



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
informatics

School of Informatics

General Meeting

10th September 2015



Agenda

- Welcome and introduction
- School Strategy refresh
- Research and Impact update
- The Alan Turing Institute update
- National Student Survey results
- Equality and Diversity in Informatics
- Estates projects



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Welcome and introduction



New Academic and Professional Services Staff in the Forum

Academic

- Professor Aggelos Kiayias - Chair in Cyber Security and Privacy
- Dr Kenneth Heafield – Lecturer in Data Science
- Dr Kami Vaniea – Lecturer in Cyber Security and Privacy

Professional Services

- Neil Heatley – Head of Informatics Student Services



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Strategy Refresh 2015/16

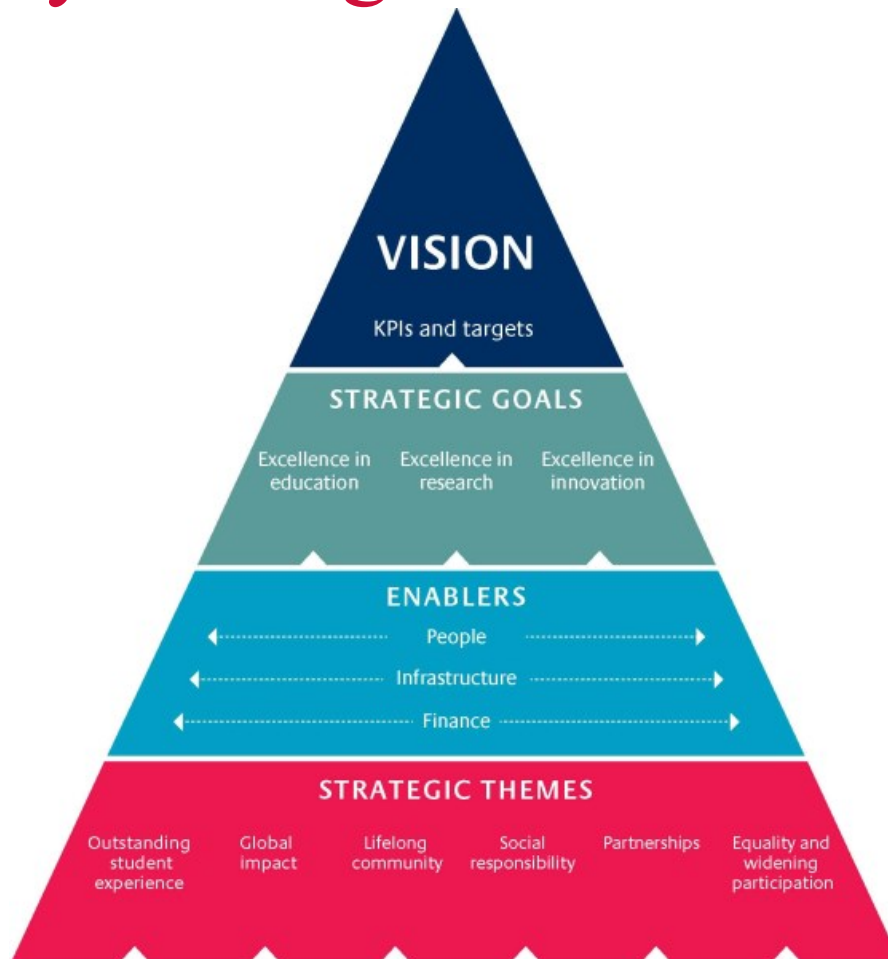


Objectives

- To review the School's strategy in the context of current and emerging circumstances
- To provide additional focus to the School's strategy to assist in the prioritisation of activity and resources
- To identify SMART targets against which progress and success will be measured



University Strategic Framework

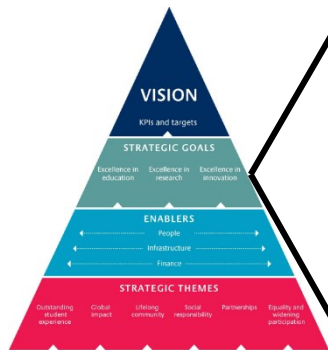




School Strategy Framework



School and University Strategic Frameworks



Excellence in education

- *Enhanced student experience*

Excellence in research

- *Even greater research excellence*

Excellence in innovation

- *Demonstrable impact*



Potential Measures

- Research Excellence Framework 2020
 - clear UK leadership
 - improved impact score
- Grant capture success
- Student Surveys (NUS + UoE) – improve overall satisfaction
- Student numbers (planned growth)
- Student success
- Graduate destinations
- Alumni engagement
- League tables



Timeline

Timing	Action
July – August	Initial high-level discussion within School senior team
September	Wider consultation with relevant groups and with School more generally (School General Meeting - early September)
September onwards	Research Committee to review priorities/opportunities Short life working groups review: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• International development (with focus on student recruitment)• External engagement• Teaching, learning and assessment strategy (including curriculum and curriculum structure) in context of Teaching Programme Review response (with student input)• Opportunities and approaches to distance/on-line learning
October	Vision/Mission – open workshop
Early December	School Research Day
Mid - December	Refreshed high-level strategy published
Late - December	Planning submission 2016/17 and subsequent years
January onwards	Implementation



Vision?

- To realise the power of our conception of Informatics as the study of the structure, the behaviour and the interactions of natural and engineered computational systems

Mission?

- To enhance the position of the School as a Global Leader in Informatics research and teaching, with demonstrable scientific, economic, social and cultural impact

Do we need both? Can we combine into one?

- Open workshop in October to develop combined (?) vision/mission



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Research and Impact update



- Scope
 - Systems that store, process, and communicate information
- Excellence of Outputs
 - Edinburgh (79.2) has greatest 4* + 3* volume : UCL (66.4) Oxford (63.7)
On 4* volume Oxford (34.9) and UCL (34.6) win: Edinburgh (31.7)
- Impact
 - Edinburgh (75.9) has greatest 4* + 3* volume : UCL (70.7) Oxford (58.8)
On 4* volume (45.5) beaten by UCL (56.6) Cambridge (54.6)
> 80% of REF impact cases underpinned by multidisciplinary research
- Scale
 - Edinburgh 95 Oxford 73.5 UCL 70.7

<http://www.inf.ed.ac.uk/research/about/REF/results.html>



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Informatics Research Day

Thursday 10 December 2015

- Scope
 - What do we do? Who do we interact with?
Preparation: 360° feedback
- Excellence of Outputs
 - Have you planned your four outputs?
- Impact
 - Where is your work having an impact? How are you measuring it?
- Scale
 - Funding enables growth. How can we secure more funding?



SAVE THE DATE! Thursday 10th December

Prepare individually, within institutes
and across interdisciplinary links

<http://www.inf.ed.ac.uk/research/about/REF/results.html>

<http://www.inf.ed.ac.uk/research/about/REF/2014/>



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The Alan Turing Institute



The Alan Turing Institute update

- Institute now fully established
 - Director: Prof Andrew Blake (starts Oct 2015)
 - Board chair: Howard Covington
- Current activities
 - Scientific scoping workshops
 - Data science summits
 - Initial call for Turing Fellows
- Website: <http://turing.ac.uk>



The Alan Turing Institute: Scientific Scoping Workshops

- First steps in establishing a scientific programme
- Assess the international and UK data science landscape
- So far 23 workshops planned, up to 30 in total (will take place in 2015)
- Edinburgh coordinated workshops include
 - Data science challenges in high-throughput biology and precision medicine
 - Deep learning
 - Distributed machine learning and optimisation
 - Improving the data analytics process
 - Logical foundations of data science
 - Topological data analysis
 - Understanding multimodal data at scale



The Alan Turing Institute – Data Summits

- Link stakeholders (industry, public sector, ...) with researchers
- Ten summits planned
- Edinburgh summits:
 - Data Science for Media
 - Data Analytics for Credit Risk
 - Data Science for Physical Systems and Ubiquitous Sensors



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National Student Survey results



NSS results 2015

	Informatics 2014	Informatics 2015	University 2015
Overall satisfaction	90%	88%	84%
Assessment and feedback	62%	59%	59%
Teaching	85%	88%	87%
Academic support	87%	83%	77%
Organisation and management	83%	81%	78%
Learning resources	92%	95%	89%
Personal development	78%	80%	79%



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Equality and Diversity in Informatics



Athena SWAN Silver Renewal

- The Athena SWAN Charter was developed in 2005 and is open to any university or research institute which is committed to the advancement and promotion of the careers of women in science, engineering and technology mathematics and medicine in higher education and research. The charter now recognises work undertaken to address gender equality more broadly, and not just barriers to progression that affect women.
- Renewal submission due 30th April
- New data collection survey will be sent out soon and everyone should participate
- All staff must also complete the online Equality and Diversity and Unconscious Bias training modules.
 - An email with links to this training will be sent out shortly
 - We are aiming for 100% participation.



Equality and Diversity Upcoming Events

- Promotions workshops (HR and Senior Academics)
- Training sessions for senior management (Heads of Institutes)
- Jamboree (one day event) celebrating diversity in Informatics
- Chancellor's Fellows lunch event