



UNIVERSITY OF  
**BATH**



# Supporting Undergraduate Success through Curriculum Transformation

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University of Bath

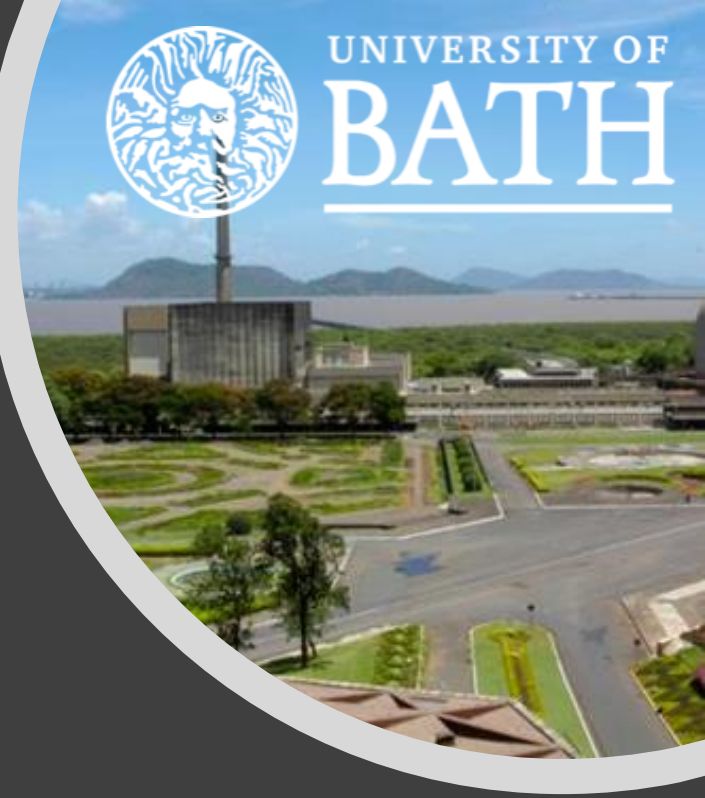


**B**ROOKHAVEN,  
NEW YORK



**B**ATH  
Faculty

**B**ELFAST



**B**OMBAY (PhD)  
Bhabha Atomic  
Research Centre

# Biomedical scientist...Life of **B**'s



# Getting into education research, widening participation & outreach

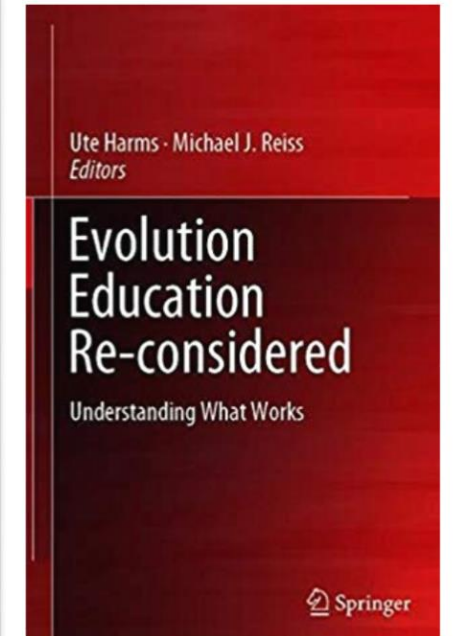
'Blended learning'  
approaches

Inter-disciplinary  
research into why  
students choose  
placements

Open Education  
(JISC-funded OER  
Phase 1 & 2)

Introduced the  
first MOOC from  
Bath - 'Inside  
Cancer'

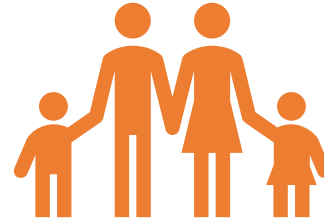
Evolution  
education



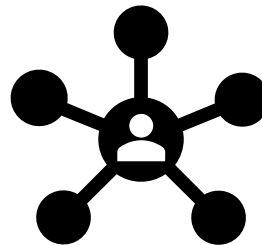
Key challenges for  
academics  
involved in  
widening  
participation and  
outreach activities

- Shifting 'Civic' conceptualisations
- Funding requirements
- Academic workloads
- Nurturing relationships
- Style and content
- Capacity building
- Evaluation of activities

# Re-thinking Higher Education



Moving away from solely  
human capital or intrinsic  
notions



Automation, climate &  
socio-cultural changes



Technology has  
reshaped traditional  
models

Kromydas, T. Rethinking higher education and its relationship with social inequalities: past knowledge, present state and future potential. *Palgrave Commun* **3**, 1 (2017)

# Changes in the HE landscape

*“Educators are in the position where they are having to prepare learners for jobs that don’t yet exist, using technologies that have not yet been invented, and spotting and solving problems that we have yet to define clearly.”*

Quality Assurance Agency, 2018

# Skills for the 21st century



Global Agenda

Education and Skills

Digital Economy and Society

## Higher education needs dusting off for the 21st century

### Growing

- 1 Analytical thinking and innovation
- 2 Active learning and learning strategies
- 3 Creativity, originality and initiative
- 4 Technology design and programming
- 5 Critical thinking and analysis
- 6 Complex problem-solving
- 7 Leadership and social influence
- 8 Emotional intelligence
- 9 Reasoning, problem-solving and ideation
- 10 Systems analysis and evaluation



### Declining

- 1 Manual dexterity, endurance and precision
- 2 Memory, verbal, auditory and spatial abilities
- 3 Management of financial, material resources
- 4 Technology installation and maintenance
- 5 Reading, writing, math and active listening
- 6 Management of personnel
- 7 Quality control and safety awareness
- 8 Coordination and time management
- 9 Visual, auditory and speech abilities
- 10 Technology use, monitoring and control



# Curriculum Transformation Initiative at Bath (2022)





Support the  
needs of all  
learners



Embed independent  
learning and critical  
evaluation skills



Deliver an inclusive  
curriculum



Foster confidence in  
students to thrive in a  
global workplace



Support  
Transitions

# Deliver an inclusive curriculum



## **Physical Inclusion**

refers to the learning environment and access to learning.



## **Cultural Inclusion**

refers to the content we teach and the examples we use.



## **Cognitive Inclusion**

refers to how students assimilate, process, recall and synthesise the knowledge we impart.

## What Works, Student Retention and Success

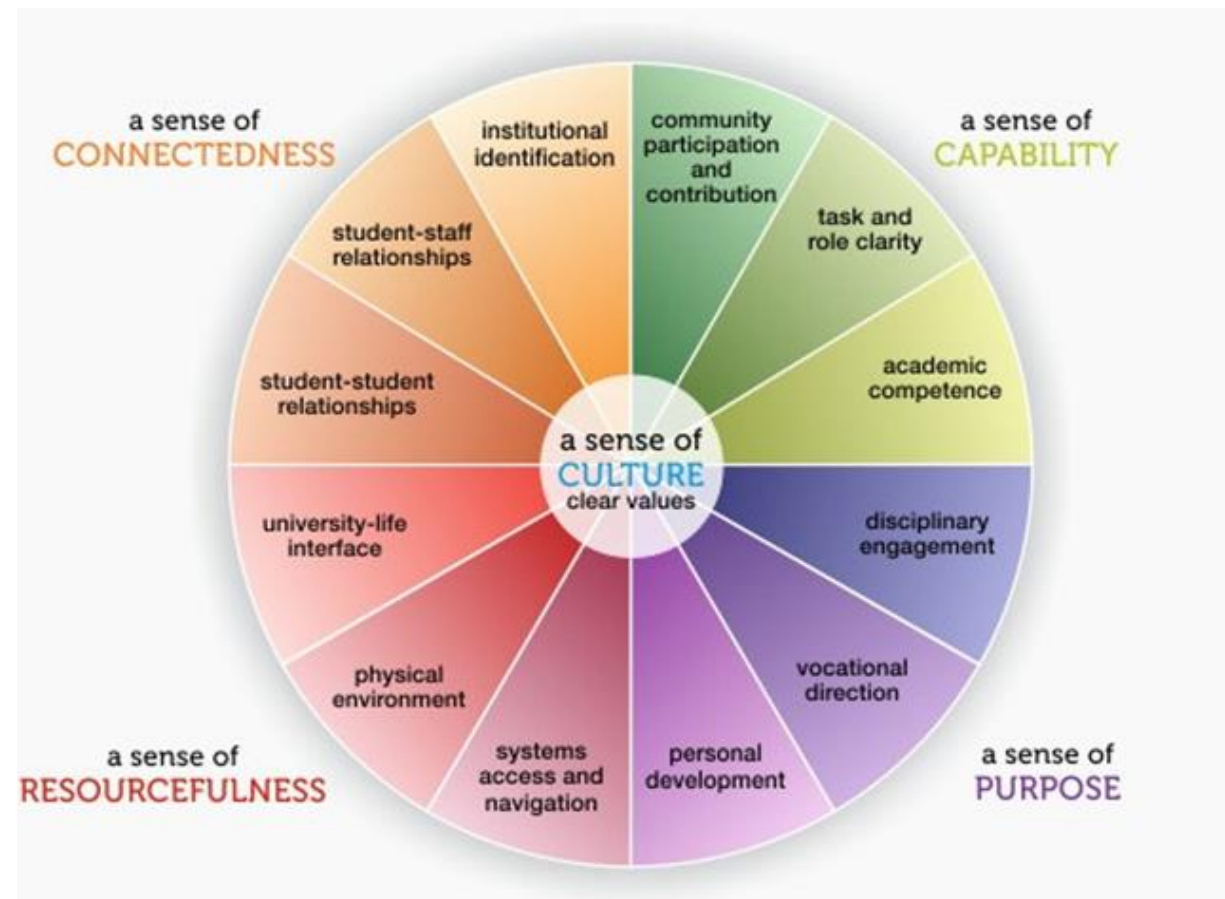
Supportive peer relations

Meaningful interaction between staff and students

Developing knowledge, confidence and identity as successful HE learners

An HE experience relevant to students' interests and future goals

# Support Transitions



*Five Senses of Success' Lizzio and Wilson (2006, 2010).*

*Adapted from Thomas (2012; 2017)*



How does CTI link to  
the NERUPI  
Framework?

# NERUPI Framework level 5

HABITUS	EDUCATION CAPITAL	INTELLECTUAL CAPITAL
<b>Develop students' confidence and resilience to negotiate the challenge of university life and graduate progression</b>	<b>Develop students' study skills and capacity for academic attainment and successful graduate progression</b>	<b>Develop students' understanding by contextualising subject knowledge</b>
Engage with students from a variety of social, cultural and ethnic backgrounds to establish positive relationships and form mutual support networks	Consolidate their academic skills and develop a personalised strategy for skills acquisition	Extend their capacity for critical thinking, perspective taking and creative engagement with their subject area
Engage pro-actively with the changing demands of their studies and develop pro-active support-seeking behaviours to ensure their success	Consolidate a varied skills set to enhance future employability and develop the capacity to demonstrate skills to potential employers	
	Consolidate their interpersonal and group work skills and capacity to work collaboratively with others	

# CASE STUDY - 'The Grand Challenge project'

*Aims: To advance science as integral to address the challenges of global environmental sustainability, and enable students to acquire the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values necessary to shape a sustainable future*



**Year 1- 3**  
***Vertically***  
***Integrated***  
***Project***

**Students**  
**grouped into**  
**teams**

**Identify a shared**  
**project goal**

**Online courses and**  
**campus-based**  
**workshops on**

**Phased approach**  
**to targets and**  
**milestones**

*Based on personal*  
*attributes and skills*

*LOCAL Community*  
*project (Council /*  
*Corporate)*  
  
*UN Sustainable*  
*Development Goals*  
*(e.g. sanitation)*  
  
*International*  
*Community Project*

- *Analytical thinking & creativity,*
- *Innovation & entrepreneurship,*
- *Team-working,*
- *communication,*
- *project-management & leadership,*
- *Critical thinking and problem-solving*





Questions?

# ACTIVITY

How will we measure success on the 'Grand Challenge Project'?

- Group work on tables
- Discuss methods we can use to measure success on the 'Grand Challenge Project' using the criteria provided in NERUPI level 5