

Resourcing Postgraduate students in a research-led institution

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Challenges in Postgraduate study



The Government response to the National Student Forum's annual report 2008 states that

'improving the experience of postgraduate students is key in ensuring that this country has a strong research base, both now and in the future'

The presentation aims to set out the key future challenges in Postgraduate study, how the Higher Education sector as a whole will be affected and how Lancaster University as a research-intensive institution will aim to address these challenges.



Key challenges for the sector

- Expectations from Research Councils and QAA
- Growing emphasis by HEFCE in performance measurement and management
- Focus on the quality of the student experience
- Growing competition for qualified graduate students
- Importance of mode of delivery



Key challenges for the sector

- Changing funding opportunities
- Professionalization of supervision for research students
- Growth in provision of supervisor development opportunities



Graduate schools and IP

5 YEAR PERIOD 2002 – 06:

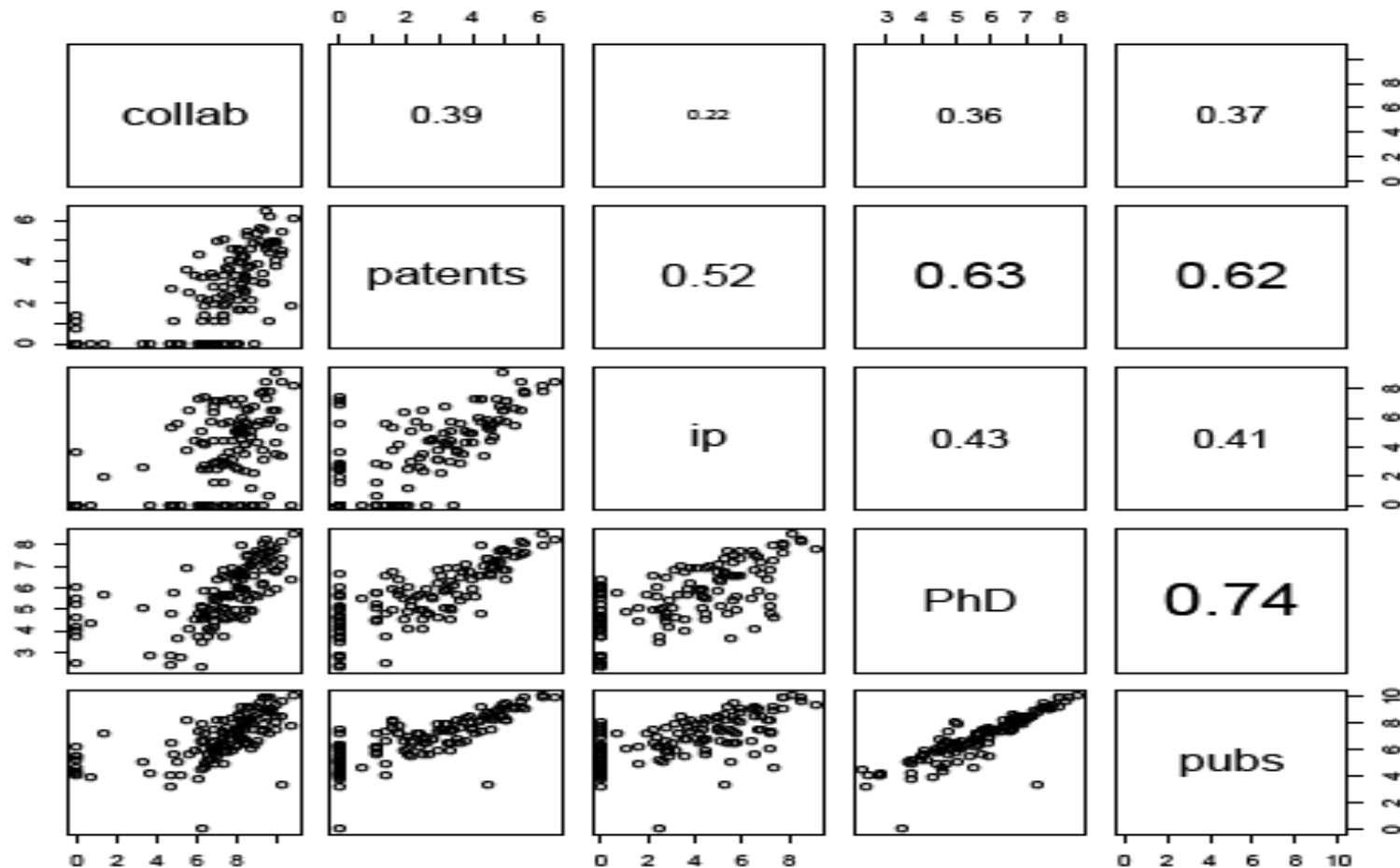
29 Universities less than 100 PhDs in total

UK median only 281

34 Universities produced 75% PhD graduates and
78% patents



The relationships between collaborative research income, patents, IP income, PhD graduations and research publications for UK Universities



Lancaster University



	Home	EU	International
Undergraduate	8158	550	793
Postgraduate (taught)	942	205	506
Postgraduate (research)	546	136	295

Headcount figures
Source: 2008 HESES



Key challenges for Lancaster

- Rationalising the PGT portfolio and developing a more demand-led approach
- Decentralisation of administration and decision-making to the faculties
- Cohesion between faculty graduate schools and the University graduate school
- Responding to national consultations



Key challenges for Lancaster

- Advertising and marketing to the Postgraduate market
- Conversion of undergraduate students to postgraduate students
- Improving intelligence on overseas markets
- Need for IT infrastructure to facilitate flexible delivery
- To provide resources for clear and accurate market testing




Postgraduate students' view of Lancaster University

From the Lancaster Student Experience Survey 2009,
79% of PG taught and 76% of PG research students rated
their experience as 'good or excellent'.

'Dynamic research environment and helpful, supportive
staff'

'My academic department, lectures and departmental
seminars made for a rich and memorable academic
experience'



Management School Hub



Graduate College



Addressing the challenges

- Student funding- offering up to £2.6M in additional funding for PhD students across our the University
- Aiding the transition from Undergraduate to Postgraduate student
- Funding packages
- Continuing to recruit staff at the international cutting edge of research

