

10 Years of The University of Northampton 2005-2015



2005

Blue light partnerships in action



In 2005, the University began working with Northamptonshire Police to bring trainee officers onto our campuses for the delivery of modules as part of the Initial Police Learning and Development Programme. 2005 also marked the start of the delivery of Paramedic Science programmes at the University. This partnership has continued and the University was invited to take part in a television series which followed new trainee medic on their first placements as students.

2006

The start of an innovative approach



Innovation is at the heart of the University and in 2006 we opened the Portfolio Innovation Centre, which provides first-class business support and premises to creative entrepreneurs.

The centre accommodates start-up and early stage creative businesses while offering access to creative facilities, equipment and knowledge across the University. Over time, the centre has tripled in size and our success in this area has led to the opening of a new state-of-the-art Innovation Centre, as part of the Northampton Waterside Enterprise Zone in Northampton town centre in spring 2015.

2007

Leading designer and broadcaster join the ranks of our honorands



We recognise the contributions made by Bob Harris (Honorary Award Recipient: Fellowship, July 2007) and Zandra Rhodes CBE (Honorary Award Recipient: Doctorate, July 2007) to their professions and award them with honorary degrees.

2008

Our inaugural Chancellor is appointed



February 2008 saw the University inaugurate Baroness Falkner of Margravine as Chancellor.

Baroness Falkner was created a Life Peer in 2004. She currently serves on the House of Lords Constitution Select Committee, and since 2010 has chaired the Liberal Democrats House of Lords committee on Foreign Affairs.

Over her parliamentary career, she has been a front bench spokeswoman on the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the Ministry of Justice, the Home Office and the Department for Communities and Local Government.

2008 (Continued)

Bringing Law to Life



2008 also saw the launch of a Moot Room – a fully mocked up courtroom. Officially launched by the-then Home Secretary, Jacqui Smith, the courtroom provides policing and law students with valuable experience of the workings of legal proceedings.

2009

100 Years of Leather Education



The University of Northampton celebrated 100 years of leather education in 2009. The University's leather origins go back to the Leathersellers' Technical College, which was established in Bermondsey, south London, in 1909.

Since then, the college has merged, relocated and changed name several times. It is now the renowned Institute for Creative Leather Technologies (ICLT) based at the University's Park Campus.

The University of Northampton is one of the few universities in the world offering degree courses in leather technology.

2010

Raising the Bar



A new strategic plan with fresh focus and ambitious aims was launched in 2010, with a commitment to entrepreneurship, research and social enterprise. 'Raising the Bar' saw Vice Chancellor, Professor Nick Petford, announce the University of Northampton was set to become the first university in the UK to integrate both teaching and research activities and social enterprise.

2010 (Continued)

Historic Newton building opens its doors



January 2010 saw the University open the Newton building – a Grade II-listed former school building was redeveloped to the tune of £11 million.

Newton became home to the School of Science and Technology and also housed NVision – a state-of-the-art facility to help companies to develop and promote products using 3D modelling – and the East Midlands Non-Destructive Testing Centre.

2011

Olympic fever comes to the University



Following a successful bid by the Students' Union, the University of Northampton became the only HE Institute in the East Midlands to host the Olympic torch on its tour, as part of a nationwide search for inspirational young people to carry the Olympic Flame during the London 2012 Olympic Torch Relay. The event at Park Campus was attended by thousands of people, including graduate Bobby White, who studied for a BSc in Sport and Exercise Science. Bobby became captain of the British Handball team in 2011, and went on to skipper the side in the 2012 Games.

2011 (Continued)

University hits the number 1 spot



*No.1 in the UK for
Value Added**

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In 2011 we were proud to be recognised as the UK's No 1 University for 'Value Added' in the Guardian University Guide national league tables 2012.

'Value Added' is one of the most important categories for revealing how students success academically, demonstrating the quality and effectiveness of the University's teaching.

2012

Campus Investment



A programme of significant campus investment continued apace in 2012, developing the University's status as a modern, vibrant and exciting institution with state-of-the-art facilities, newly refurbished buildings and innovative learning spaces.

2013

Reaching new Heights



*UK's highest
climbing
university**

**The Complete University
Guide 2014*

Just three years after launching the Raising the Bar strategic plan, the University achieved its aim to become the UK's number one University for Social Enterprise and become a Top 50 ranked University – two years ahead of schedule.

The University cemented its place as a leading University with league table successes across the board, recognising the commitment of academic and professional services staff to enhancing the academic and student experience at the University.

The University climbed the rankings in the Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide, was the highest climber in the Complete University Guide and ranked in the Top 50 universities in the UK in the Guardian University Guide.

2013 (Continued)

Reaching new Heights



In February 2013, the University was designated an Ashoka U Changemaker Campus, receiving international recognition for its commitment to social innovation and entrepreneurship. The University was the first in the UK to be awarded this honour.

2014

A new state-of-the-art home for Students



St John's Hall was the first major new building to be constructed as part of the ambitious Northampton Alive regeneration programme.

This impressive new £21.5million hall of residence fully opened in time for the start of the 2014-15 academic year. The 468-bed building also includes a laundry, reception facilities and a learning resource centre.

2014

A new state-of-the-art home for Students



2014 saw research carried out by the University of Northampton officially recognised as world-leading in quality, following the results of the UK-wide Research Excellence Framework (REF).

The REF assessed the quality of research conducted by universities between 2008 and 2013, with the results used by funding bodies to allocate future research funding to universities.

'World-leading' research was identified in the University's submissions for the Allied Health Professions, Art and Design; English Language and Literature; History; Geography and Education units of assessment.

