L&T aspirations for technology enhanced learning and teaching

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Messages heard loud and clear – we are planning this

- Get the basics to work (e.g. IT)

- Think big, more flexibility, RESOURCE IT

- Smarter IT

Early view of strategy

- Vision: Technology will intuitively and seamlessly enable excellence in all that we do.

- Our technology will be:
  - aligned to the needs of our community
  - intuitive – straightforward to use and learn
  - robust, resilient, secure but agile
  - designed for interoperability and the effective flow of high-quality data
  - cost effective to implement and maintain
  - supported by a service that is appropriately resourced and configured
  - transformative – enabling us to change the way we work and study

Context

- A legacy of under investment in IT at a time of significant growth in the University

- Operational structures that are not fit for purpose

- The digital experience undermining rather than enabling our strategic intent

- The embedding of IT spend within University budgeting not culturally understood

- The University is entering a new strategic cycle, extending its physical infrastructure and engaging in transformation

- The country and the University have declared a "Climate Emergency"

Infrastructure

- Pervasive WiFi (part of Network Infrastructure Investment Programme)

- Data centre strategy (part of Infrastructure as a Service Programme)

- Office365 and exponential improvement in collaboration

- Smart Campus

- Telephony review – new options

Learning and Teaching

- Lecture capture in more locations
- Overhaul of oldest AV infrastructure
- More TEAL
- Improvements to Moodle
- Desktop 2.0 (VDI, anytime/anywhere, consistent)
- Virtual classroom
- Assessment and Feedback – WCG
- VLE Review
- LinkedIn Learning

Explore

- Supporting staff to be innovative teachers – need time for reflection and training in new technologies
- Fostering a collaborative teaching environment between R&T, LTS Staff, Library, IT, etc.
- Peer learning (collaborative work)
- Upskilling staff on tech is not always the best option for staff (e.g. tech support specific to each school and/or student interns
- Developing and enhancing skills (e.g. tech used in classrooms & creating collaborative spaces using technology)
- Ensuring we provide students with appropriate skills for employment
- Are people supported PRACTICALLY to embrace change – e.g. do they have the time and space
- VR for all students

Aspirations for the future:

- Set the "Gold Standard" for teaching, underpinned by effective learning technology
- Innovative & Flexible teaching spaces
- Facilities/resources driven by approach to teaching – not the other way round
- Staff/Student partnerships
- Provide skills for life long learning
- Technical advances – use where it enhances learning environment
- Support for digital / flexible learning – not just upskilling
- Creating & building a community of wellness – for staff and students

In the context of these aspirations, and thinking about cultures, values and organisational structures, what does the University need to put in place to enable staff to deliver and sustain this change?

How should IT respond to the priorities, cultures and values identified earlier?

"It makes no sense to use technology unless it makes an important difference to both teaching and learning.

Quality technology-based teaching demands a high level of expertise and considerable resources and individual effort.

Once instructors choose to accept the demands of technology-based teaching and master its use, they must also accept that they will have to be prepared to keep up with continuing rapid changes in it."

Effective teaching with technology in higher education: foundations for success Bates & Poole 2003

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