



University of
Sunderland

UNIVERSITY OF SUNDERLAND

A LIFE-CHANGING INSTITUTION



Automating Decisions and University Boards

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Presenter



Who we are

How we approached automation

Where we started

What we've built

What we're doing next



University of Sunderland

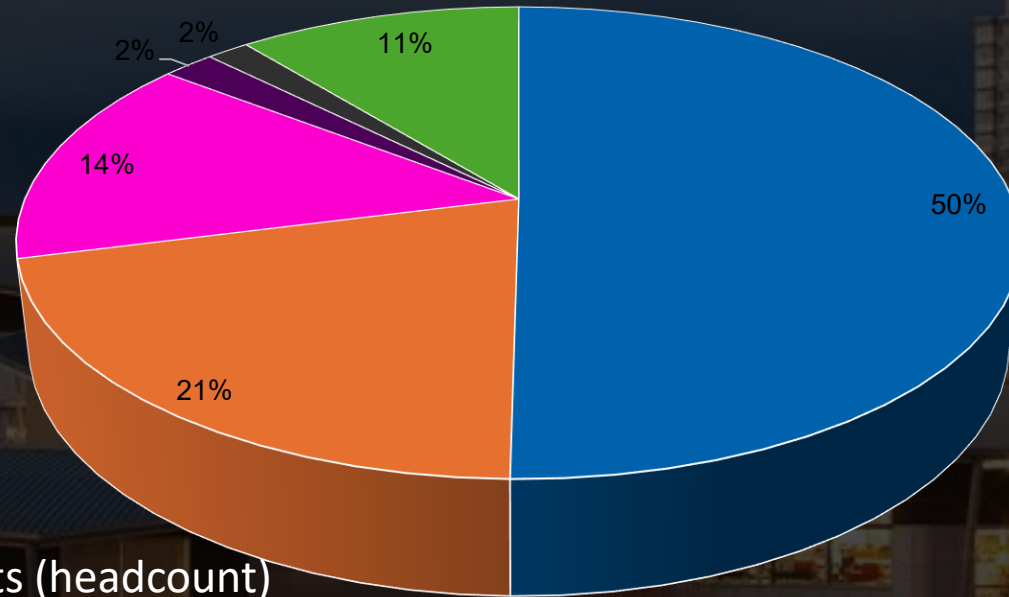
VISIT [SUNDERLAND.AC.UK](https://www.sunderland.ac.uk)





Our students

Location



28,314 students (headcount)

■ Sunderland Campus - 14222

■ TNE (International Partners) - 5875

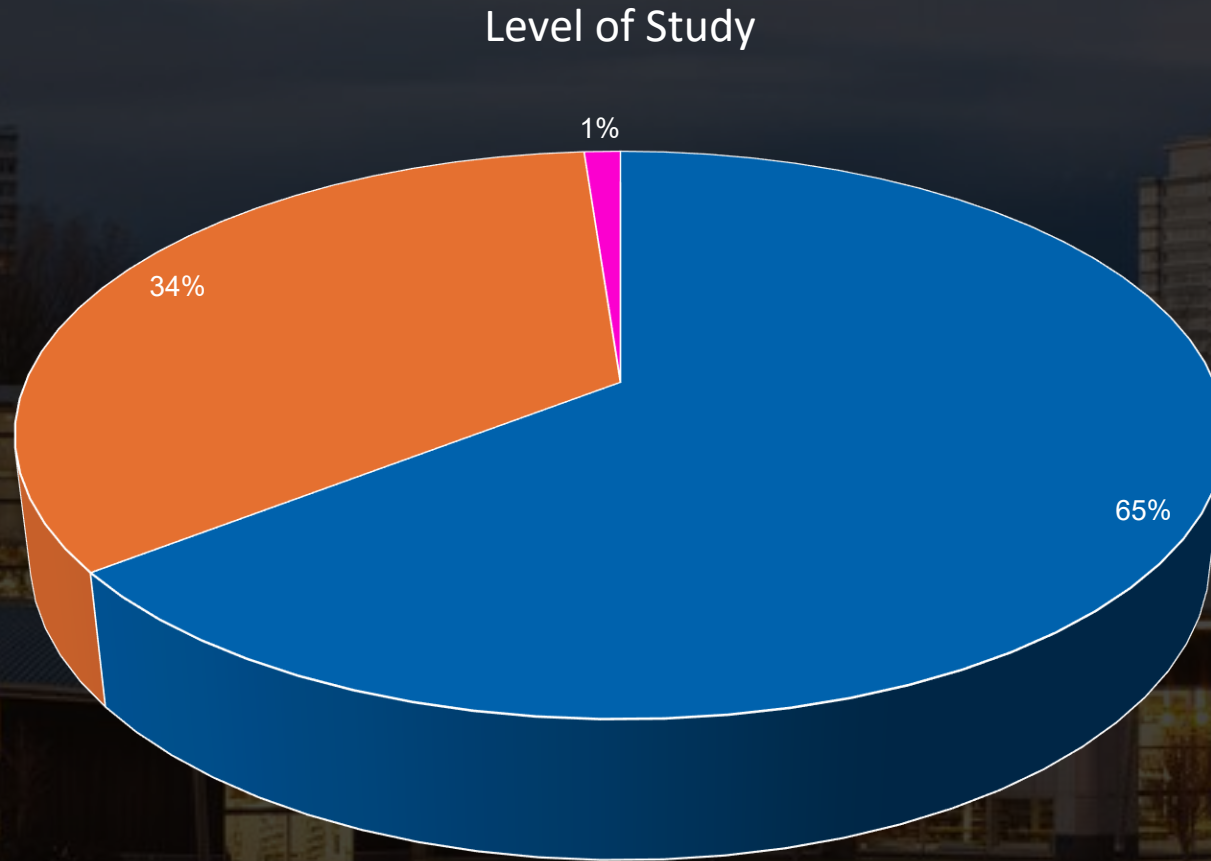
■ University of Sunderland in London - 4104

■ University of Sunderland in Hong Kong - 568

■ FE College Partners - 463

■ Independent Learner - 3082

Level of Study



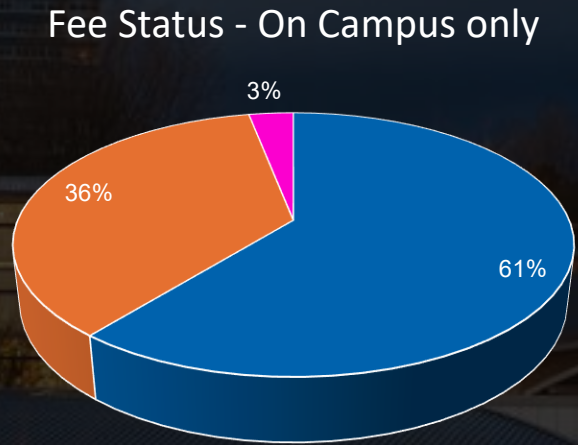
Undergraduate

Postgraduate Taught

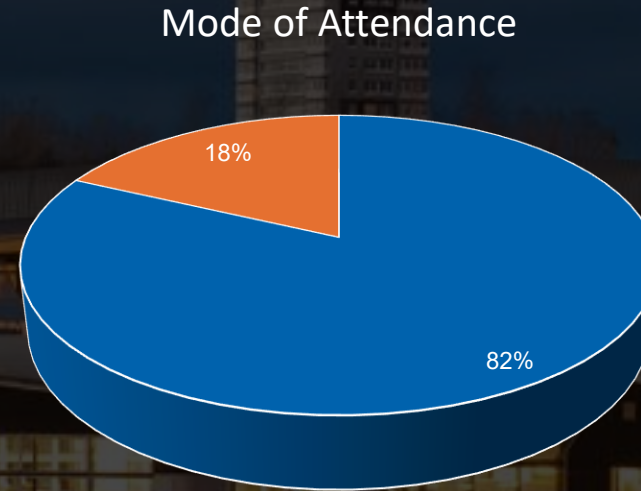
Postgraduate Research

Fee Status (on campus only)

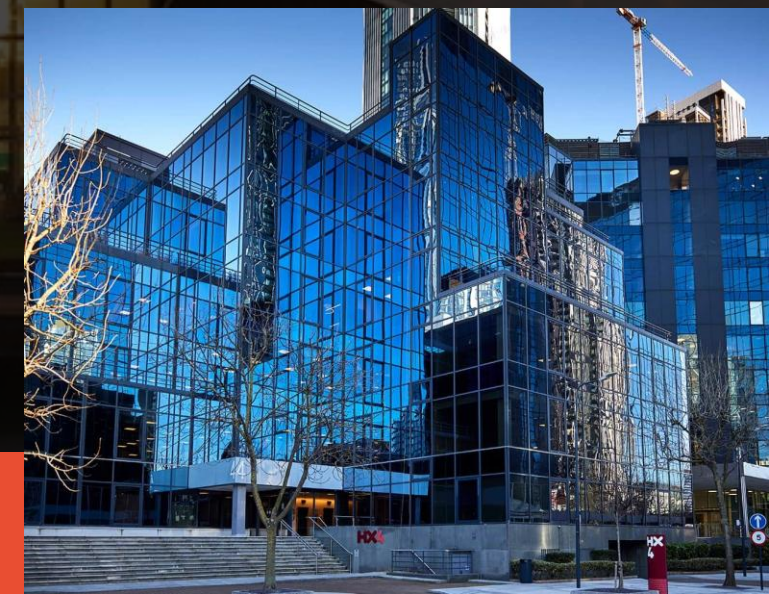
Mode of Attendance



- Home Students
- International Students
- EU Students



- Full Time
- Part Time





University of
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A GLOBAL UNIVERSITY

OUR PARTNERS AROUND THE WORLD





Provision Complexity





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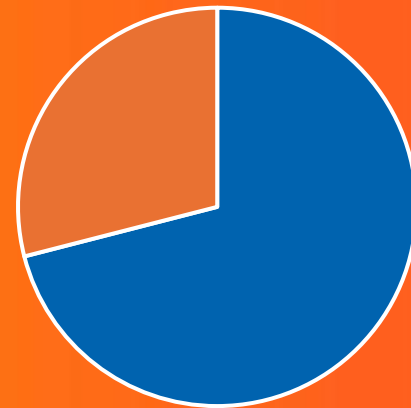
How we went from Automation to University Boards

June, Sept and Oct 2024 Trial Boards

- Three trial Boards.
- Over 3,000 students
- Less than 1,000 profiles presented



Decisions Made



■ Automated ■ Discretionary

Trial Board to trial year...

Successes

- Fourteen UPABs
- 14,000 students, considering only 472 profiles
- 70 standard boards cancelled
- 20 minutes for UPABs versus an average of 1.5 hours for standard boards
- Constitutional changes: June alone resulted in 22 AHOSs in attendance, with 91 Programme Leaders stood down. 130 hours of CAT3 meeting time.
- Results processing: 5 working days to less than 2 working days
- Consistent decision making

Lessons learned

- Working with the unknown, time is important, schedule meetings for 3 hours until the data comes through
- Communication, no matter how much you plan and do, someone will not know about it
- Bringing together differing practices, working closely with the Chair
- Try to temper the volume of change, (Board paper layout)
- Things can be done at pace, or were we lucky with distractions???
- Still learning and refining

What's next

- External Examiner model
- Phase 2 ongoing (Sunderland Online, PSRB governed health provision)
- Refining processes
- Student profile modelling to inform regulatory thresholds

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