During our Annual Conference, we held a live poll session looking at key issues and trends facing the sector. Here are the results:

**The Big Issues Facing Business Schools**

Which of the following macroeconomic trends is most likely to impact your business strategy in some way over the next 12 months?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic difficulty</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic difficulties in the Eurozone</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The EU referendum</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China’s economic slowdown</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disruptive technology</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ageing population</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migration</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None of the above</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The government’s proposals will encourage new and alternative higher education providers. Do you think that this can stimulate further competition and innovation?

- **Yes**: 59%
- **No**: 32%
- **Not sure**: 10%
Should the government remove the restrictions on international students' post study work visas?

- Yes: 96%
- No: 4%
- Not sure: 0%

Do you think the STEM funding ring-fence should be maintained?

- Yes: 39%
- No: 53%
- Not sure: 9%
The Teaching Excellence Framework

**Which of the following three metrics do you consider are the most effective for assessing teaching?**

- **Completion rates** (A) 12%
- **Contact time** (B) 4%
- **Employment rates** (C) 18%
- **How research activity of lecturing staff feeds into teaching** (D) 12%
- **Value added** (E) 18%
- **Retention rates** (F) 6%
- **Staff to student ratios** (G) 9%
- **Student satisfaction** (H) 24%

**Of the government’s intended outcomes for TEF which do you consider will be the most successful?**

- **Improves value for money for students** 9%
- **Improves value for money for government** 9%
- **Greater alignment of graduate skills/expectations with employer needs** 13%
- **Allows students to make a more informed choice** 28%
- **It won’t be successful** 43%

*Poll is full and no longer accepting responses.*
Productivity and Governance

What are the causes of the UK's productivity lag when compared to other nations?

- Inherent work ethic: 6%
- Poor management: 26%
- Government policy: 6%
- Demise of manufacturing sector: 11%
- The way productivity is measured: 6%
- A combination of the above: 40%
- Other factors: 4%

Poll locked. Responses not accepted.

Will the TEF create parity of esteem between teaching and research?

- Yes: 13%
- No: 62%
- Not sure: 24%
What can business schools do to increase productivity?

- Increase work placements/internships: 15%
- Bring in more staff with more practical workplace experience: 16%
- Joint research projects with commercial organisations: 33%
- Involve businesses in designing course content: 36%

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Do business schools have a responsibility to teach ethics and behaviours?

- Yes: 96%
- No: 4%
Research, Impact and Leadership

Which of the following would most significantly increase the impact of business school research?

- Greater interdisciplinary collaboration: 7%
- Greater responsiveness to the needs of business and society: 60%
- Better measurement of outcomes: 13%
- The impact is there, we are just not very good at publicising it: 20%

Should business schools try to deal with the big societal needs such as sustainability or the evolution of capitalism?

- Yes we are already doing it: 16%
- Yes, but we could do it a lot better: 84%

- No
Background to business school leaders: What was your route into your first academic post?

Poll locked. Responses not accepted.

- Direct from PhD programme: 19%
- From research associate/fellow post: 6%
- From outside academia - with PhD: 13%
- From outside academia - without PhD: 63%