

Stratified Space: Compromises and Commitments in University Estates

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Roadmap

- □ My key questions
- □ Literature review
- Data drivers: Students, Staff and Estates by the numbers
- □ Position and Purpose: Existing lenses on University Estates
- □ Key themes and issues emerging from literature and research
- □ University estates and COVID 19: Shutdown? What Shutdown?
- □ What now and what next for university estates?
- □ Discussion, Q/A

My key questions

- What is the existing literature and research relating university estates to university operations and management?
- What role do university estates play in university management strategies?
- What influence has COVID-19 had on current and future university estate operations, management and physical space use?



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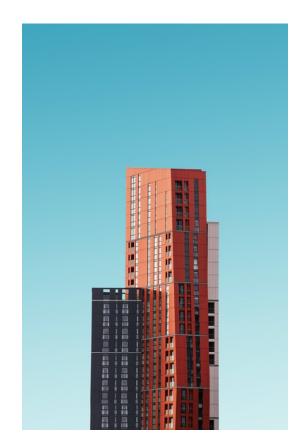
Literature review

- □ Key terms: university estates management, university operations, England
- □ Date range: 2016-2021
- □ Search engines: ERIC, UCL Discovery
- Including: peer review journal articles, book chapters, thesis and dissertations, governmental policy documents, institutional policy documents, newspaper articles, NGO and grey literature
- Unique items returned included: 6,935 articles, 1,114 book chapters, 966 Masters, 761 reports, 330 conference items, 35 monographs, 22 datasets, 14 digital scholarly resources and 18 *other* resources
- Returns were reviewed for context focus, methodology, methods and responsiveness to my key questions

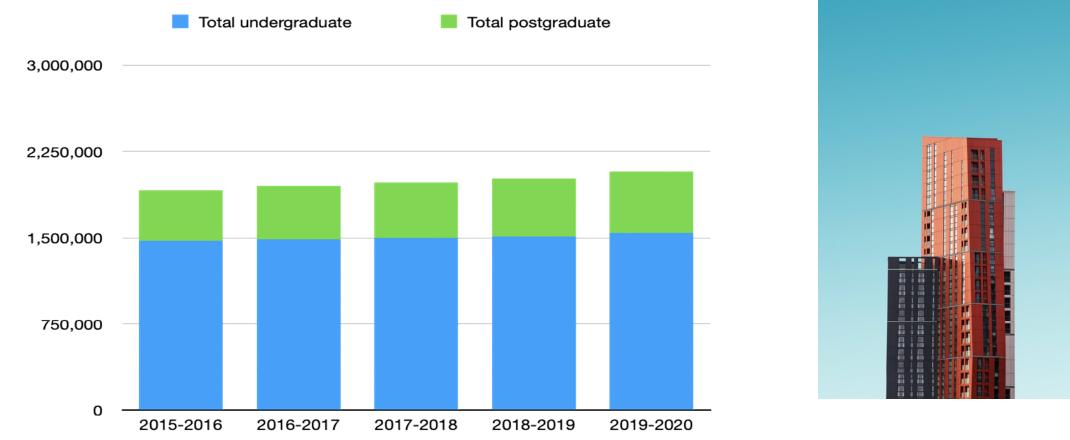


Data drivers: Students, Staff and University Estates by the numbers

- Student numbers
- Staff Numbers
- □ University facilities: teaching, learning, research, housing
- □ Capital resources: public, private, public-private partnerships
- Total number of sites
- Total number and mix of buildings
- Total site area
- Grounds area (heritage and non-heritage)



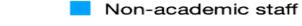
HE student enrolments by level of study for England, FTE, All domiciles, All Sexes

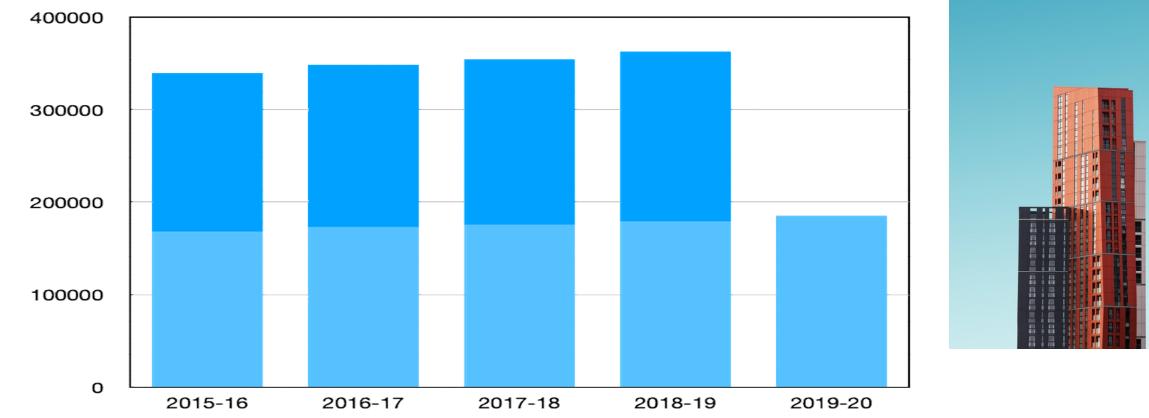


Source: https://www.hesa.ac.uk/data-and-analysis/students/studying-in-he

HE staff by HE provider and activity standard occupational classification Academic years 2015/16 to 2019/20

Academic staff





Source: https://www.hesa.ac.uk/data-and-analysis/staff/working-in-he

Universities, Building and Spaces, Academic Years 2015/16 to 2018/19

	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
Total number of sites	549	547	551	545
Number of buildings	12965	12680	12985	12390
Total site area (hectares)	8644	8917	8878	8521
Total grounds area (hectares)	5219	5513	5438	5298
Total playing fields area (hectares)	1397	1290	1252	1194
Total gross internal area (m2)	22,758,417	22,839,855	23,270,926	23,259,943



Source: https://www.hesa.ac.uk/data-and-analysis/estates/table-1



- Repairs and maintenance account for approximately £696m pa or 31%
- **Energy** accounts for approximately **£426m pa or 19%**
- □ Cleaning accounts for an estimated £275m pa or 12%
- **Security** accounts for approximately **£173m pa or 8%**
- AUDE estimates (as a sector) university capital expenditure for academic estates is approximately £3,539m and capital expenditure for residential estates reaches approximately £424.7m (across the HE sector)



Existing lenses on University Estates: Position & Purpose

□ Locke (2004), University environments and estates strategies

- □ Temple & Barnett (2007), University estates and being a university
- □ Temple & Fillippakou (2007), Learning spaces in the 21st Century
- □ Savin-Baden (2008), Learning spaces and knowledge creation
- Carnell (2017), Connecting physical university spaces with research-based education strategy
- □ Whyte (2018), Material histories of universities
- McCrone (2019) Formal, informal and intermediate space use in universities
- Lam (2020), Economic, Functional, Social and Environmental KPIs for university estates



Key themes and issues

Historical importance of university estates in England

□ Location, perceived quality and facilities fit for purpose

Condition and maintenance of university estates facilities

□ Regulation and responsibility: local, regional and national

Funding regimes

□ Sustainability of material spaces: past, present and to 2050

Operational costs

Data: evidence to inform design, operations, maintenance and usability

□ Timescales: university estates facilities for 10, 50, 100 years?



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University estates and COVID 19: Shutdown? What shutdown?

- Spring 2020: Estates are closed to all but essential personnel, Universities in England move to Remote, Distance/ICT Teaching, Learning & Research activity
 - A number of student residential accommodation remain open to students compelling staff to continue to report
 - Academic staff access issues
 - Student access issues
- Early summer: Planning for AY 2020/21 estate operations while continuing with Remote, Distance/ICT Teaching, Learning & Research activity
- □ Fall 2020: Distance/ICT Teaching/Learning and Research continued
- December/January 2020-21: Planning for Fall/Spring 2021...repeat of Spring 2020
- March 2021: Summer/Fall 2021 remote but AY 2021/22: facilities based, distance and hybrid options still under consideration



Photo by Sidharth Bhatia on Unsplash

What now and what next for university estates?

- □ Social justice of university material space(s)
- Who is picking up on university estates and university operations/management strategies in England?
 HESA/AUDE/HEDQF/Universities/UUK/GuildHE/NUS/OfS
- Cross-disciplinary approaches to study of the material, social, economic and political discourses shaping form, functions and stated purpose of university estates
- □ Is a hybrid approach the future of university estates?
- □ Academic and Non-academic staff and student feedback
- Booms and Busts: planning for sharp changes in student demographics (2025-2050)

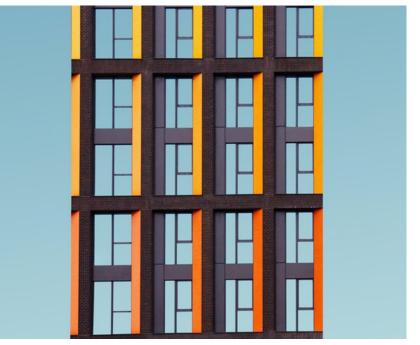


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Acute need for further study

- Longitudinal study
- **C**ase studies
- Local, regional, national and international comparative studies
- More qualitative and mixed-methods study to counterbalance prevalence of existing economic and functional approaches reified in dominant research discourses



The Bartlett Global Centre for Learning Environments

Thank You

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