Global reach, local impact

Ian May
Head of Building Maintenance

Reading born and bred, Ian has worked for the University in a variety of roles for 22 years having initially joined as a fitter. He now manages a team of plumbers, fitters, electricians, carpenters, painters, contractors and support staff to keep the University’s buildings operating smoothly.

Outside work, local schools have been the centre of Ian’s life. As a Lower Earley resident, his three children have been through Maiden Erlegh School, where he has been a governor for over a decade. He has also contributed 16 years’ service to Radstock Primary School as a governor. Along with other university colleagues who play their part in local schools, he brings his work experience to bear for the benefit of schools he is involved with in areas such as building management, health and safety and personnel. The University supports this dedication by providing Ian with time off to undertake these voluntary roles. Ian has also given 25 years of service to the Scouting movement locally, coaches Laurel Park FC under-17s and still finds time for family and Reading FC.
A major employer

One of the University’s most important roles locally is as a major employer. The University attracts highly-skilled people to the region and provides employment in occupations across the entire skills spectrum.

Academic staff make up around 50% of University staff, while many other staff are employed to keep the institution running smoothly, from cleaners to technicians, careers advisers to librarians or chefs to administrators. The breadth of employment offered by the University makes our impact on the jobs market a very positive one.

Over 50% of the University’s staff live within a five mile radius of one of the University’s campuses (75% within 10 miles), playing a significant role in the local community and making a substantial contribution to the local economy.

Key facts

- The University employs 3,700 people in a wide range of full-time and part-time roles.
- Along with local authorities and the NHS Foundation Trust, the University is the largest employer in the area.
- The University spends £131 million on staff salaries a year.
- 75% of University staff live within 10 miles of their place of work and 33% live within 2 miles.
- For every 100 full-time jobs created in universities, more than 100 full-time equivalent jobs are generated elsewhere in the economy.
- The equivalent of almost 4,000 jobs have been created in the local area as a direct result of the University’s expenditure.
- The University offers highly competitive salaries, which in turn increases the spending power of our staff. The average academic salary at the University is £46,185.

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3700

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