



**University of
Nottingham**
UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA

**Faculty of Arts and
Social Sciences**
STRATEGIC PLAN
2023-2026



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Our Purpose

The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences is home to a diverse and exciting portfolio of disciplines, all united under a common desire to make the world a better place. We see ourselves as operating in, of and with our communities and industries.

We are committed to providing an excellent teaching and learning experience for our students, reflecting our ambitions to become a leading regional hub for business, the arts and humanities, economics, education and international relations.

This strategic plan sets out our vision, mission and goals for the next three years. At the heart of our plan is the commitment to people and partnerships that will enable us to create a compelling and innovative learning experience and curriculum, a guaranteed work-like experience for all of our students, and the expansion and acceleration of our impactful research.

Our work will be characterised by a strong commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, an embodiment of the values of UNM in everything we do, and a culture of teamwork to achieve our collective goals.





Our Mission

- We have inspiring campuses in three countries, energising us to be a globally engaged university that is also committed to making a difference in our cities and regions.
- We empower and support students and staff to collaborate in learning, scholarship and discovery across all realms of knowledge, solving problems and improving lives.
- We are stewards of a pioneering and entrepreneurial tradition of creativity and innovation.

Our Vision

is to be a university without borders, where we embrace the opportunities presented by a changing world, and where ambitious people and a creative culture will enable us to change the world for the better.

Our Values

Inclusivity Ambition

We are a community where everyone can contribute and be appreciated for who they are.

We set the highest standards for ourselves and our work and support each other to achieve them.

Openness Fairness

We adopt a straightforward and transparent way of communicating with each other and with the world, championing the free exchange of ideas.

Our decisions and actions are consistent, impartial and ethical.

Respect

We have regard for each other's rights and feelings, and demonstrate this in our behaviour, treating each other with consideration and kindness.





We will activate
and support
inter-disciplinary
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Education

Our plans for education are ambitious, recognising excellence in teaching and accelerating our plans to engage our alumni, industry and community partners in the development of our offer to students. This means inculcating partnership work in all aspects of what we do from curriculum design and delivery to the development of new real-world work experiences for our students. Along the way, we'll break down barriers to internal collaboration, activating and supporting interdisciplinary collaborations to the extent that they become a normal part of everyday practice.

The Education and Student Experience plan has two objectives:

1.

To advance teaching innovation through attracting, recognising and supporting our dedicated teachers.

We will:

- Support, encourage and celebrate academic staff who choose to pursue a teaching-focussed pathway with tailored development programmes from Postdoc to Professor.
- Recognise and reward excellence in teaching and learning and appreciate the diversity of our talents.
- Actively attract experienced practice-based teaching staff to increase teaching, innovation and graduate employability outcomes.
- Invest in our teaching and learning methods and environment to enhance the learning experience for students.
- Encourage and reward cross-school teaching and curriculum development as a normal practice.

2.

To develop adaptive learning experiences co-created with community, industry and alumni.

We will:

- Co-create an industry-responsive, flexible and innovative postgraduate framework for continuous professional development, tailored programmes for partner organisations and lifelong learning, utilising tri-campus expertise and enhanced learning technologies.
- Create multi-school offers in FASS and with FOSE underpinned by better optionality, multidisciplinarity, industry connectivity, and leading research.
- Provide a guarantee of work like experience and input of industry experts on all undergraduate courses.
- Nurture powerful and actively engaged external advisory boards and alumni networks who shape our curriculum, provide guest lectures and contribute to the life of the university.

Research and Knowledge Exchange

The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences is home to a diverse and exciting array of research expertise. The work of our colleagues reflects the breadth of our disciplines, with top-tier journal articles, ground-breaking works of literature, exhibitions at festivals and the development of participatory health technology among our outputs. We see research and knowledge exchange (RKE) as the lever for original and innovative academic insights to address the most pressing social, economic, health, political and environmental challenges that we face. Our plans seek to build on our success and accelerate our ambitions by creating new ways to encourage interdisciplinary and externally focused RKE activity, attract talented researchers and continue to increase the quantum of our high quality outputs in all their rich diversity.

The RKE Plan has two objectives:

1.

To develop a culture of performance across the spectrum of research and knowledge exchange.

We will:

- Create a new hub and spoke institute themed around people, work and wellbeing and close dormant research groups
- Provide funding to support the development of interdisciplinary research and cross school supervision of PGR students
- Increase, year on year, the quantum of outputs in the top 10% of journals.
- Continue to support and celebrate the production of diverse, high quality and impactful scholarly and creative outputs in the arts and humanities.
- Attract high quality full-funded PhD students through new entry criteria and funding model prioritising quality of candidates over the number of PGRs enrolled.

2.

To influence and impact societal contribution through partnerships.

We will:

- Nurture powerful and actively engaged external advisory boards and alumni networks who shape our research and contribute to our research impact.
- Develop a vehicle to support research-led focus on policy development and outputs through partnerships with industry, community and government organisations.
- Attract a new pool of Industry PhD and DBA students through partnerships with industry and government.





'We see RKE as the lever for innovative academic insights to address the most pressing challenges we face.'





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