Introduction

Unpacking NSS and Graduate Outcomes (GO) Metrics

- Why bother perforning well in domestic league tables (DLT)?
- Overview of the National Student Survey
- Importance of NSS for UK universities
- What aew GO and how it fits in?

Financial Challenges & Current Environment.

- Freeze on home student fee means decreasing return with inflation but costs rising…
- Home fee for equity with original set value should be £14,000
- Maintaining good retention and progression is a challenge with current losses in the 8-10% range (BP update at end of moneh) compared with historical 5%.

How we react.

- Along with strategies to improve retentions…we take more students to offset.
- But we aren't the only ones that are in this position..so..

> 💡 Competitive Market
>
> This presents a yearly risk as we are a 'clearing' University with 1000+ places per year needed.

- Concern is that student rely on 'Good University…' table and guides that influence their choice
- NSS and Graduate Outcomes are two key measures that feed into those tables.

NSS

26 Questions grouped by themes.

Questions are answered on a 'positivity' likert scale.

- *Theme 1: Teaching on my course 4Q*

    – How good are teaching staff at explaining things?
    – How often do teaching staff make the subject engaging?

- *Theme 2: Learning Opportunities 5Q*

    – To what extent have you had the chance to explore ideas and concepts in depth?
    – To what extent does your course have the right balance of directed and independent study?

NSS

- *Theme 3: Assessment & Feedback 5Q*

    – How clear are the marking criteria used to assess your work?
    – How fair has the marking and assessment been on your course?

- *Theme 4: Academic Support 2Q*

    – How easy was it to contact teaching staff when you needed to?
    – How well have teaching staff supported your learning?

- *Theme 5: Organisation and Management 2Q*

    – How well organised is your course?
    – How well were any changes to teaching on your course communicated?

NSS

- *Theme 6: Learning Resources 3Q*

    – How well have IT resources and facilities supported your learning?

- *Theme 7: Student Voice 3Q*

    – To what extent are students' opinions about the course valued by staff?

– How clear is it that students' feedback on the course is acted on?

- *Unthemed 2Q*

    – How well does the student union (association or guild) represent students' academic interests?
    – How well communicated was information about your University/College's mental wellbeing support services?

How did we do?

Uni and Faculty - not great!

CAH Subject	No. of Unis	Overall				Teaching			
		Key Performance Score	Average Positivity Score	Average Relative Rank	Response Size	Relative Rank 3-Year Average	Response Size	Contribution to Institution Score	Performance Score
psychology (non-specific)	113	12	74.58	75	215	70	215	-0.3	3.5
adult nursing	76	11	52.63	63	241	57	241	-1.28	3.5
mental health nursing	69	11	56.37	87	53	92	53	-0.19	3.5
anatomy, physiology and pathology	27	7.5	64.46	79	21	54	21	0	1.5
medicine (non-specific)	34	7.5	62.26	54	63	47	63	0.01	1.5
biomedical sciences (non-specific)	85	7.5	74.81	61	81	30	81	0.08	0.5
health sciences (non-specific)	69	7	72.41	62	57	54	57	0.09	1
bioengineering, medical and biomedical	28	7	68.37	66	23	62	23	-0.01	2.5
pharmacology	29	6.5	78.74	78	23	80	23	0.02	2
midwifery	55	5.5	67.4	45	24	51	24	-0.03	2.5
children's nursing	53	5.5	68.95	68	25	67	25	0.06	0.5
health studies	36	5.5	80.63	70	14	65	14	0.02	1.5
social work	81	4.5	80.27	40	14	40	14	-0.02	2
genetics	15	3.5	83.28	46	39	31	39	0.08	0.5
complementary and alternative medicin	15	0	91.25	27	18	9	18	0.08	0

Figure 1: NSS Overall & Teaching

CAH Subject	No. of Unis	Learning Opportunities			Assessment & Feedback			Academic Support		
		Relative Rank 3-Year Average	Response Size	Performance Score	Relative Rank 3-Year Average	Response Size	Performance Score	Relative Rank 3-Year Average	Response Size	Performance Score
psychology (non-specific)	113	72	215	2.5	78	215	3	80	215	3
adult nursing	76	64	241	2.5	70	241	2.5	60	241	2.5
mental health nursing	69	88	53	2.5	95	53	2.5	75	53	2.5
anatomy, physiology and pathology	27	49	21	1	76	21	2	94	21	2
medicine (non-specific)	34	36	63	0.5	27	63	1.5	66	63	2
biomedical sciences (non-specific)	85	44	81	0.5	78	81	2.5	59	81	2
health sciences (non-specific)	69	58	57	2	64	57	2	66	57	2
bioengineering, medical and biomedical	28	52	23	1.5	63	23	1.5	65	23	1.5
pharmacology	29	88	23	2	89	23	2	78	23	2
midwifery	55	54	24	1.5	43	24	1	42	24	1
children's nursing	53	57	25	0.5	76	25	2	63	25	1.5
health studies	36	58	14	0.5	81	14	2	67	14	1.5
social work	81	43	14	1	53	14	1.5	44	14	1
genetics	15	35	39	0.5	39	39	0.5	46	39	1.5
complementary and alternative medicin	15	13	18	0	42	18	0	18	18	0

Figure 2: NSS Learning Opportunities, Assessment & Feedback, Academic Support

CAH Subject	No. of Unis	Organisation & Management			Learning Resources			Student Voice		
		Relative Rank 3-Year Average	Response Size	Performance Score	Relative Rank 3-Year Average	Response Size	Performance Score	Relative Rank 3-Year Average	Response Size	Performance Score
psychology (non-specific)	113	70	215	2.5	81	215	3	83	215	3
adult nursing	76	64	241	2.5	67	241	2.5	74	241	2.5
mental health nursing	69	86	53	2.5	95	53	2.5	79	53	2.5
anatomy, physiology and pathology	27	92	21	2	64	21	1.5	68	21	1.5
medicine (non-specific)	34	75	63	2.5	46	63	0.5	66	63	2
biomedical sciences (non-specific)	85	75	81	2.5	68	81	1	56	81	1
health sciences (non-specific)	69	62	57	2	66	57	1	60	57	2
bioengineering, medical and biomedical	28	74	23	1.5	57	23	1.5	51	23	0.5
pharmacology	29	64	23	0.5	62	23	1.5	70	23	1.5
midwifery	55	43	24	1	36	24	0	42	24	1
children's nursing	53	67	25	1.5	60	25	0.5	82	25	2
health studies	36	66	14	0.5	65	14	1.5	74	14	0.5
social work	81	22	14	0	57	14	1.5	42	14	0
genetics	15	66	39	1	65	39	2	45	39	0.5
complementary and alternative medicin	15	40	18	0	44	18	0	11	18	0

Figure 3: NSS Organisation and Management, Learning Resources & Student Voice

What we are doing about it now...

- Targeted interventions as a pilot for a new way forward...
    - Meetings with Faculty Exec, PVC & School for Nursing and Pschology.
- School level meetings with PVC to discuss action plans.

Action plans (AP) being developed to address the main areas for improvement in each of the Schools and the AP will be updated for presentation to the University Education Committee.

Graduate Outcomes (GO)

Essentially how successful our student are at gaining graduate level employment post-graduation.

Commencing with the 2017/18 graduate cohort, the Graduate Outcomes survey has replaced the Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey.

- Graduate Outcomes collects information about the activities and perspectives of graduates approximately 15 months after they complete their HE studies.
- "Graduate Level" jobs classified on the basis of whether they "normally require knowledge and skills developed on a three-year university degree to enable them to perform the associated tasks competently"

Graduate Outcomes (GO)

- If you are still in HE at time of survey you don't get classed as not being in graduate employment but undertaking further study.

- As a Faculty we are fortunate that the commissioned professional programmes exit straight into employment.

- For traditional programmes it can be tricky as 15 months is a poor census point for some.

    - For Psych - competitive general market and after PG study, only 3 months to secure a job. Especially an issue considering those interested in clinical.

- But if they do eventually get that graduate job that would be great, except 15 months is snapshot point for league tables...
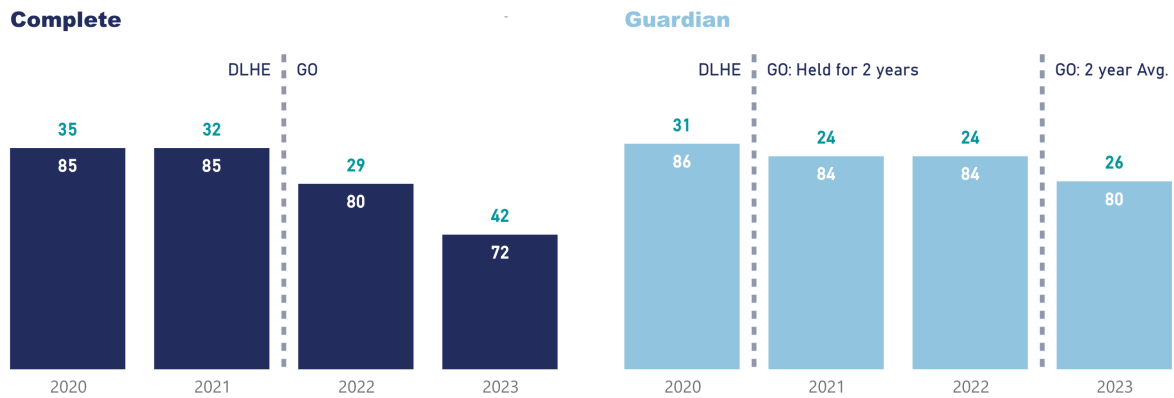

Been a downhill trend...

Figure 4: Histrical GO Scores

As a Faculty we are developing years in industry that will aim to increase employment at a graduate level within 15 months for those subjects that don't have jobs automatically.

It all comes together...

These two metrics as well as other 'Valude added' contribute to overall tables.

With Swansea overall....

Q&A

Open Discussion and Questions

- Time for audience interaction and queries.

2024	2023	Institution	Guardian score/100	Satisfied with teaching	Satisfied with feedback	Student to staff ratio	Spend per student/10	Average entry tariff	Value added score/10	Career after 15 months	Contin- uation
1	1	St Andrews	100	90.7	76.2	11.9	6.2	212	6.4	91	97.2
2	2	Oxford	96.5	n/a	n/a	10.3	10	203	6.1	94	98
3	3	Cambridge	94.8	n/a	n/a	11.6	9.9	208	5.5	94	99
4	4	London School of Economics	89.7	81.9	65.4	12.8	8.9	192	6.8	92	96.6
5	5	Imperial College	82.2	85.2	57.4	11.9	8.7	204	6.6	96	95.6
6	7	Bath	81.4	84	61.6	15.3	6.2	180	6.1	92	96.8
7	6	Durham	81.2	83.7	64.6	13.5	6.2	185	6.2	90	97.5
8	9	UCL	77.4	81.8	60.8	10.9	7.3	183	5.9	90	96.4
9	8	Warwick	76.7	83.7	68.9	13.9	7.6	179	4.1	89	96.3
10	10	Loughborough	75.6	82.1	61.9	14.1	4.5	162	5.5	89	96.6
11	14	Lancaster	75.3	84	65.9	14	6.7	154	5.7	85	96.8
12	13	Aberdeen	74.5	85.7	69.3	15.1	5.4	187	7.5	84	94.2
13	11	Glasgow	73.7	82.7	59.6	14.4	5.3	211	5.5	85	94.7
14	12	Edinburgh	73.5	80.1	51.6	12.3	8.2	197	6	87	97.1
15	19	University of the Arts London	73	71.2	73.6	11.5	9.6	153	6.3	71	91.3
16	16	Strathclyde	70.5	84	65.5	18.8	7.2	210	4.2	87	93.6
17	16	Bristol	69.8	79.8	58.2	13.9	7.4	174	5.5	88	96.6
18	15	Exeter	69.7	83.2	65.2	16.3	4.7	163	6.1	87	96.2
19	21	York	68.4	82.5	63.9	14.2	7.2	157	4.1	85	96
20	16	Southampton	67.3	82	65.7	14	6.2	156	5.7	85	95.1

Figure 5: Good University Guide, 2024

2024	2023	Institution	Guardian score/100	Satisfied with teaching	Satisfied with feedback	Student to staff ratio	Spend per student/10	Average entry tariff	Value added score/10	Career after 15 months	Contin- uation
21	30	Sheffield	66.5	82.9	65.5	14.4	5.7	157	5.2	86	95.7
21	24	Surrey	66.5	83.4	69.8	14.4	5.5	142	4	87	93.7
23	29	King's College London	65.9	78.1	58	14	7.9	169	5.6	89	94.6
24	30	Manchester	65.8	76.7	57.5	13.9	7.7	167	5.5	87	96.2
25	22	Aston	65	78	63	17	5.8	134	6.2	86	95
25	26	Swansea	65	81.2	65.1	15.9	6.6	138	6.2	83	92
27	20	Leeds	64.5	76.7	56.5	14.4	7.3	163	5.2	86	96
28	38	Ulster	64.4	81.2	71.8	18.3	4.4	135	7.3	82	90.8
29	35	Cardiff	64.2	80	62.6	13.9	6.4	153	4	87	94.5
30	38	Bolton	63.5	83.6	76.6	15.1	8.2	121	4.4	74	83.7
30	42	Essex	63.5	77.8	64.8	14.6	7.3	126	7.2	78	89.8

Figure 6: Good University Guide, 2024