

School of Computing, Engineering and Built Environment Plan 2022/23

Objective

We will focus on ensuring there is a smooth transition in the merger and creation of the School of Computing, Engineering and Built Environment to fully realise the benefits and opportunities for research, education, student experience and industry engagement. A programme of integration work with eleven workstreams will ensure that strategic change priorities are integrated across the School.

The teaching, learning and educational portfolio review project will improve the efficiency of teaching within the School and identify new areas of academic portfolio to grow our student numbers. We will review our current academic provision and reorganise programme delivery to be more efficient, reduce the number of modules across all programmes by eliminating overlaps and rationalising content. To grow our student population we will identify new programmes for development including the interfaces of computer science, informatics, engineering, mathematics and built environment and integrating the topics of Industry 4.0

To improve the student experience we will focus on improving the student experience across the merged School, by providing our students with opportunities to enhance their learning and develop skills/attributes which result in industry-ready graduates. We will consider the feasibility of establishing a student experience team within the school working along central professional services to provide module and programme-level student support. To ensure improvements in student experience are actioned, we will **embed module development meetings to ensure that specific actions are identified and actioned.** Our student induction programme will be revised to include academic study and support. Personal Development Tutoring (PDT) will be distributed across the School to all academic staff. We will improve and ensure a welcoming environment to students belonging to different cultural-demographic clusters, including appropriate interior design in corridors and teaching spaces, student social spaces and better engagement with student societies.

We will grow applications and conversions from home undergraduate students to our programmes. In collaboration with Student Recruitment we will focus on working with local applicants through school engagement and liaison and expand these activities. For articulating students we will expand our number of articulation routes and work closely with staff and students in colleges to ensure that articulating students are supported through the application and conversion process.

Grow our research and consultancy reputation, delivering increased research income and work with RIE and our Technical Services team to identify business development opportunities and ensure our facilities and infrastructure supports our ambitions for the future. Embed the new professorial research posts within the School, building strong links with the Heads of Research, Centre Directors and Early Career Academics to help the School deliver on research targets. Establish and embed new research centres ensuring each centre has an operational plan, with measurable objectives and targets agreed. Nurture and support our PhD students, providing them with teaching opportunities to improve employability; value them as part of our academic community and recognise their importance as part of the School's long-term workforce plan. Research activity will be aligned to subject areas, establishing new research leads **as members of the Subject Leadership Team.**

We will establish an active and effective way to develop and manage consultancy services to grow our commercial income. We will set the foundations for the consultancy services, including the clear provision of what equipment is available and the services that staff can provide to external organisations. We will communicate criteria for setting up consultancy services provided by academic staff and mechanisms to create and disestablish arms-length consultancy in alignment with relevant university regulations.

Increase the proportion of graduates in Professional and Managerial occupations to ensure that our students can access services, events and programmes which provide them with knowledge and experience which will directly enhance their graduate outcomes. We will review and refresh our approach to Opportunities Week to exploit synergies from the merger process in the design, planning and implementation of Opportunities Week events. We will work in collaboration with Student Futures to embed a new Employability Skills experience within undergraduate programmes, piloting four programmes: BEng/MEng Software Engineering, BSc Digital Media and Interaction Design, and two programmes from Engineering and Built Environment.

Improve staff engagement within the School that focusses on building a strong sense of community, and where academic and professional service staff contribution is recognised and success is celebrated. A staff engagement plan for the year with a schedule of events across the year will include a DLTE led event in addition to the School Teaching and Learning Conference; new staff welcome lunch; staff and student social events throughout the year.