

Thematic Strategy Statement for the School of Technology

In common with all other academics in the University of Cambridge, those in the School of Technology have a mission to contribute to society through the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence. The School of Technology has a unique role in the University's research agenda, because it combines leadership in key technology areas with world-class expertise in business, manufacturing and sustainability.

The research strength of the School of Technology is founded on:

- the freedom of world-class academics to work in their chosen fields
- their collaboration in research groupings centred on these fields
- the ability to form multi-disciplinary teams to address major challenges.

This drives the School's research strategy, which is to:

- recruit, nurture and retain the best academics and researchers in the World
- allow them to shape their research strategies and structures within the Departments comprising the School
- draw together their interests into School-level themes when this helps to create the impetus, capacity and profile necessary to connect more effectively with major challenges.

The School has identified four strategic research themes that reflect the already intense interaction between the School's departments and the worlds of technological practice, business performance, policy development and sustainability. Their interactions ensure a constant infusion of potential new problems and research questions to be addressed and the co-evolution of research projects. The interplay between the pursuit of excellence in research and user-inspired areas of investigation is reflected in the current set of high level strategic themes which the School seeks to support. These themes connect to other Schools and University-level initiatives. They are:

Energy, Climate Change, Sustainability and Resource Security

This links research in Engineering on energy, transport and urban infrastructure, in the Judge Business School on energy policy and climate change, in the Computer Laboratory on sustainability and computing for the future of the planet, and in Chemical Engineering & Biotechnology on sustainable reaction engineering.

Life Sciences, Health and Health Management

This links research on healthcare management at the Judge Business School and major programmes of research in life sciences and healthcare in Chemical Engineering, Biotechnology and the Engineering Department with the School of Biological Sciences, the Medical School and Addenbrooke's Hospital.

Uncertainty, Risk and Resilience

This links research on reliability and computer security in the Computer Laboratory with work on financial system risk and financial regulation through the Centre for Risk and Analysis and the Centre for Financial Policy at the Judge Business School. These sit alongside an extensive programme of research on uncertainty, risk and resilience in the Department of Engineering.

Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Knowledge Exchange

This links work in this area on practice and policy at the Judge Business School, its Centre for Business Research, Engineering's Institute for Manufacturing and the Masters in Bioscience Enterprise at Chemical Engineering & Biotechnology. Further links connect these activities to the Schools of Arts and Humanities and Physical Sciences.