

BALANCED ACADEMIC PETROLEUM GEOSCIENCE RESEARCH PORTFOLIOS QUALITY vs. NEEDS

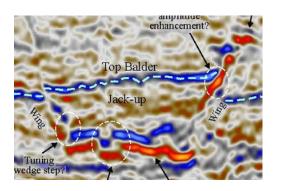
ANDREW HURST

GLOBAL LEADERS IN PETROLEUM GEOSCIENCE RESEARCH & TEACHING



EARTH SCIENCE

28 ACADEMIC STAFF (10 PROFESSORS)



Earth Science research is concerned with the evolution of sedimentary basins tectonic structures that hold the record of processes that shape the planet over geological time. Our work uses data, methods and resources especially from the oil and gas industry to answer fundamental questions related to Earth surface systems, structural geology, subsurface fluid migration and planetary processes.

RESEARCH-DRIVEN ACADEMIA

U ABERDEEN CAPITALISES ON OIL INDUSTRY PRESENCEAND
SPECIFICALLY ON EASE OF ACCESS TO DATA AND LOCAL PROFESSIONALS
MSc COURSES EARN HUGE INCOME AND GLOBAL REPUTATION



AREAS OF RESESARCH SPECIALISATION

BASIN FILL, EARTH SURFACE PROCESSES, TECTONICS AND GEOPHYSICS

CROSS DISCIPLINARY AND OVERLAP

FUNDING: SMALL AND LARGE FUNDS FROM UK GOVERNMENT, INDEPENDENT RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS, INDUSTRY + OVERSEAS TRADITIONALLY STRONG SUPPORT FROM THE OIL INDUSTRY

OIL INDUSTRY:

WANTS A CHOICE OF GOOD GRADUATES
INTERESTED IN THINGS THAT THEY DO NOT KNOW AND CANNOT
ALREADY DO

BUSINESS TARGETS COMPROMISE IN-DEPTH "DATA GRAZING"



RAISING RESEARCH INCOME

MANY OIL INDUSRY PROFESSIONALS ARE SUPPORTIVE NATIONAL CULTURAL DIFFERENCES INFLUENCE FUNDING ACADEMIA IS UNDER PRESSURE TO RAISE RESEARCH INCOME

MY EXPERIENCE

ESTABLISH MUTUAL TRUST WITH POTENTIAL SPONSORS PRIOR TO ASKING FOR MONEY (NO UNSOLICITED REQUESTS FOR FUNDING)

FOCUS ON QUALITY NOT QUANTITY
ALWAYS COLLABORATE WITH PEOPLE ONE CAN LEARN FROM
SPONSORS ARE NOT A UNIFORM MEDIUM – DIFFERENT
EXPECTANCIES

FIELD VISITS/COURSES: NOT ALWAYS EMBRACED BY SPONSORS



BALANCED RESEARCH PORTFOLIOS

RECORDS OF SUCCESSFUL FUNDING APPLCATIONS AND SUCCESSFUL RESEARCH OUTCOMES REQUIRE SOME FAILURES

RISK OF FAILURE IS MITIGATED BY RECORDS OF SUCCESS

HIGH RISK IS NOT ALWAYS COINCIDENT WITH HIGH REWARD

HIGH RISK IS ASSOCIATED WITH UNFAMILIARITY, UNKNOWNS, & INEXPERIENCE

LOW RISK IS ASSOCIATED WITH TRUST, KNOWNS & EXPERIENCE

BUILD ON STRENGTHS

OIL INDUSTRY REQUIREMENTS



CHOICE OF EXCELLENT GRADUATES TO HIRE

MSc, PhD, Post Doc

LOW RISK
OFTEN EXPENSIVE

DATA-ACQUISITION RESEARCH

the need for analogue information



SUBJECT/DATA REVIEW

objectivity, time, unconstrained

HIGH RISK
TYPICALLY EXPENSIVE

INTELLECTUAL CAPITAL

specialisation-led, expertise, reputation



UNLIKELY REWARD FOR EXCELLENCE, PHILANTHROPY

importance of networking

AS WITH GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE SO MUST THE ACADEMIC CLIMATE CHANGE IF WE ARE NOT INTELLECTUALLY AGILE WE WILL PERISH

