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Internationalisation Knowledge Without Borders

United Kingdom
China
Malaysia



Internationalisation
is at the heart
of everything we
do as a University.

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Internationalisation is at the heart of everything we do as a University. Described by *The Times* as the closest the UK has to a truly global university, The University of Nottingham has campuses in the UK, China and Malaysia and hosts a genuinely global academic community in all three countries.

Nottingham is in the top 1% of the globe's universities, according to the Times Higher World Rankings 2009. The respected Shanghai Jiao Tong University index also places the University 10th in the UK and 26th in Europe.

An institution-wide commitment to embedding an international dimension across all of our activities is essential if the University is to discharge its responsibilities to society. Internationalising our core and support functions enables us to produce graduates who are empowered to excel in a global environment and allows us to deliver genuinely world-changing research. Internationalisation at Nottingham is fundamentally long-term, driven by the principles associated with partnership and reciprocity and underpinned by quality and social responsibility.

Domestically, we are a member of the Russell Group which represents 20 leading, internationally-focused British universities – the Ivy League of the UK. Internationally, we are a founding member of the prestigious Universitas 21 group which is an international network of leading research-intensive universities spanning 13 countries.

Nottingham – An International University

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To find out more about the University's energy research visit: www.energy.nottingham.ac.uk
To find out more about the Centre for Globalisation and Economic Policy (GEP) visit: www.gep.org.uk

World-Changing Research

The University has an international reputation for outstanding world-changing research, with major scientific breakthroughs in areas such as Magnetic Resonance Imaging, drug discovery, food technologies and engineering. In the latest UK Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), 90% of our research was classed as being of an international standard and Nottingham now ranks in the Top 7 of all British universities for research power.



New engineering block at Malaysia campus



CSET building in China

Through both major institutional partnerships – in the public and private sectors – and extensive individual collaborations, research and knowledge transfer at The University of Nottingham is a genuinely global activity.

Our Energy Technologies Research Institute (ETRI) is concentrating its international activity in China, and at our Ningbo campus we have recently launched the Centre for Sustainable Energy Technologies (CSET), which is researching new and renewable energy solutions for building design and construction.

Under the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council *Collaborative Research in China* programme, we hold four awards worth nearly £2 million to pursue research on renewable energy and processes for carbon capture and pollutant control in collaboration with Tsinghua University, Zhejiang University, the Chinese Academy of Science and Southeast University in Nanjing. In China, we also established the Fudan-SJTU-Nottingham Plant Biotechnology R&D Centre in 2001 in partnership with the Fudan and Shanghai Jiao Tong universities. The centre facilitates closer research collaboration and progress in plant biotechnology.

We are one of only five UK partners in Innovation China UK which is the first UK-China collaborative programme focused on promoting joint innovation and knowledge transfer.

In India, a BioPharma Science Bridge has been set up with support from the Research Councils UK (RCUK) to exploit synergies

between scientists and industry in regenerative medicine. The programme focuses on target identification, drug discovery, drug delivery and manufacturing.

Malaysia is home to a major University-led initiative to address the global challenge of food security. In collaboration with Bioversity International, we are co-hosting Crops for the Future, a major new international research centre which will support, collect, synthesise and promote knowledge on neglected and underutilised species for the benefit of the poor and the environment. It will do so by complementing and strengthening the efforts of other players active in international agricultural research and development.

A strong international focus can be found in the Human Rights Law Centre which has implemented a worldwide programme committed to the promotion and protection of human rights and establishing the rule of law worldwide.

The Leverhulme Centre for Research on Globalisation and Economic Policy (GEP) is a major centre in Europe – and one of the biggest centres of its kind in the world – established in the School of Economics to research both the scientific and policy impacts of globalisation.

Also in Europe, we have been particularly successful in many of the Marie Curie Actions which are aimed at attracting and retaining world-class researchers across the continent.



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“The best way I can summarise studying abroad is simply this – ‘it was one of the best years of my life’.”

Keith Hobson, studied at The University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus

Teaching and Exchange Partnerships

We are committed to increasing study abroad opportunities for students across all schools and departments. These opportunities not only benefit language students with a chance to undertake a study or work placement overseas, but also provide a wide range of students with a fun and challenging experience that helps them enhance their CVs and job opportunities as well as developing inter-personal skills and cultural awareness. Through innovative programmes with internationally prestigious partners, we are striving to increase take-up of study abroad opportunities to 25% of the UK undergraduate student population.

We work with over 350 institutions worldwide in the field of student and staff exchanges. We have a prestigious network of partners, especially in the Universitas 21 (U21) network. We are also in the process of establishing exchange programmes in new destinations such as Botswana and Ghana to extend the network of opportunities available to students.

Study abroad experiences themselves may take many forms – whether it is a student undertaking a year abroad as part of a Modern Languages degree through to a student undertaking an optional semester abroad in Australia or Singapore; or a summer school in Jordan, Egypt or South Korea.



We also send significant numbers of students on exchange each year to our international campuses in China and Malaysia.

Alongside exchange relationships, the University has also developed a series of teaching partnerships to deliver degree programmes at undergraduate and postgraduate level (including PhD) to a broader international market. Working with some of the best universities across the globe, Nottingham has over 30 active teaching partnerships, providing students with interesting, innovative and international study opportunities.

We have programmes that are split between two partners, such as the engineering degree which has been running for over 10 years with Thamassat University, Thailand; the business and engineering initiatives with Vietnam International University; the BMedSci with Srinakharinwirot; and the BSc in Computing and Information Systems with Misr International University.

Other programmes involve multiple partners, such as the European MA in Womens' and Gender History, which is delivered by a consortium of five European partners. In some cases it is our staff that are mobile and deliver University of Nottingham programmes on the ground, including an MSc in Sustainable Building Technology and an MBA in Singapore, as well as the International Postgraduate Certificate in Education which is delivered in Nigeria, the Caribbean, Dubai, Thailand and Spain.

In China, we work with a range of partners including Tsinghua, Shanghai International Studies, Beijing Normal and Hunan universities.

Alongside the U21 partners, other teaching and learning-related partnerships exist with a range of prestigious universities including Cairo, Universidad de Dessarollo and Aga Khan University.

Universitas 21 members

Australia

University of Melbourne
University of New South Wales
University of Queensland

Canada

University of British Columbia
McGill University

China

Fudan University
Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Hong Kong

University of Hong Kong

India

Delhi University

Ireland

University College Dublin

Japan

Waseda University

Mexico

Tecnológico de Monterrey

New Zealand

University of Auckland

Singapore

National University of Singapore

South Korea

Korea University

Sweden

Lund University

United Kingdom

University of Birmingham
University of Edinburgh
University of Glasgow
University of Nottingham

United States of America

University of Virginia



Chinese New Year Celebrations at Nottingham's Lakeside Arts Centre



Aerial view of Central Plaza, Malaysia

The University of Nottingham, UK, is currently home to over 8,000 international students from more than 150 nations. With a further 8,000 studying at our sites in Malaysia and China, Nottingham has one of the most international student bodies of any UK university. An equally cosmopolitan body of staff bring an international perspective to teaching, learning and research.

Studying at a thriving international university offers significant benefits to students, giving them the opportunity to meet and work with others from around the globe, enhancing their educational experience and ensuring they're better equipped for an increasingly global world of work.

Our international outlook also offers significant cultural and economic benefits to the city of Nottingham. The voluntary work of overseas students in city schools, major events such as Chinese New Year at our Lakeside Arts Centre and extensive commercial links encouraged between Nottingham and other cities around the world all stem from the University's vibrant international community.

We offer a substantial package of support facilities and services to students. There is a specialised international team who help and advise international students on issues such as immigration, employment, finance, personal/family concerns and academic difficulties. Culture Vulture is an innovative programme which allows students from all over the world to meet, form friendships, share languages and share cultural events.

Alongside a diversity of opportunities for study abroad, including our campuses in Malaysia and China, we also provide opportunities for UK students to become more international through degree programmes in which a period of time abroad is an integral component. In addition to language courses, students in the School of Law, for example, are able to spend part of their course in the US, Canada, New Zealand, Singapore, Hong Kong or Europe.

The School of Politics and International Relations runs a four year MSci degree with a year spent in one of 25 partner institutions around the world. Alongside their University of Nottingham degree, students also follow online modules offered by the U21 Global Issues Programme, and work towards the completion of a U21 Certificate in Global Issues.

The Language Centre offers a broad range of classes encouraging students of all abilities. The nine languages offered are: Modern Standard Arabic, French, German, Modern Greek, Italian, Japanese, Mandarin Chinese, Portuguese and Spanish. The levels range from stage 1 (beginners) to stage 6 (near native speaker competence). Students may join any stage depending on their previous language experience. In addition, the centre provides support for the partners of international students to improve their English language abilities.

For nearly twenty years, the Centre for English Language Education (CELE) has been providing study opportunities and support for international students and teacher training programmes. Since its foundation, CELE has gained a reputation as a student-centred organisation committed to empowering its students to succeed in their chosen academic and professional fields.

A UK Campus: A Global Experience

International Campuses in Malaysia and China

One of the most distinctive features of internationalisation at The University of Nottingham has been the establishment of two full campuses, undertaking research and delivering University of Nottingham degrees in China and Malaysia.

While locally embedded within the higher education system of their host countries, these campuses remain full and integral parts of The University of Nottingham. We operate a common system for quality assurance and seek to deliver a comparable student experience across all of our campuses.

The UK's Quality Assurance Agency recent audit commended the University for our integrative activities across separate campuses which help to secure equivalent student experiences.



University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus

Malaysia

At the invitation of the Malaysian government, we opened our first international campus in 2000 in association with Boustead Holdings Berhad and YTL Corporation. Students were initially taught at a city centre site in Kuala Lumpur. In 2005, we relocated to the current campus – a 125-acre purpose built site, located in Semenyih, 30km from Kuala Lumpur. Occupying a scenic position overlooked by green hills, the campus is a self-contained and self-sufficient neighbourhood village in a garden environment.

Now celebrating its 10th anniversary year in operation, the Malaysia campus combines a high quality living environment with state-of-the-art learning and teaching facilities. The campus now has 3,500 students studying a range of subjects, including Engineering, Business, Computer Science, Education, Pharmacy, Biosciences and Psychology.

The mission of the campus states that it "...offers students the Nottingham experience in an ASEAN setting. It is a global institution serving an international community of students and yet is firmly rooted in all that is distinctive about UK education – innovative teaching and assessment methods, which encourage independent, creative thinking."

China

Our links with China date back many years with well over 90 collaborations with Chinese universities. This has resulted in the historic development of a campus on the east coast of China, in the prosperous and successful city of Ningbo, Zhejiang Province. Being the first foreign institution to be granted a licence to operate in China, the campus opened its doors in 2005 and now has more than 4,000 students.

The degree programmes have been specifically tailored to meet the needs of 21st century China, as it globalises and internationalises. International Business, International Communications and International Studies, excellence in English as well as the opportunity to study other aspects of European languages and cultures, were the first subjects to be offered. Now, in its second phase, the campus has a number of Engineering degrees, courses in Sustainable Technology and Environmental Sciences. Architecture and Economics will begin in 2010.

Both campuses present unique research opportunities. We are now placing emphasis on research and development, working to achieve a synergy between research strengths and the priorities of China and Malaysia and especially in the regions where the campuses are based. For example, in China, the Centre for Sustainable Energy Technologies is undertaking pioneering research into zero carbon and sustainable building techniques.

University of Nottingham Ningbo, China Campus



Alumni

We have an international network of successful alumni, working in positions of influence and authority, who keep their links with the University long after they graduate. The community of over 170,000 is supported by Alumni associations who work tirelessly to bring Alumni together in venues all over the world:

FUN American (Friends of the University of Nottingham) meets regularly in New York; in China there are Nottingham Alumni Associations in Beijing, Shanghai as well as Ningbo, and there are long established alumni groups in Malaysia, Egypt, Singapore, Hong Kong and Nigeria.

Our International Responsibilities

Universities have long had a responsibility to support and enhance their communities whether regional, national or international. Our broad international responsibilities are reflected across a range of initiatives.

We also have an extensive range of international scholarships. Launched in 2001, Developing Solutions is a pioneering scholarship scheme that works in collaboration with external organisations and individuals to support students from developing countries in Africa, so that, through learning, they can make a real difference to the development and prosperity of their home country.

This is one of the largest scholarship schemes of any British university and it focuses on supporting Masters students and the programmes associated with the scheme have development and sustainability at their core. These priority subject areas relate to Environment, Food, Health and Technology.

Our open courseware project, U-NOW and its associated authoring tool, Xerte, ensure that a range of teaching resources are available freely to anyone. Through U-NOW, we are working with Open Educational Resources (OER) Africa to share materials relating to curriculum and pedagogy with African Universities.

For our staff, the Developing Futures scheme offers bursaries for staff members to work with a partner institution in the developing world. Projects funded under this initiative are chosen because of their potential to support and enhance the delivery of higher education in the partner institution. The School of Nursing is collaborating with the Aga Khan University in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Zanzibar to develop curriculums, and in India, it is working with seven universities in Andhra Pradesh running faculty development programmes. In Ethiopia, the School of Chemistry has a long standing link with the University of Addis Ababa which focuses specifically on the development and implementation of green chemistry research and teaching.

This type of activity isn't just down to staff. Students also have a role to play. For example, the Department of the Built Environment recently asked 180 undergraduates to undertake projects to design and build a nursery school in South Africa. After 50 days of construction and over a year of raising money (£75,000 came from the University's Annual Grant Fund) a new pre-school facility in Matlosana was completed.



Changfeng Elementary School



School of the Built Environment Jouberton project



Winners of the Queen's Award for Enterprise: International Trade 2006

We have won prestigious awards for our international achievements including the Queen's Award for Enterprise in the field of international trade – the first time such an award had been bestowed on an academic institution.

In order to sustain this level of focus on international matters, we are committed to continuing the expansion of teaching and research at our overseas campuses; developing international curriculums; extending scholarship provision; developing new innovative international teaching and research partnerships; and continuing to find more opportunities for our students and staff to enjoy a genuinely international experience.

To find out more about internationalisation and international opportunities at The University of Nottingham, please visit:
www.nottingham.ac.uk/international

Innovative International Development

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**“Nottingham is the
nearest Britain has to a
truly global university.”**
The Times