

Introduction

Right: Eric Thomas, Vice-Chancellor

Far right: Denis Burn, Chairman, University Council



This review of 2010/11 complements our formal Annual Report and Financial Statements and provides just a few highlights of our many successes and achievements.

Our students benefit from an intellectually demanding, research-informed education. We are dedicated to academic endeavour at the highest level and encourage independence of mind. This underpins our world-leading research and supports our students to maximise their full potential and to serve society's needs across the globe, both during and after their time at Bristol.

Council, the governing body of the University, plays a key role in maintaining our

world-leading position, ensuring that our cutting-edge research and education continue to be at the top of their game.

This is without doubt one of the most challenging times for higher education, both in terms of the financial landscape and as a result of the unprecedented rate of change we see across the sector. However, among the challenges there is also opportunity, and, as you will see in this review, we are well positioned for both, remaining true to our vision and our strengths and continuing to gain recognition as a world-leading university.

Eric Thomas
Vice-Chancellor

Denis Burn
Chairman, University Council

Mission, vision and values

Through its Royal Charter granted in 1909, the University of Bristol is committed to 'the promotion of Arts, Sciences and Learning'. In its centenary year, the University restated its mission, together with its vision and values. These are set out below. They also appear at the start of the University's Vision and Strategy for 2009-16. This Review of the Year, together with the associated Annual Report and Financial Statements, charts progress in 2010/11 against the Vision and Strategy.

Mission

To pursue and share knowledge and understanding, both for their own sake and to help individuals and society fulfil their potential.

Vision

The University of Bristol is an international powerhouse of learning, discovery and enterprise. Its vision is of a university whose excellence is acknowledged locally, nationally and globally and that is:

- dedicated to academic achievement across a broad range of disciplines, and to continuous innovation and improvement
- research-intensive, supporting both individual scholarship and interdisciplinary or thematic research of the highest quality
- a centre for intellectually demanding, research-informed education that nurtures independence of mind and helps students achieve their personal goals and serve society's needs, both during and after their time here
- an inclusive and collaborative community of scholarship that attracts and retains people with outstanding talent and potential from all walks of life and all parts of the world
- a stimulating and supportive environment for all students and staff, distinguished by a commitment to high standards, respect for the individual and a strong sense of collegiality
- committed to operating in a sustainable manner
- engaged with society's interests, concerns, priorities and aspirations
- a major contributor culturally, environmentally and economically to Bristol and the South West
- well led and responsibly run, with an emphasis on consultative decision-making and open communication as well as personal responsibility and accountability.

Values

Our mission and vision are underpinned by these values:

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| <p>Truth
We seek and are inspired by truth, which we pursue for its own sake</p> | <p>Responsibility
We aim to make a positive difference to the wider world and the future</p> | <p>Transparency
We want to be accountable for our decisions and actions</p> |
| <p>Excellence
We strive for the highest quality in all we do</p> | <p>Independence
We encourage independent thinking and cherish academic and institutional autonomy</p> | <p>Diversity
We view the diversity of our staff, students and alumni as a great asset</p> |
| <p>Innovation
We welcome the challenge of the new and value the creative and entrepreneurial</p> | <p>Collaboration
We are committed to teamwork and to partnership with others</p> | <p>Equity
We believe in the equitable treatment of all</p> |
| <p>Ambition
We have high aspirations for the University and all its staff, students and alumni</p> | | |

Right: Wills Memorial Building



NICK RIDDLE