WORK OF VOLUNTARY AND CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS

EMPOWERING PEOPLE | CASE STUDY

EMPLOYER SUPPORTED VOLUNTEERING

The University's Employer Supported Volunteering (ESV) scheme supports colleagues to take part in volunteering through a range of University-managed volunteering and community engagement initiatives with links to the University's staff development frameworks. Investing in this approach empowers colleagues to enrich their roles, contribute to voluntary and charitable organisations, and bring new skills and experience back into NTU to enhance both their and NTU's performance.

Now in its tenth year, over 4,560 staff hours were dedicated to ESV activity via the scheme in 2013-14. Activities ranged from individuals providing literacy and numeracy support in primary schools, acting as School Governors, and Charity Trustees, through to whole teams contributing to community-based projects. Feedback from schools and voluntary organisations with whom we work confirm the value of NTU's contribution in providing important human resources, skills, knowledge and additional capacity which enables those organisations to move forward with their work during an economic period when funding for voluntary organisations in particular remains challenging.

In April 2015 Nottingham Trent University achieved *Investors in Volunteers for Employers* accreditation from the *National Council for Volunteering Organisations* and is only the second university in the UK to achieve this recognised mark of quality. For information about our multi-award winning ESV scheme contact Volunteering Manager, Andy Coppins at andy.coppins@ntu.ac.uk or Head of Learning and Development, Ann Meredith at ann.meredith@ntu.ac.uk

CREATING THE UNIVERSITY OF THE FUTURE

These ambitions and approaches are the outcome of extensive discussions on campus, consultation with Nottingham Trent Students' Union, and conversations with our collaborators across the City and County. We have been open in recognising where we could do better for our students, our partners, and, indeed, for ourselves. In brief, there is acknowledgement we need to enhance further the employability of our students, continue to broaden the range of students who study with us and the methods by which they do so, and make the most of our relationships with partners to generate research, support job creation, and secure student placements.

We are confident that this strategy addresses these challenges, and those broader ones summarised earlier, in a direct and rigorous fashion. We will not deliver them without the active engagement of our students. However, we also need the support of all those institutions across the region with which we interact to pursue our shared interests in education, economic development, social justice, cultural assets, sporting achievement, environmental stewardship and a host of other important aspects of civic life.

We trust that you find our strategy bold in its ambitions and clear in its approaches. We hope that you will want to engage actively with us over the next five years as we pursue its implementation. Doing so will transform our University, fulfil the expectations of our students, and enhance the richness and resilience of the City and County we are proud to call home.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Edward W Peck". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly informal style.

PROFESSOR EDWARD W PECK PHD MA BA DHSM DIPM

VICE-CHANCELLOR



PROFESSOR EDWARD PECK | VICE-CHANCELLOR | NOTTINGHAM TRENT UNIVERSITY

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