

FOREWORD



John Robinson

The University of Hull has always worked hard to provide its students with a top-quality education in a supportive environment. This year external validation of our achievements arrived from a variety of directions.

Students past and present helped to raise our profile significantly by rating us highly in a range of national surveys. The inaugural national student satisfaction survey placed the University of Hull fifth among full-service universities for the overall quality of the student experience. Moreover, a number of departments were highlighted as setting the standard for their subject area in terms of overall student care. In addition, we maintained our regular position in the top 10 for employment in the table of national performance indicators.

Professor David J Drewry



In a survey of 10,000 first-year students across the country the University of Hull was ranked seventh 'Best Overall', with the second most helpful student support services. A poll conducted by *Friends Reunited*, a website which enables individuals to contact former friends and colleagues, concluded that Hull is the friendliest university in the country.

We can also report significant recognition of our commitment to high-quality teaching and learning, with *The Times* placing us among the UK's top 20 universities for teaching quality based on over 10 years of assessment by the Quality Assurance Agency. We work hard to ensure that this quality of service underpins all of our provision.

It was pleasing to see that the Hull York Medical School is already established as a highly successful provider, being placed second in the 2005 *Guardian* subject ratings. In addition, we were awarded another National Teaching Fellowship following our success last year.

These achievements and a long-standing reputation for student care led to the University's being shortlisted for the *Sunday Times* University of the Year award.

Maintaining a high-quality student experience and supporting excellent research require a commitment to continuous improvement. The benefits of a £9 million investment in campus facilities were there for all to see when the Business School relocated to attractive and functional buildings, combining an impressive Edwardian frontage with state-of-the-art teaching and research infrastructure. The new facilities will also enhance our interaction with local business, further developing a strategically important role for the institution supporting regional economic regeneration.

We were delighted that Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu has agreed to be Patron of the £2.3 million Wilberforce Institute for the study of Slavery and Emancipation. His endorsement recognises the international significance of the Institute's work and confirms the University's commitment to world-class research.

All of these are very significant milestones for the University. However, be assured that we will not be resting on our laurels. We will continue to invest over the coming year to support the quality of the students' experience and the further development of internationally leading research.

John Robinson, Chairman of Council
Professor David Drewry, Vice-Chancellor

COMMITTED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR STUDENTS

We endeavour to offer students excellent teaching and learning facilities combined with a social experience that is second to none. This high-quality experience is now starting to win national recognition with the University's students and graduates voting us into the top rank in many recent national surveys.

The shortlisting for 'University of the Year' by the *Sunday Times* cited our 'winning combination' of 'good-quality teaching, gettable entry grades and ...evidence of a happy student population'. This latter finding was confirmed by our impressive performance in the inaugural National Student Survey, commissioned by the Higher Education Funding Council for England which placed us among the top five mainstream UK universities. It also ranked us as the best university in Yorkshire.

The University of Hull has gained a reputation for widening access by exceeding its benchmarks. In a recent *THES* survey of first year students we were rated as one of the top universities for our 'impressive administration'. Potential students found staff to be quick, efficient and knowledgeable.

Our graduates added to the year's accolades when users of the *Friends Reunited* website voted us the friendliest university in the UK. We have also maintained our commitment to high-quality teaching and learning, which is why *The Times* placed us among the UK's top 20 universities for teaching quality.

The University continues to enjoy one of the top 10 highest ratings for graduate employment in the UK, with the majority finding a job within the first six months of graduating.

Sustained investment has created an impressive learning environment for students. This investment will help maintain the current view of students that they like the University of Hull. Students rate the campus as the seventh best in the UK.

The Brynmor Jones library



- shortlisted for 'University of the Year'
- *THES* survey rated us as one of the top universities
- UK's top 20 universities for teaching quality

PROMOTING RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

The University's research makes a major difference to people's lives.

INSTITUTE OF WOUND CARE

Professor Philip Drew has been appointed to lead a new multidisciplinary and multi-agency Institute of Wound Care. The institute is a collaboration between acute and primary NHS care trusts, Smith & Nephew plc and Hull York Medical School. It will research new products for wound treatment, provide a learning environment for a wide range of healthcare professionals and offer an integrated wound care service.

SOCIAL POLICY – WISE

The Wilberforce Institute for the Study of Slavery and Emancipation (WISE) was founded in 2004. WISE acts as a hub for the worldwide study of slavery and research into social justice. It provides a meeting place, conference centre and research base, founded on its unique collection of materials related to slavery and the emancipation movement. The international significance of the institute's work received double confirmation this year with the award of funding through Yorkshire Forward, from the European Regional Development Fund, and the agreement of Archbishop Desmond Tutu to act as its Patron. WISE is planning a major international conference in 2007 to commemorate the bicentenary of the abolition of the slave trade by the British Parliament.



Professor Barry Winn and Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu

LANDMARK AWARD FOR CHEMISTRY

In recognition of its leading role in the development of liquid crystals, the Department of Chemistry received the prestigious National Historic Chemical Landmark Award from the Royal Society of Chemistry. Discovered over three decades in the University's



Professor Jim Feast, President Elect of the Royal Society of Chemistry (right) and Vice-Chancellor Professor David Drewry at the Chemistry Landmark Event

laboratories, and now used in a wide variety of products ranging from mobile phones to television screens, liquid crystals have enabled major technological advances across the world. Our researchers continue to take a leading role in the development of applications.

THE NORTHERN WAY

This year has also seen progress towards the establishment of a £22 million Logistics Institute as part of the Deputy Prime Minister's Northern Way initiative. The institute is to be based at the University and supported by Yorkshire Forward, the Humber Trade Zone and the European Regional Development Fund. It will work to establish the region as a European centre of excellence in port logistics and supply chain management, boosting the economic regeneration of the Yorkshire and Humber sub-region.

PROVIDING OUR STUDENTS WITH HIGH-QUALITY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

CONTINUED ASSURANCE OF QUALITY AND STANDARDS

We are delighted that the recent Quality Assurance Agency audit expressed broad confidence in the University's management of the quality of its programmes and the academic standard of its awards. Areas of good practice identified by the audit team included

- staff and student handbooks
- the periodic review process
- student representation on committees
- support for disabled, mature and postgraduate research students
- the Hull York Medical School



The Houses of Parliament

ACADEMIC INNOVATION

Professor the Lord Norton of Louth, Head of Politics and an active peer, directs internships designed to provide students with first-hand experience of the workings of the political process. Students reading British Politics and Legislative Studies have for some years enjoyed putting theory into practice through one-year placements at

Westminster. This year a new scheme allowed selected students reading three-year Honours degrees in politics to spend the first semester of their final year in Westminster. These highly successful work experience programmes are unique in the UK and were nominated for recognition as part of HEFCE's Centre for Excellence scheme.

FELLOWSHIPS

Dr Tina Overton, of the Department of Chemistry, was awarded a prestigious National Teaching Fellowship, in the 'Experienced Staff' category, by the Higher Education Academy. Dr Overton is also Director of the Higher Education Academy's Physical Science Subject Centre and has a keen interest in innovative approaches to teaching.

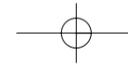
The fellowship comes with a £50,000 award which is being used to explore the role of problem- and context-based learning in developing conceptual understanding and cognitive skills across physical science disciplines.

Marina Mozzon-McPherson, of Modern Languages, who won a National Teaching Fellowship in 2004, was awarded a further £17,000 under the Aimhigher National Gifted and Talented Youth Scheme. This project coordinates a network of universities and has included responsibility for organising online study groups in a virtual learning environment and taster workshops in a variety of languages.



Dr Tina Overton

*... recognised as part of HEFCE's
Centre for Excellence scheme*



CONTINUING INVESTMENT

A £9 million investment in the redevelopment of the Business School has transformed the buildings into state-of-the-art facilities. These include a Management Learning Laboratory, a 500-seat lecture theatre and a fairtrade cafe with wireless internet access. Staff, students and regional businesses are benefiting from this major upgrading of facilities.

This year also saw the remodelling of major Physical Science teaching laboratories and three nanotechnology research facilities with the help of a £250,000 grant from the Royal Society's Wolfson Foundation Laboratory Refurbishment Scheme. The Science Research Investment Fund also enabled refurbishment of four other research laboratories and the creation of a ground-floor facility housing a wide-bore solid-state nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrometer for the study of biological systems.



Physical Science Laboratories

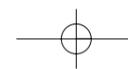
Other significant projects included the relocation of the Department of Psychology, one of our largest departments, into the Applied Sciences 3 Building, thereby releasing space for the enhancement of the Department of Geography.

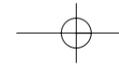
Social facilities in the students' union have been upgraded. The award-winning Asylum nightclub, opened two years ago, is now complemented by The Sanctuary, a new bar with a continental outdoor deck and a spacious interior. The whole complex forms an impressive addition to a union which will maintain its reputation as one of the premier student venues in the UK.

The quality of campus life continues to be enhanced by the work of the Estates team who are responsible for maintaining the gardens and grounds. For the second consecutive year we received a silver award in the annual Yorkshire in Bloom competition. The attractiveness of the campus is frequently remarked on by visitors and provides staff with an excellent working environment.



Attractive gardens outside the Venn Building





SEEKING TO ENHANCE COMPETITIVENESS AND INNOVATION

DRIVING INNOVATION AND PROVIDING SOLUTIONS

The Environmental Technology Centre of Industrial Collaboration is one of the most advanced of its kind in the UK. Professor Lynne Frostick, its Director, has been awarded the prestigious Cuthbert Peek Memorial Award by the Royal Geographical Society for the application of physical modelling to environmental problems. Analogous research is investigating how bacterial microbiological processes can be used in hazardous waste disposal, while explorations into renewable energy employ the Total Environment Simulator at The Deep, Hull's pioneering submerium, to simulate wave flow and tide power.

TRANSFERRING KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE

This year saw the establishment of the University's Knowledge Exchange, which is dedicated to ensuring that our academic expertise and resources are matched to regional regeneration activity. It is playing its full part in the Knowledge Transfer Partnerships Scheme, a Government-funded programme offering companies financial support to address their strategic needs. In the first year of operation the Knowledge Exchange has delivered more than £4m worth of assistance to businesses within the region.

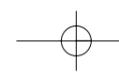
The Design Enterprise Centre also assists regional business with practical support, expertise and technology. In 2005 work started on a new European Regional Development funded initiative which focuses on the delivery of free technical consultancy to small and medium-sized enterprises. So far, the Design Enterprise Centre has delivered technical consultancy to over 100 companies across the Humber and North Yorkshire region.

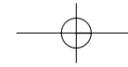


The Rt Hon Alan Johnson MP, Secretary of State for the Department for Trade and Industry addresses the University and City Council Knowledge Economy Conference

The Engineering Design Centre of Industrial Collaboration is a collaborative initiative with the University of Leeds. Headed by Professor Ken Swift, of the Department of Engineering, it promotes the industrial application of advanced tools and techniques in engineering design and manufacture. Noise and vibration measurement research has led to the design of a new sound meter. Work on structural design methods and software used widely in the international aerospace industry has far-reaching implications for other automotive and high-speed manufacturing industries.

The Environmental Technology Centre of Industrial Collaboration is one of the most advanced of its kind in the UK





SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY

RAISING ASPIRATIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE REGION

ACE Week encourages more of the region's young people to pursue sixth-form and higher education. More than 4,250 pupils from Hull and surrounding areas, North and South Yorkshire and North-East Lincolnshire joined the activities on our Hull Campus.

DEREK'S SCHOOL DINNERS

Jamie's School Dinners on Channel 4 gave national prominence to a concern mirrored by Hull City Council's 'Eat Well – Do Well' initiative. The effectiveness of this local campaign is being evaluated by a multidisciplinary team led by the Institute for Learning's Professor Derek Colquhoun, whose research interests include the relationship between school meals, academic attainment, health and social inclusion.



St Mary's College

NEW DIRECTIONS FOR UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION AWARDS

'Bridging the Gap in Offender Learning', is a new partnership between Hull Prison, Hull Adult Education and our Centre for Lifelong Learning, which aims to help the region's education providers implement tutor-delivered programmes that use the expertise of their existing staff within the framework of the Foundation Award scheme. At the Scarborough Campus modules and study routes have been introduced which seek to develop the higher-level skills of the local and sub-regional workforce. These range from modules designed to improve performance at work to management foundation programmes for NHS and local government staff.

SHARING FACILITIES

Approximately £500,000 of funding from the UK's biggest sports charity, the Football Foundation, enabled planning to begin on the development of what will become one of the leading community sports complexes in the region. Alongside the existing facilities on our Cottingham Road site, three new floodlit artificial pitches will be created for use by students, local clubs and the wider community.

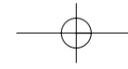


Keith Morris, Manager of the Sports Centre

ADDITIONAL STUDENT NUMBERS

In collaboration with further education partners the University bid for, and was awarded, additional student numbers by the Higher Education Funding Council for England. These will support the development of new programmes, particularly in the areas of logistics and multidisciplinary provision based on the Children's Act. Further education partners will be giving priority to foundation degrees in accordance with Government desires to increase access through this route.





A NEW DEAN FOR OUR CAMPUS ON THE COAST

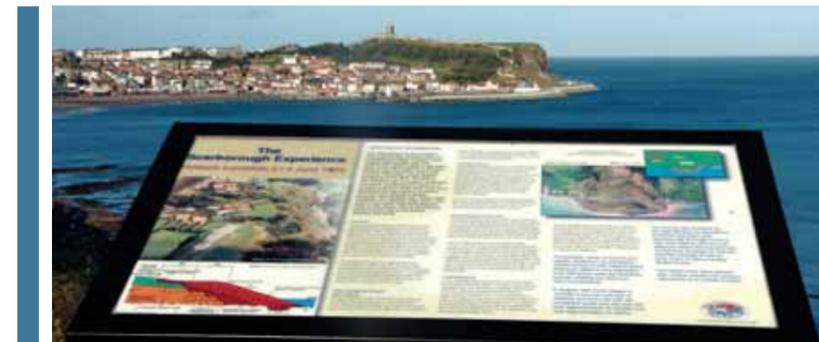


Dr Craig Gaskell

Dr Craig Gaskell, founding head of the University's Centre for Internet Computing was appointed Dean of the Scarborough Campus in July 2005. The establishment of the post recognises the need to coordinate a number of activities and functions at campus level.

The new Dean is seeking to consolidate a learning environment characterised by an interdisciplinary approach to project work that encourages staff and students to collaborate across traditional subject boundaries. This ethos provides an ideal context for initiatives such as the development of an international foundation year whereby students new to the UK would benefit from safe, intimate and friendly surroundings while improving their command of English in preparation for further study in Scarborough or Hull.

Partnerships are another major priority. Dr Gaskell intends to build on relations with local further education and sixth-form providers to raise the University's profile and to extend the reach of work-based activities and higher-level professional skills programmes. More broadly, he is determined that the University will play its full part in the urban renaissance of Scarborough and the development of its sub-region.

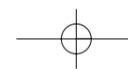


A view of Scarborough



The Keith Donaldson library

... Dr Gaskell is determined that the University will play its full part in the urban renaissance of Scarborough and the development of its sub-region



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The University continues to attract students from more than a hundred countries across the globe to study on its campuses.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT OF THE YEAR: IFE BELLO



Ife Bello

This new award recognises the contribution that international students make to the life of both the University and the city of Hull. Ife, a third-year law student from Nigeria, is this year's winner. Among the voluntary activities to which she has devoted her energies are acting as an adviser for the Students' Advice Centre, training to be a mentor for Hull College students and establishing a women's group at her local church.

CULTURE NIGHT

The 10th annual Culture Night, a perennially popular event, provided the usual busy and colourful night of entertainment for staff, students and visitors from the local community. Students wearing national and traditional costumes performed acts ranging from traditional songs to Bollywood and bhangra music. The 'Best Performance of the Night' went to Lily Poon, a student from the Scarborough Campus, for an accomplished display of Chinese dancing.



Vice-Chancellor Professor David Drewry and President Tan Yew Sing of Inti College, Malaysia, sign the agreement between the two institutions

MALAYSIAN LINKS

We have long enjoyed mutually beneficial links with Malaysia. These were strengthened this year when the University concluded an agreement with Inti College (Nilai), Malaysia, which was formalised by President Tan Yew Sing and our Vice-Chancellor, Professor David Drewry, at a ceremony on 20 October 2005. Students from Inti College have graduated with first class Honours degrees in engineering after concluding their education here, and the new agreement will enable more students to complete their studies at the University of Hull.

HONORARY GRADUATES

Among those honoured for their high achievements were the writer Bill Bryson; the former Archbishop of York, the Rt Rev and Rt Hon Dr David Michael Hope; Sir George Radda, one of the most notable figures in medical research; and Professor Stanley Wells, a distinguished authority on Shakespeare.

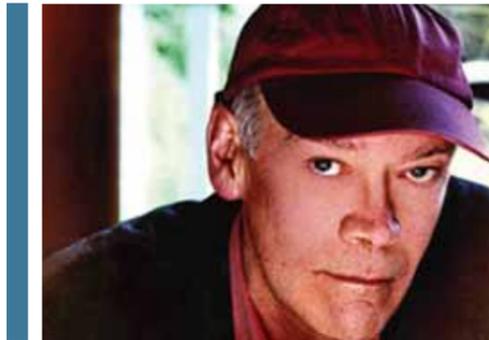


Bill Bryson

Also awarded honorary degrees were the arctic explorer Dr Bernard Stonehouse; Professor John Sizer, who has made a significant contribution to management accounting and institutional management in higher education; Jane Bennet-Powell, BBC radio broadcaster; and the Hull-born folk singer Norma Waterson, who delighted guests by performing a song at the ceremony.

Another honorary graduate returning to the place that helped shape his distinguished career was the travel writer, scholar and journalist Jonathan Raban, who was awarded his degree at the ceremony in Scarborough. Jonathan

studied for his first degree here when Hull was a single-campus university. Like many of his fellow graduates, he holds in deep affection the experience to which he attributes his academic confidence. During Jonathan's acceptance speech he praised Hull as 'an endlessly fascinating new city' and affirmed that reading English here 'was quite simply the luckiest break of my life'.



Jonathan Raban



Eliza Carthy, Martin Carthy and Norma Waterson perform at the January graduation ceremony

... During Jonathan's acceptance speech he praised Hull as 'an endlessly fascinating new city' and affirmed that reading English here 'was quite simply the luckiest break of my life'

ACCOUNTS

CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 July 2005

	2005	2004
	£000	£000
INCOME		
Funding Council Grants	42,085	39,346
Tuition Fees and Education Contracts	34,473	32,813
Research Grants and Contracts	9,120	9,988
Other Income	24,640	23,337
Endowment and Investment Income	833	756
TOTAL INCOME	111,151	106,240
EXPENDITURE		
Staff Costs	68,192	64,702
Other Operating Expenses	37,750	34,947
Depreciation	3,949	3,082
Interest Payable	363	317
	110,254	103,048
Exceptional Staff Costs	252	237
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	110,506	103,285
Surplus on continuing operations after depreciation of tangible fixed assets at valuation and before tax	645	2,955
Surplus on Disposal of Tangible Fixed Assets	0	0
Surplus on continuing operations after depreciation of tangible fixed assets at valuation and disposal of assets and tax	645	2,955

The income and expenditure account is in respect of continuing activities

BALANCE SHEETS AS AT 31 JULY 2005

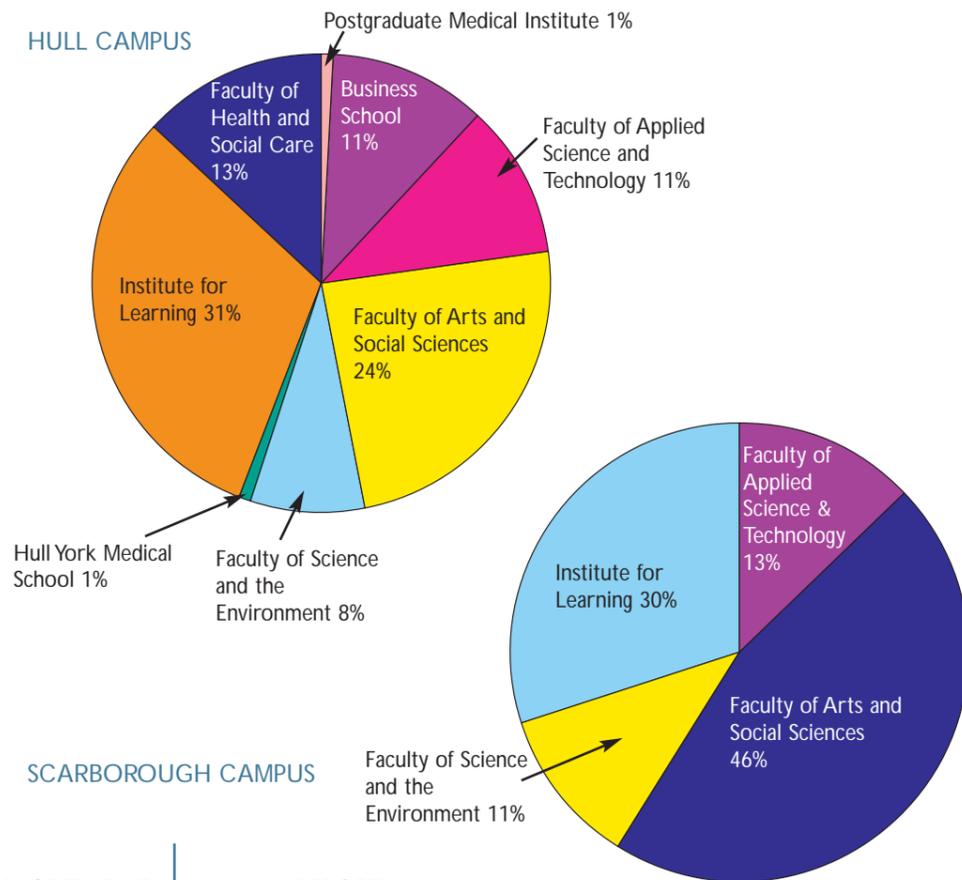
	Consolidated		University	
	2005	2004	2005	2004
	£000	£000	£000	£000
FIXED ASSETS	70,879	59,719	72,561	61,401
ENDOWMENT ASSETS	16,935	16,778	16,935	16,778
CURRENT ASSETS	15,058	15,565	16,634	17,414
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	(37,204)	(25,155)	(37,272)	(25,223)
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES	(22,146)	(9,590)	(20,638)	(7,809)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	65,668	66,907	68,858	70,370
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR	0	(6,000)	(2,169)	(8,345)
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES	(556)	(1,694)	(556)	(1,694)
NET ASSETS	65,112	59,213	66,133	60,331
DEFERRED CAPITAL GRANTS	35,466	30,369	35,466	30,369
ENDOWMENTS	16,935	16,778	16,935	16,778
RESERVES				
Total Reserves	12,711	12,066	13,732	13,184
TOTAL	65,112	59,213	66,133	60,331

The financial statements were approved by the Council on 5 December 2005, and signed on its behalf by:

MR J.H.ROBINSON (Chairman of Council) • MR J.A.PARKES (Treasurer) •
PROFESSOR D.J.DREWRY (Vice-Chancellor)

STUDENT PROFILE

STUDENT POPULATION (HEADCOUNT) BY FACULTY



STUDENT POPULATION

	2002/03			2003/04			2004/05		
	H/EU	OS	Total	H/EU	OS	Total	H/EU	OS	Total
HULL CAMPUS									
Full time	8143	1526	9669	8382	1520	9902	8519	1354	9873
Part time	2541	280	2821	2472	278	2750	2652	325	2977
Hull Campus Total	10684	1806	12490	10854	1798	12652	11171	1679	12850
SCARBOROUGH CAMPUS									
Full time	1300	182	1482	1267	183	1450	1190	175	1365
Part time	57		57	69	37	106	62	8	70
Scarborough Campus Total	1357	182	1539	1336	220	1556	1252	183	1435
Hull and Scarborough Campus Total	12041	1988	14029	12190	2018	14208	12423	1862	14285

Table excludes distance taught, CE and retained students