



HOW CAN WE SECURE BRITAIN'S FUTURE?

UA

UNIVERSITY ALLIANCE

A STRONG UNIVERSITY SECTOR WILL DELIVER A STRONG FUTURE

Our higher education sector plays a crucial role in Britain. It contributes huge amounts to our economic and societal well-being. It is securing Britain's ability to compete in a dynamic and fast changing world. So it is important that policy and public investment decisions create the right environment for universities to thrive.



48%

Of all sandwich course students in the UK are studying at Alliance universities.

Alliance universities are critical to the future growth of the economy. They are leaders in industry links, producing work-ready graduates and creating a research-rich, entrepreneurial environment. They generate a diverse learning experience to give students the knowledge, skills and entrepreneurship they need to compete in a global employment market. Their research-rich environment is a key part of UK innovation, driving business growth.



1/3+

The proportion of students who take a placement with large-graduate employers that go on to secure employment with the company (The Graduate Market, High Fliers, 2012).

PRIORITY 1 – OPEN COMPETITION

We operate a highly competitive system in the UK, which has been proven to maximise the impact of limited public investment. Public funding should continue to follow excellence wherever it exists to drive innovation and secure the future success of our universities.



To achieve economic prosperity, research and innovation activities need sufficient and sustained funding. We are calling for long-term certainty on investment and increases in real terms to the science budget to bring the UK's investment in line with international R&D averages.



Female graduates earn an additional **£252k** (an extra **53%**) over their lifetime compared to someone without a degree.
Male graduates earn an additional **£168k (28%)**.
(The Impact of University Degrees on the Lifecycle of Earnings, BIS, August 2013).



Over 50% of Alliance research income is in STEM-related areas. 1 in 4 of all UK research teams undertaking world class research in Allied Health, 1 in 4 of all those in General Engineering, Architecture and the Built Environment are in Alliance universities.

Alliance universities educate 1 in 4 of all STEM undergraduates, 1 in 3 of all design students, 1 in 4 of all nursing students and 1 in 4 of all teacher training students.

20,200

the number of research staff at Alliance universities (15% of total).

PRIORITY 2 – DESTINATION OF CHOICE

We need to bring back the two-year post-study work visa for all graduates from UK universities and remove international students from the net migration target. This is essential if the UK is to remain a destination of choice for international students and is able to grow its share in an increasingly global market.



The percentage of international students at Alliance universities who study so that they can get a good job, compared to 83% at other UK universities and 83% globally (Growing Global Graduates, University Alliance, 2013).

PRIORITY 3 – INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

We need smarter, sustainable funding for UK Higher Education. We need to ensure investment is strategic to prevent cuts to student places or underinvestment in high quality programmes.

Our higher education loan programme (HELP) proposal offers a possible solution to sustainable funding - a new student loan model that can help every student cover the cost of studying.

Social mobility through higher education should remain a priority – as both a social imperative but also to ensure that the UK is maximizing its economic potential. We need the government to commit funding for student opportunity and retention as well as objective, informed, age-relevant advice and guidance to encourage anyone who is able and aspiring to go to university to find success.

H.E.L.P.



With our HELP proposals all post-graduate and part-time students would be able to access a student loan.

HELP will bring down the growing cost of student loans and offer universal access to student loans for the first time.



We are proposing a lifetime loan allocation so people can go back to study and retrain throughout their lives.

HELP loans would maintain an earning threshold of £21,000 to protect low earners as well as maintaining a progressive and affordable repayment system for graduates.



Our HELP proposals could bring the average student loan repayment time closer to 10 years - compared to 28 years in the current system.



INVESTING IN BRITAIN'S KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY WILL DRIVE SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

ABOUT UNIVERSITY ALLIANCE

University Alliance brings together global universities with excellence in science, technology, design and the professions. Alliance universities are leaders in industry links, producing work-ready graduates and creating a research-rich, entrepreneurial environment.

Photo credit front: Oxford Brookes University's RIBA award-winning new building - the John Henry Brookes Building.

Photo credit inside pages and back: Sheffield Hallam University's new £27m Heart of the Campus building.

CONTACT

University Alliance
49 Whitehall
London SW1A 2BX

General enquiries
info@unialliance.ac.uk

Press enquiries
press@unialliance.ac.uk

www.unialliance.ac.uk
Follow us on Twitter: @UniAlliance

Alliance universities generate

£3.7bn turn over

£8.6bn economic impact

44%

of all jobs from UK graduate start-ups comes from Alliance entrepreneurs.

100+

The number of years Alliance universities have been educating students and driving research and innovation.

20% of all students are at Alliance universities, with over half a million students including over **66,000** international students (16%).

Alliance universities employ approx. **60,000** people and over **20,000** research staff (15% of UK total).



Cardiff
Metropolitan
University

Prifysgol
Metropolitan
Caerdydd



UNIVERSITY
of
GREENWICH



University of
HUDDERSFIELD

Kingston
University
London



UNIVERSITY OF
LINCOLN



Manchester
Metropolitan
University



NOTTINGHAM
TRENT UNIVERSITY

OXFORD
BROOKES
UNIVERSITY

SUCCEED
WITH
PLYMOUTH
UNIVERSITY



University of
Salford
MANCHESTER

Sheffield
Hallam
University

University of
South Wales
Prifysgol
De Cymru



University of the
West of England