

APRIL 2017

## 1. COREMUNICATE VIDEO

Welcome to April CoreMunicate. In this month's video I talk about reviewing the University's progress over the past year and how we need to invest funds in order to meet our Manchester 2020 ambitions. In the video you'll hear from Tim Westlake, Director for the Student Experience, and Malcom Whitehouse, IT Director, about one of the projects as part of the Manchester 2020 programme; the Student Lifecycle Project.

Watch the video: [www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/pss/coremunicate/](http://www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/pss/coremunicate/)

## 2. BOARD OF GOVERNORS CONFERENCE

At the end of March, the annual Accountability and Planning Conference with our Board of Governors and members of our Planning and Resources Committee took place. The three Faculty Vice President and Deans and I were involved in a challenging one and a half hour panel discussion where we were held accountable for what had been delivered across the University in 2015/2016.

The Board reviewed the University's progress over the past year, analysed the gaps in our performance against both competitors and our own targets. Future plans were discussed including how we might generate the £50m financial headroom that we need in order to invest to meet our Manchester 2020 ambitions – all in the context of known and likely future financial pressures and potential risks.

The Board agreed with our ongoing commitment to excellence and acknowledged some notable successes, they also recognised some areas where our performance is patchy and where we need to do much better. We described the steps that we are already taking to create financial headroom for essential investment in research, teaching, learning and the student experience, our staff and facilities, and noted that further actions will be needed which we will report to the Board at future meetings.

## 3. M2020 PROGRAMME OFFICE

To realise our Manchester 2020 ambitions, we need to achieve a sustainable financial position which gives us the capacity to invest in our staff, students and facilities to improve teaching and research quality. Our focus is now on making progress to grow income and secure savings through: growth in international fee income; increasing recovery from research and contract grant income; efficiency gains; and growth in distance learning and philanthropy income. The M2020 Programme Office, led by Russell Ashworth, has been put together to lead on these plans and further updates will be provided throughout the year.

## 4. STUDENT LIFECYCLE PROJECT (SLP)

The SLP is part of the Manchester 2020 Programme and will provide students and staff with high quality systems and processes that are fit for purpose, flexible, accessible, responsive and cost effective. While its primary aim is to improve the overall experience for students, it will also lead to new and more efficient ways of working for those staff who interact with the systems and processes we have in place to support our students. The project is now moving into the 'design and discovery' stage and will require a range of colleagues across the University to help shape the outcomes we require to provide students with a world class experience. You can find full details about the SLP at [www.manchester.ac.uk/slp](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/slp) and sign up to receive updates on the project via email.

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## 5. STAFF SURVEY 2017

Staff Survey 2017 opened on Monday, 6 March and runs until Tuesday, 18 April. We've had a good response so far but don't miss out on your opportunity to tell the University what you think about working here. It is managed by an external company, Capita, so you can be sure your responses are completely anonymous.

If you have not had your survey yet, please call Capita on FREEPHONE 0800 587 3115.

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## 6. APPRENTICESHIP LEVY

The Government has committed to developing vocational skills and is investing in an additional three million apprenticeship places in England by 2020. To achieve this, it has introduced an Apprenticeship Levy which means employers with a payroll of over £3 million per annum will be required to pay an annual levy to support the scheme with effect from April 2017. Our levy payment will be circa £1.9 million from which we can use funds to deliver apprenticeship training from level two through to degree level.

In the immediate term this presents a significant opportunity for us to invest in the skills development of our existing workforce. Moving forward we want to develop our programme of apprentice recruitment, particularly to entry level roles.

If you are interested to find out more about the Levy and our plans for apprenticeships, you'll be able to attend a workshop over the next couple of months. Details of these will be shared with colleagues once they are finalised. In the meantime contact Steve Grant, Assistant Director of Human Resources, for further information.

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## 7. CYBER SECURITY PROGRAMME CAMPAIGN

'Come fly with us on your cyber journey' is a University wide communications campaign to support the Cyber Security Programme and the changes it will roll out from May. One of the big changes that the programme is introducing is two-factor authentication. This will change the way that staff and postgraduate research students log in to some services, to help keep our key systems secure from cyber criminals.

From May onwards everyone will start to receive information about how to get set up. Throughout May and June, events and road shows will be running to tell colleagues more about the new ways to log in; as well as bringing the opportunity to hear from external speakers on the real life cyber dangers we face in today's world.

Until then, take a look at the website to see the campaign video and learn more about the Cyber Security Programme and what it will mean for you: [www.manchester.ac.uk/cyber](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/cyber)

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## 8. FAKE PHISHING EXERCISE

During January 2017 as part of our Cyber Security Programme, we ran a fake phishing exercise across all University staff to test our awareness of phishing emails, following the roll out of phishing awareness training from last summer. The results of the exercise showed a substantial number of people clicked on at least one of the phishing emails. If this had been a real scenario it would have potentially compromised colleague's own and the University's data.

Our people and our data are our most valuable assets and we need to all stay vigilant, so as not to fall victim to these types of attacks. If you haven't done so already, why not take the online phishing awareness course available at:

[www.itservices.manchester.ac.uk/cybersecurity/advice/phishing](http://www.itservices.manchester.ac.uk/cybersecurity/advice/phishing)

We plan to repeat the fake phishing exercise again at a future point, to re-assess our phishing awareness and response to such attacks.

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## 9. MORE MUSEUM SECRETS

The University of Manchester

A rolling programme of Higher Education Institute seminars will be running on a monthly basis. It is aimed at providing knowledge and insights into some of the key themes and issues affecting the running of the University as a higher education institution. Any staff member is welcome to attend but you will need to book in advance via the Training Catalogue on Staff Net.

The next seminar is:

More Museum Secrets

Nick Merriman, Director of Manchester Museum

27 April, 12.30pm-1.30pm

Kanaris Theatre, Manchester Museum

To book, visit the Training Catalogue ([course TBF50](#)) via [www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/employment/training/](http://www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/employment/training/)

**Will Spinks, Registrar, Secretary and Chief Operating Officer**