



Universities UK

Higher education: the known unknowns

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Universities UK

THIS. IS. NOT. NORMAL.

Policy and political challenges



- Brexit
- Immigration and internationalisation
- Review of post-18 education and funding in England
- Research and innovation
- The student experience
- Pensions
- Free speech
- Promoting the positive impact of universities

Any deal must protect the UK's universities and enable them to maximise their positive impact post-Brexit

Priorities for any post-exit settlement:

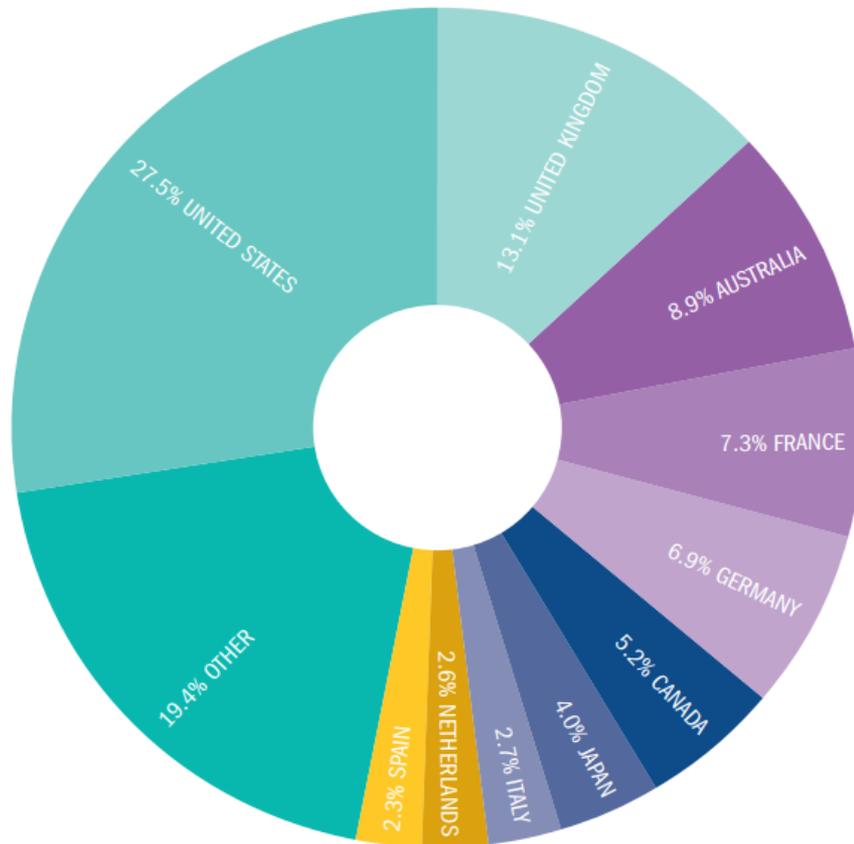
- Access to Erasmus and Horizon Europe
- Mutual recognition of qualifications
- An immigration system with minimal barriers for staff and students



BUT contingency planning for a no deal outcome continues

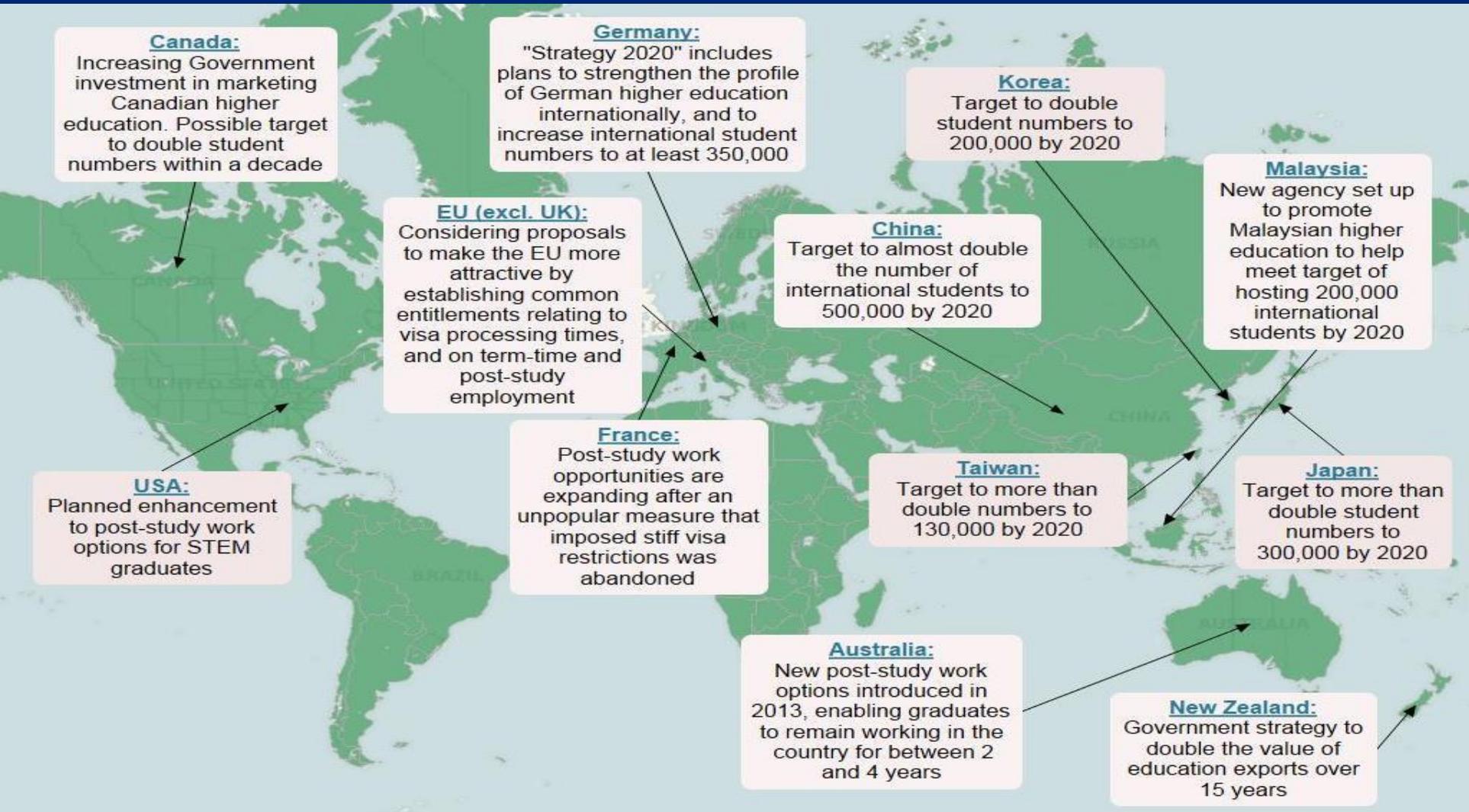
Latest information on the impact of the transition arrangement for universities (if there is a deal) and no-deal planning are available [here](#)

Internationalisation of UK higher education



- » The UK is the second largest destination for international students in the world, with 458,490 international students
- » Almost 20% of students in the UK are international
- » There are 707,915 students undertaking UK transnational education across the globe
- » 30% of academic staff at UK universities are international
- » 54% of UK research publications have an international co-author
- » 17% of UK research funding comes from overseas sources

Our global competitors



Immigration

Students

Aim to secure:

1. Improvements to post-study work visas
2. Sustained international campaign to promote UK as a study destination
3. Improvements to Home Office processes

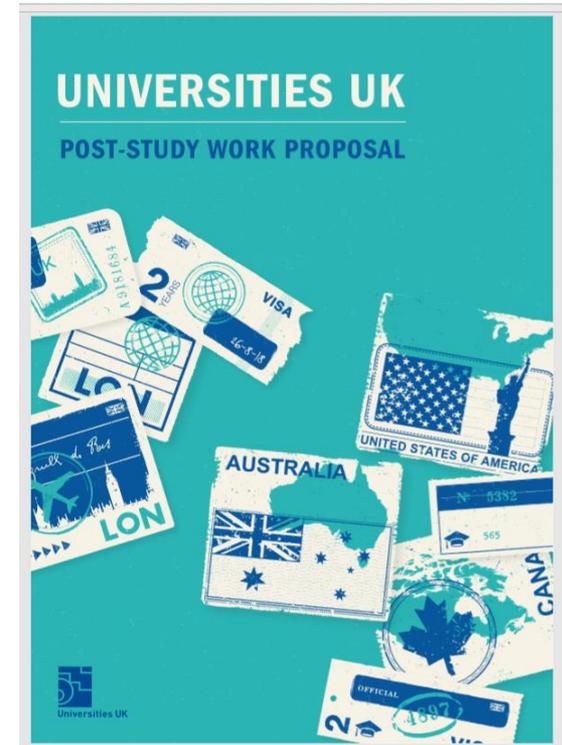
Some progress:

- Global Graduate Talent Visa proposal
- New UK-wide international education strategy

Staff

Aim to reduce proposed minimum salary threshold of £30k

More information on our work on immigration, including briefings and how to sign up for Immigration News, is available [here](#)



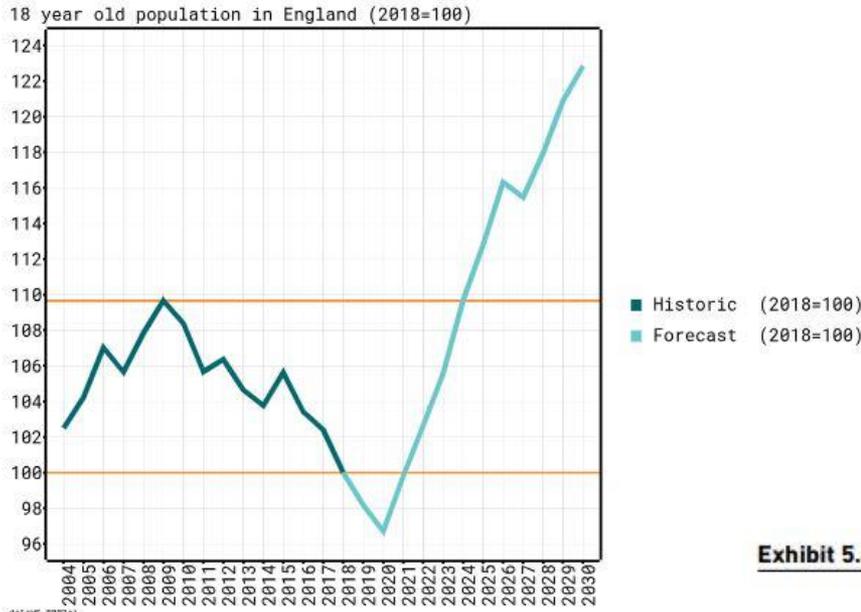
Augar's four [principles](#) for the review



1. Maintain the principle that **students should contribute** to the cost of their studies while ensuring that payments are progressive and income contingent;
2. Continue with the reforms in train to build a **strong technical and further education sector** that encourages the **skills that we need** as a country;
3. Place **no cap on the number of students** who can benefit from post-18 education; and
4. Support the role of universities and colleges in delivering the Government's objectives for science, R&D and the Industrial Strategy.

UUK's [five tests](#) for Augar, based on our [submission](#) to the review panel.

Should we increase student numbers?

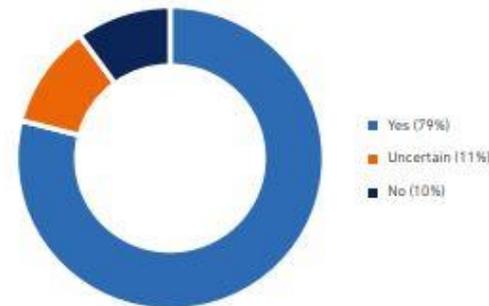


More than three-quarters (79%) of businesses expect to increase the number of higher-skilled roles over the coming years. Yet two-thirds (66%) fear that there will be a lack of sufficiently skilled people to fill vacancies.

[CBI/Pearson Annual Report](#)

See the report press release [here](#)

Exhibit 5.4 Views on a 2:1 undergraduate degree as a good measure of academic ability (%)

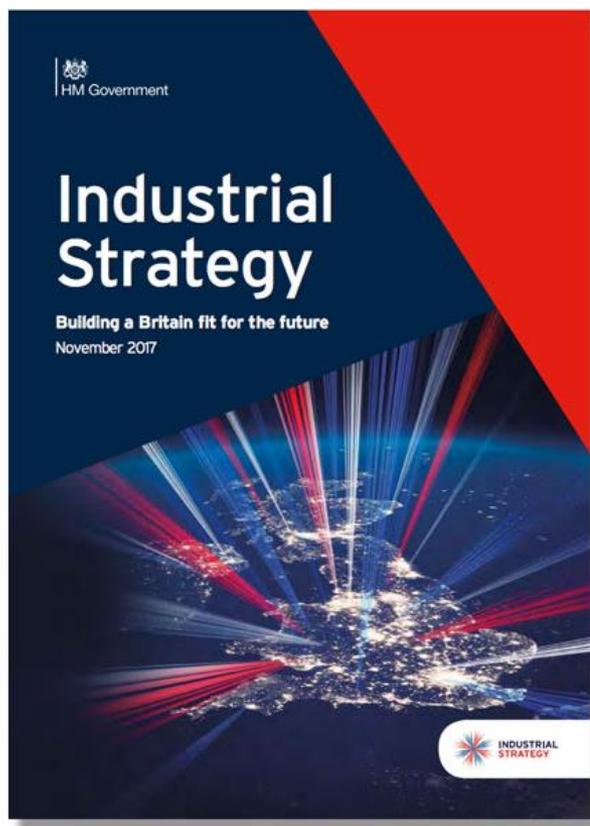


WonkHE 18 March 2019
WonkHE article: [The great recruitment crisis: should we be planning for rapid student number growth?](#)

Augar: what might happen next?

- » Report delayed – published after local government elections (May??)
- » What will happen if PM changes?
- » Reduction in headline fee? (Speculation of £7.5k)
- » Mechanism to limit student numbers going to HE, less level 4 and 5 in universities? (likely to be nuanced)
- » Some way to increase flexible learning (but where – HE or FE?)
- » Better information / informed choice for students (how? Who's responsible?)
- » Something to boost FE numbers and funding
- » Consultation – not straight into implementation (possible Green Paper)
- » How does this fit with plans for the next Spending Review? Chancellor will be looking eagerly to see what spending commitments come with the recommendations

Industrial strategy and UKRI



- Key elements of Industrial Strategy – ideas, people, infrastructure, business environment and places
- Government commitment to grow R&D investment by 2.4% of GDP
- UKRI – a focal point to bring together public funding for research – leverage, international partnerships
- Balance of funding review
- Emerging reputational threats

UK Research and Innovation

Student experience

- Adapting to a new regulatory approach – the Office for Students
- Independent review of the TEF
- Understanding what students want

Top 3 things students value from their university

- A service in return for tuition fees
- Personalised advice and support
- A collaborative relationship with university staff



Source: ComRes (2017)



THE FUTURE OF THE TEF

REPORT TO THE INDEPENDENT REVIEWER



CAREERS ADVISORY SERVICES



GRANTS TO STUDENT SOCIETIES & UNIONS



STUDENT COUNSELLING



HEALTH SERVICES



ACCOMMODATION OFFICES



SPORTS FACILITIES



CRECHES



TRANSPORT OF STUDENTS & STAFF BETWEEN SITES

Useful reports:

[The future of the TEF: report to the independent reviewer;](#)

[Degree classification: transparent, consistent and fair academic standards;](#)

[Flexible learning: the current state of play in UK higher education;](#)

[Lost learners;](#)

[The financial concerns of students;](#)

[Education, consumer rights and maintaining trust: what students want from their university](#)

Also pages on:

Mental health [#StepChange](#) and harassment and hate crime [Changing the culture](#)

Pensions: USS and TPS

USSEmployers

Background Briefing & Resources News My View Contact



The screenshot shows the USSEmployers website with several news items:

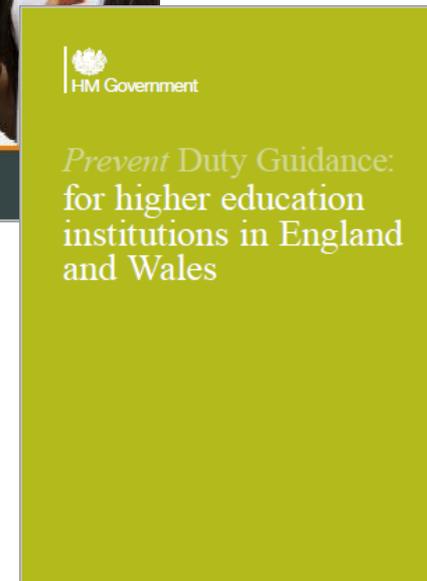
- UUK responds to the USS 2018 actuarial valuation consultation** (19 Mar 2019)
- Contingent contributions arrangement proposed by Universities UK** (28 Feb 2019)
- Joint Expert Panel: note of meetings – 8 and 22 March 2019** (1 Apr 2019)
- Advisory note on 2018 Technical Provisions consultation** (15 Jan 2019)
- Latest Tweets** from @USSEmployers: "Responses were received from employers representing approximately 89% of the scheme's active membership: <https://t.co/nSJakwHIZ6> #USS"

- Changes to public service pensions are predicted to lead to additional costs from later this year.
- Will cost the sector c£142 million spread across c70 post-92 universities
- Serious concerns about the proposed changes – and lack of transitional relief for universities
- UCEA leading on this area of work, UUK is supporting on making the case in Westminster and Whitehall

Latest information on USS
available at:
ussemployers.org.uk

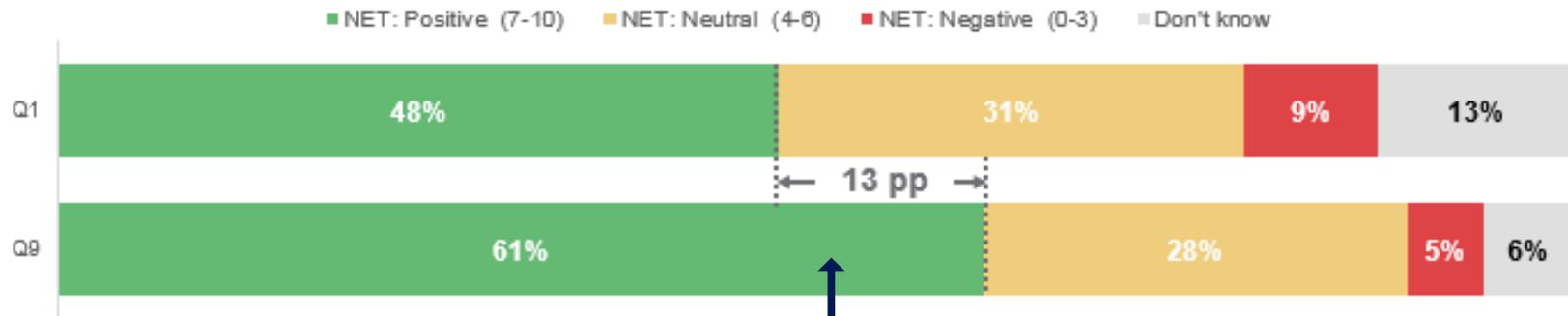
Free speech on campus

- New guidance from the Equality and Human Rights Commission
- Prevent statutory guidance to be redrafted following recent legal challenge
- Prevent strategy to be reviewed



What the public thinks about UK universities

Public sentiment towards universities: pre and post information being shared



Sharing information drives positivity towards the sector

*Survey and focus groups carried out by Britain Thinks on behalf of UUK.
Report and data tables available [here](#).*

***BUT* there is a high level of nascent pride in the sector and belief that we are amongst the best in the world**



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.

Whilst not thought of spontaneously, research is seen as the single biggest benefit of universities

Messages that are most effective in driving positivity towards universities

Our universities lead the world in research, such as breakthroughs in cancer and other medical treatments, and improving everyday life through new digital technology

20%

The UK has a shortage of engineers, doctors and scientists; universities are essential in training these people

16%

Our national economy is £73 billion better off each year because of UK universities

12%

Showing top 3 responses, % selected (single answer option only)

“Like the research – it’s certainly a positive thing” Public workshop, London

MadeAtUni (www.madeatuni.org.uk)



FEATURED STORIES



GLASGOW SCHOOL OF ART

The ultrasound scan

The design of the diagnostics obstetrics ultrasound by the Glasgow School of Art has been hugely significant...



UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST OF ENGLAND,
BRISTOL

Turning urine into electricity.

The PEE POWER® system is turning urine into electricity, with a huge positive global impact.



HERIOT-WATT UNIVERSITY

Revolutionising help for the homeless

I-SPHERE uses research to drive change for people affected by extreme disadvantage.

Cultured robots and prison record labels: the UK's research breakthroughs

A list of the UK's 100 top discoveries showcases on the ground-breaking projects happening in universities



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 PINKSTONE FOR MAILONLINE
 PUBLISHED: 00:06, 6 December 2018 | UPDATED: 12:05, 6 December 2018



sky news 112,054 SIGNATURES

PICTURES UNIVERSITIES UK

MADE AT UNI

were Made At Uni.

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 people's lives.

THE IRISH NEWS

Pantridge makes 100 best breakthroughs list



682 views | Dec 12, 2018, 10:13am



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

Jeff Parsons Thursday 6 Dec 2018 10:08 am

06:40 E ON SKY NEWS CATCH UP AND THE SKY NEWS APP FOR SKY Q MORE NEWS AND ANALYSIS ON THE SKY NEWS DAILY PC

UK universities celebrate best breakthroughs

EDUCATION

By Richard Vaughan
 EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

As well as some of the more well-known advances, such as ultrasound, MRI scanners and genetic fingerprinting, are other less famous successes, including creating new scrub techniques to make rugby safer and discovering a new enzyme to break down plastic.

Compiled by Universities UK (UUK), the umbrella group for UK universities, the list is intended to show that the higher education sector does "more than just teach students".

Professor Dame Janet Beor, president of UUK, said: "Universities really do transform lives. The technology we use every day, the medicines that save lives, the teachers who inspire all come from UK universities and the important work being done by academics up and down the country."

"The UK's Best Breakthroughs list is a testament to the difference that universities make to people's lives and we want everyone to join us in celebrating the work they do."

University	Breakthrough
University of Chichester	Rock star drumming to help autistic children.
University of Aberdeen	The world's first full-body MRI scanner.
University of Strathclyde	The invention of television.
University of Winchester	Cutting waste by using recycled chewing gum to create reusable coffee cups.
Canterbury Christ Church University	Research into the benefits of singing.
Crainfield University	Nano membrane toilet (pictured).
University of Brighton	Theatre workshops in Indian slums.
Imperial College London	Smart baby buggy for the visually impaired.
University of Brighton	Using football to resolve conflict in divided communities.

These Are The UK's Top University Breakthroughs

Paul Armstrong Contributor @ Enterprise & Cloud



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

The list, compiled by Universities UK (UUK), aims to celebrate significant inventions, discoveries and social initiatives made by academics over the years which have had a transformative impact on people's everyday lives.



TV REPORT 6 December 2018 at 12:04am

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





Universities UK

Thank you!

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