

ENGAGING SOCIETY WITH RESEARCH



A Science Shop at the University of Reading?

SCIENCE SHOPS

Provide independent, participatory research support in response to concerns experienced by society

- Interface between researchers and society
- Small entities that carry out scientific research in a wide range of disciplines on behalf of citizens and local community groups
- Respond to society's needs for expertise and knowledge
- Act as mediators between citizen groups (non-profit organisations, social groups, environmentalists, consumers, residents association etc.) and research institutions such as universities

KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER CENTRE

A decorative banner featuring a dark blue background on the left with the text 'KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER CENTRE'. The right side transitions into a light blue background with a pattern of interlocking gears in various shades of blue and green. Each gear contains a white icon representing different business and academic concepts: a handshake, a group of people, a lightbulb, a puzzle piece, a magnifying glass, a clipboard, a target with an arrow, a calendar, a pencil, and a smartphone.

WORKING WITH YOUR BUSINESS

◦ UOR HOME

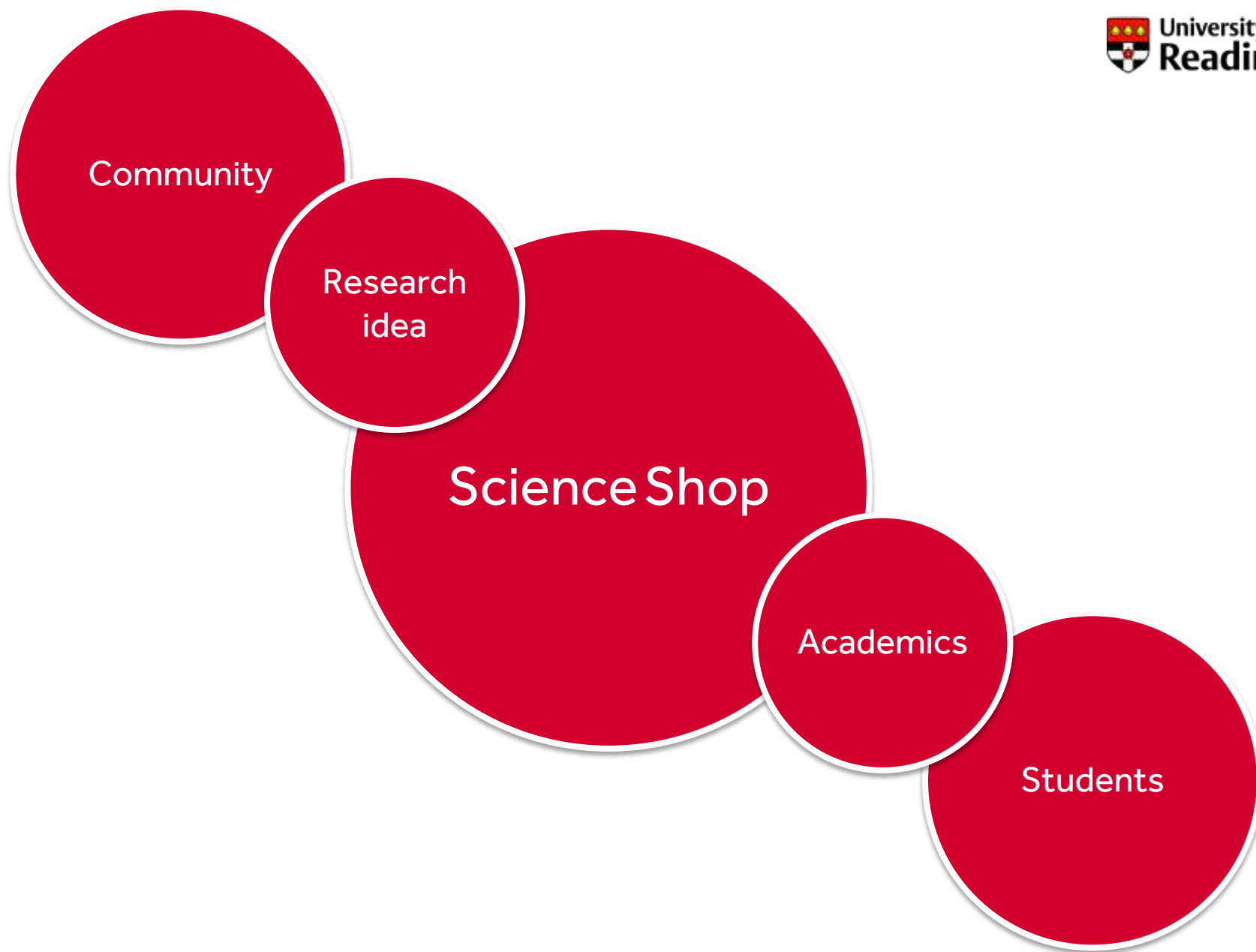
◦ Working with your business

◦ Meet our team

◦ Knowledge Transfer

As a team, our aim is to provide an easy route into the University for anyone interested in working with us and accessing our research. We provide high-levels of service and support to enable partners develop collaborations via a range of mechanisms and funding opportunities, and focus on helping companies grow and increase their competitiveness.

By providing tailored support throughout the entire process, we enable project teams to successfully secure funding and focus time and energy on the project in hand.



ENHANCEMENT OF TEACHING

Research is done by **students** as part of their **curriculum**

- **Research-based teaching**

- Real-world problems
- Enquiry-based learning
- Active learning
- Participatory research
- Citizen science

- **Skills development**

- Social responsibility
- Communication skills
- Critical enquiry skills
- Employability skills

ENHANCEMENT OF RESEARCH

- New, collective knowledge can be generated – future spin-off ideas
- Provide a unique ‘antenna function’ for society’s current and future demands on science
- Provides access to science, knowledge and technology for social groupings that would not or could not ordinarily interact with these disciplines

CORE TO UNIVERSITY STRATEGY



Our vision

A vibrant, thriving, sustainable, global and broad-based institution, responsive to, **stimulated by and informing changes in the world around us.**

Our ambition

To enhance our standing as a **leader in research and higher education that defines and responds to the needs of individuals and societies**, and, by so doing, to be counted among the very best universities in the UK and internationally.

WAY FORWARD

There are many different ways that Science Shops are organised...

- **Is this something we want/need at Reading?**
- **How should we take this forward?**

- **17th May** Lunchtime meeting
 - Gather key partners
 - Discuss format for the workshop

- **12th June** Full-day workshop
 - Mentor from the Science Shop at Queen's University Belfast
 - Interactive workshop to sketch out ideas and plans