THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHAMPTON

Going Global 2014: Social enterprise and innovation – the business of Higher Education?

Social enterprise at the core of a university's mission: the case of the University of Northampton

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ASHOKA U Changemaker CAMPUS

TRANSFORMING LIVES + INSPIRING CHANGE

Northamptonshire in the UK

c 70 miles North of London

c 680,000 population

Mixed economy, traditional industries replaced by light manufacturing, high-tech. engineering, service sector, logistics, public sector

Strong political need to transform local public service delivery

University of Northampton in a major strategic change, based on institutional improvement

The University of Northampton

Some facts and figures

- c 14,600 students in 2013
- 70% full time
- 60% female, 40% male
- 55% over 21
- 90% undergraduate, 10% postgraduate
- 83% UK students, 17% international

Social Enterprise

Underpinning values

- Provide a unique student experience of the very highest quality, developing both theoretical and practical competence in social enterprise
- Encourage, support and develop entrepreneurial skills and enterprising attitudes in students, staff and communities we work with
- Strive to deliver a fairer and more inclusive society

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Social Enterprise

Key strategic initiatives

- All students have opportunity to work in a social enterprise, as part of their degree
- Integration of social enterprise with learning and research (Changemaker ethos)
- Inspire2Enterprise (national social enterprise support)
- Investment in social enterprises
- Evolution of UN functions to social enterprise operations
- Delivering social innovation and impact
- Working with suppliers to deliver social impact through procurement
- Influencing policy and practice

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Awards and Achievements

Putting social enterprise at the core of our University's mission means:

- #1 UK university for 'value added'
- #1 UK university for graduate employability
- Winner of UK Midlands Enterprising University of the Year 2012, 2013 and 2014
- Rising fast in all UK university league tables – top 50 UK HEI
- Holder of UnLtd/HEFCE award 'Outstanding HEI Supporting Social Entrepreneurship'
- First UK university to gain AshokaU 'Changemaker Campus' designation 2013
- "Northampton is the leading university in the UK for social enterprise, it is leading the field by a long way"
  Cliff Prior, Chief Executive, UnLtd, March 2013

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Thank you for listening

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