

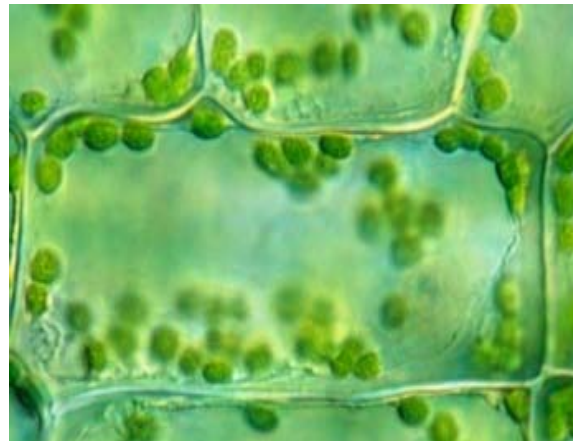


BBSRC allocates around £470M p.a. (2010/11) to:

- Fund innovative, internationally competitive **bioscience research**
- **Train** bioscientists
- Support **knowledge exchange** and encourage **economic and social impact**
- Engage with the **public** and **stakeholders**



Food Security



**Bioenergy and Industrial
Biotechnology**



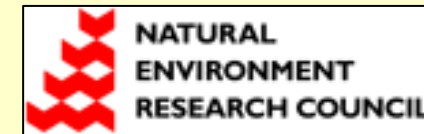
**Basic bioscience
underpinning health**

Research Councils UK

UK Government (Treasury)



Department for Business, Innovation,
and Skills (BIS)



Strategic Plan 2010 – 2015

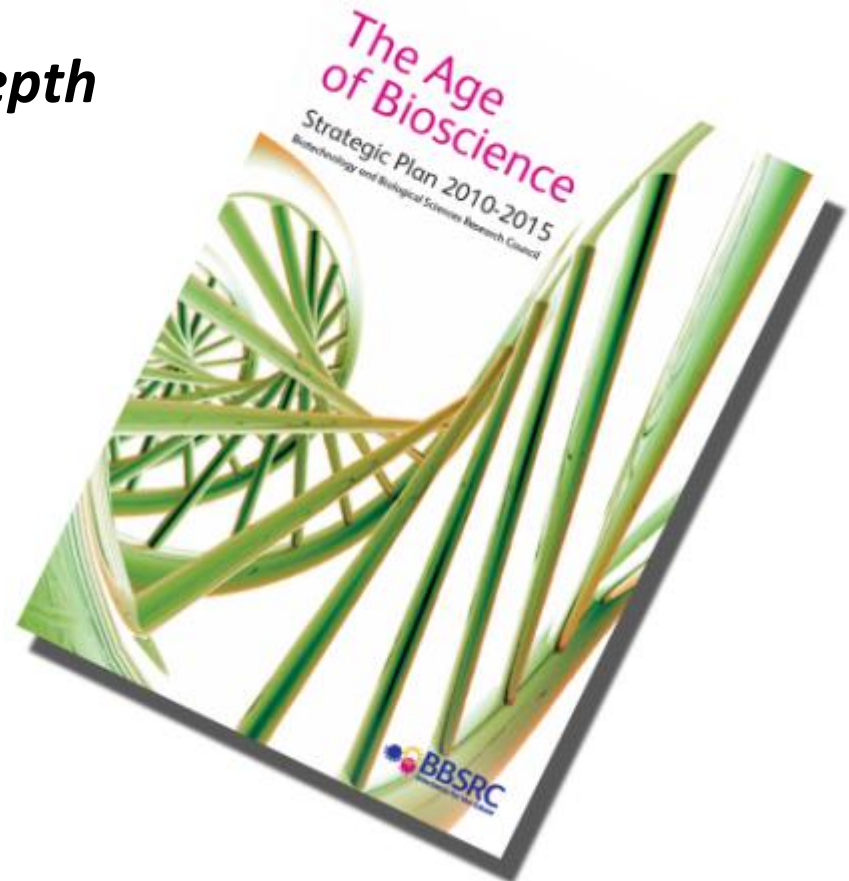
The Age of Bioscience

...never before have researchers been able to address such a breadth and depth of biological questions...

Knowledge exchange, innovation and skills:

“Maximising the impact of our science and skilled people in boosting the UK economy, informing policy and improving quality of life...”

BBSRC will support **high-quality PhD training** to ensure new researchers develop the necessary breadth of skills...”



- IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE
- ECONOMIC IMPACT
- BETTER PUBLIC POLICY AND SERVICES
- STRONG SCIENCE BASE
- LOW CARBON ECONOMY
- NEW KNOWLEDGE
- SKILLED PEOPLE AND JOBS
- INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

WORLD-CLASS BIOSCIENCE

Bioenergy and
Industrial
Biotechnology

Food Security

Basic Bioscience
Underpinning
Health

Knowledge Exchange, Innovation and Skills

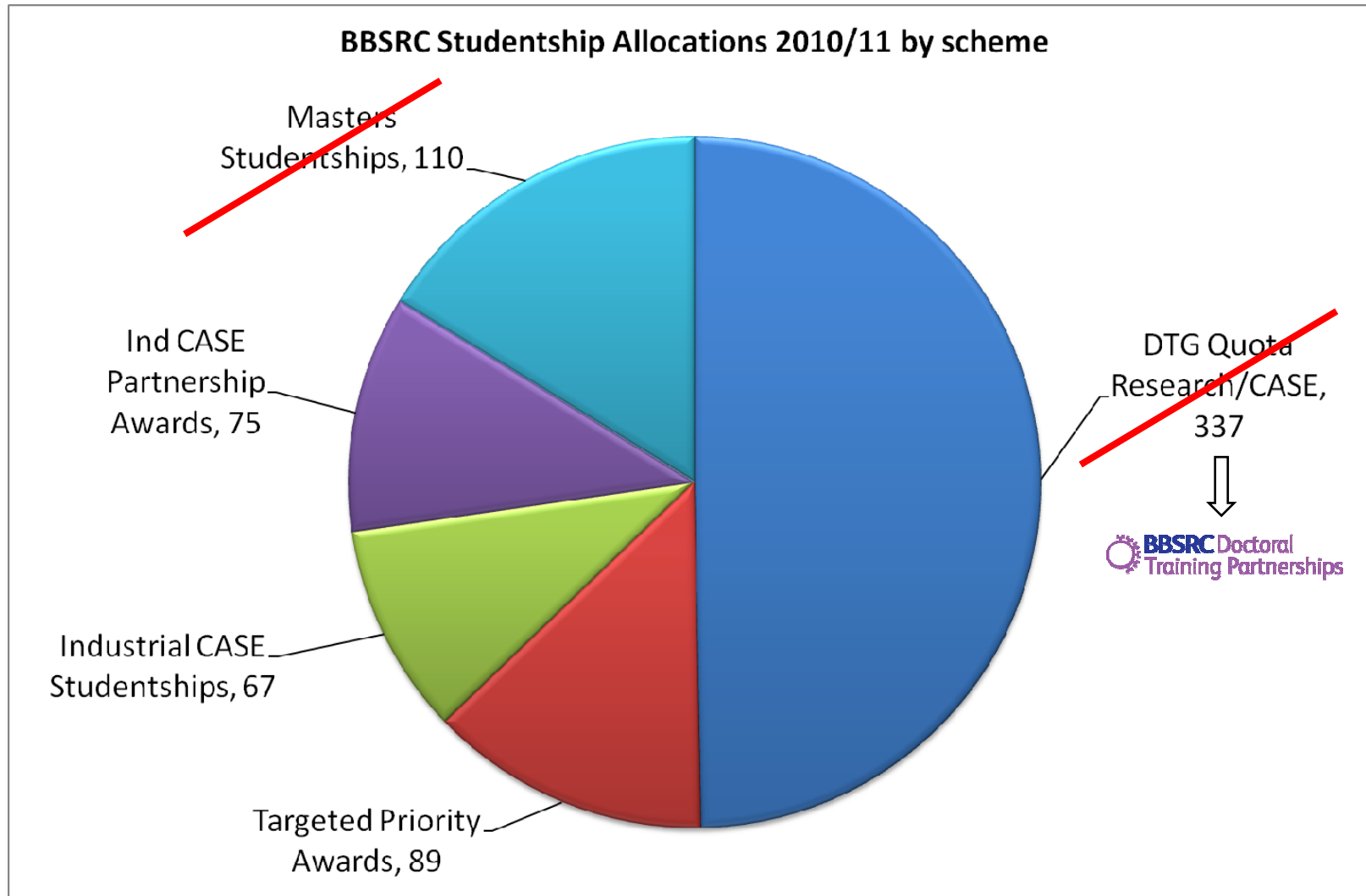
Exploiting new ways of working

- Systems
- Exploiting big data
- Tools

Partnerships

National and International

BBSRC studentships 2010-11



BBSRC support for studentships is changing...



BBSRC Doctoral Training Partnerships

New academic block
studentships
scheme to replace
Quota DTG

Shaped by recent
Quota Evaluation
and BSC Strategy
Panel advice

DTPs allow for
better strategic
alignment and
coordination

Students placed in
world-class research
environments

Integrated
Professional
Internships for PhD
Students (PIPS)

CASE no longer
mandatory, now
supported through
separate schemes

Expect to fund up to
15-20 DTPs (most
multi-institutional)
for 3 yrs (2012-14)

Total investment
£60M, funding
around 220 students
per annum

Call launched 16
March 2011, closing
date Sept 2011

bbsrc.ac.uk/dtp

Strategic
Alignment

Excellence of
Training

Leverage

Partnership

Concentration



BBSRC Doctoral Training Partnerships

Strategic Alignment

- Partnerships set out **plans for addressing priority skills** areas
- BBSRC **funding data and portfolio analysis** used in assessment

Excellence of Training

- Continued **competitive assessment** of training strategy and environment
- Fund studentships better: **higher research training support** (£5k p.a. per student)
- Partnerships set out plans for **Professional Internships (PIPS)** scheme

Leverage

- Institutions work to '**Portfolio Agreements**' agreed with BBSRC
- Significant and enhanced **post-award engagement and dialogue**



BBSRC Doctoral
Training Partnerships

Partnership

- Only **Institution-level or multi-institutional bids** accepted to foster multi-disciplinary research training and sharing of good practice
- Possible for studentships to be **CASE**, but no longer mandatory

Concentration

- Support **major training centres**: up to 15-20 DTPs likely to be awarded
- **Funding hurdle** (£5M BBSRC annual research grant spend 2009/10) for DTP proposal to be eligible

Other Studentship Schemes



BBSRC CASE
Training Partnerships

- Annual Industrial CASE (funds around 90 studentships p.a.)
 - High-quality collaborative postgraduate research training
 - Harmonised timetable with MRC allows exchange of proposals between Councils
 - Harmonised non-academic partner eligibility statement with MRC and EPSRC
 - Next call date: 5 May 2011 (tbc); deadline 28 Jul 2011 (tbc); assessed Dec 2011
- Industrial CASE Partnerships (funds around 75 studentships p.a.)
 - Three year allocations to major partners (current allocations cover 2009, 2010, 2011; 1 year exceptional extension covers 2012)

CASE studentships

- Research training in area of relevance to non-academic (e.g. industry) partner
- Collaborative postgraduate research training leading to a PhD
- CASE Partner: a non-academic organisation which provides students with distinctive research training / experience not available in an academic setting
- BBSRC supports CASE studentships within remit
- Scheme is supported by all Research Councils
- *Non-academic Partner must provide:*
 - 6 - 18 month placement with relevant training
 - £1.4k pa towards project costs
 - Expenses associated with the placement
 - Cash contribution to student's stipend of at least £2.5k pa



CASE benefits

- Non-academic partner benefits:
 - Student undertaking research towards partnership objectives
 - Potential for building stronger partnerships and collaborations
 - Potential for high-quality recruits
 - Direct knowledge exchange with academia
- Student benefits:
 - Wider research perspective
 - Bespoke training e.g. business-related
 - Employment opportunities
- Academic partner benefits:
 - Collaborative relationship built with non-academic partner
 - Potential for knowledge exchange and research commercialisation



BBSRC Delivery Plan published



“Develop Advanced Training Partnerships (ATPs):

Support the uptake of industry-relevant specialist and technical professional development, to help businesses in key sectors take up new science and innovation.”



BBSRC Delivery Plan

2011 - 2015

**Maximising Economic Growth
in The Age of Bioscience**

Skills Issues in the Agri-food Sector

- Does the UK have the high level skills it needs to make use of new research findings?
- Development of Advanced Training Partnerships
 - Supporting **development of collaborative training programmes** providing specialist scientific skills for the UK agri-food sector
 - Supporting **collaboration between public and private** partners to achieve delivery and uptake of flexible postgraduate training, including support for the **movement of expertise and skills**
 - Promoting creation of **sustainable partnerships** between public and private sector organisations to establish **long-term mechanisms** to meet emerging skills needs



Research and Technology Clubs

Key Features

- Industry identifies generic research challenges
- ‘Common-pot’ funding (BBSRC/industry) – 90% BBSRC, 10% industry
- Industry members subscriptions on sliding scale (company size)
- Academic community responds to calls for proposals
- Club Steering Group (academics & industrialists) assess proposals
- Management, networking and dissemination (assisted by KTNs supported by TSB)
- Training (studentships targeted to Club areas)



CIRC • CROP IMPROVEMENT RESEARCH CLUB

IBTI • INTEGRATED BIOPROCESSING RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY CLUB



BRIC • BIOPROCESSING RESEARCH INDUSTRY CLUB



DRINC • DIET AND HEALTH RESEARCH INDUSTRY CLUB



Crop Improvement Research Club (CIRC)

CIRC • CROP IMPROVEMENT RESEARCH CLUB



- The Club has 14 company members and also receives funding from the Scottish Government
- Total funding is £6M to be spent in two calls for proposals
- The first call for research proposals is now in progress
- Research projects focus on wheat, barley and OSR for food uses
- Research themes cover various elements of improving the productivity and quality of wheat, barley and OSR
- Separate pot of funding available for PhD studentships aligned with funded projects



Research Challenges



The Crop Improvement Club focusses on research around crop productivity and quality. A number of areas have been identified as high priority including:

- Nutrient use efficiency
- Biomass production
- Combating pests and diseases
- Seed structure and Composition
- Germination properties
- Spoilage factors

Benefits to Company Members



- ✓ Influence research areas of economic value (through a significant quantity of government funding)
- ✓ Participate in research funding decisions
- ✓ Up to date knowledge on the progress of research and early access to results (six monthly dissemination events)
- ✓ Opportunity to work with academics, post-docs and post-grads
- ✓ Opportunity to identify the best potential industry recruits
- ✓ Information and advice related to research council activities e.g. training and KT schemes
- ✓ Public promotion through the Club

How can the Agri-food charities engage with CIRC?

Studentships

CIRC • CROP IMPROVEMENT RESEARCH CLUB



- To support the development of skilled workers in this area, CIRC will support up to five 4-year PhD studentships;
- Studentships will only be awarded to applicants receiving a research grant under this initiative
- To enable students to gain maximum value from their training we would like to partner with AFCP charities by inviting a ‘top-up’ payment of £1000 pa for each studentship
- Top-up to be used by the student to gain additional experience, through for example, attending conferences, visiting companies relevant to their research or receiving business training
- In supporting a studentship, charities would be invited to participate in all CIRC dissemination events, providing them with access to research results as well as the opportunity to network with industrialists and academics working in this field.
- Each student required to visit and present to their supporting charity

How to get involved



- Contact Paul Biscoe to register your interest
- Studentship application deadline (only open to CIRC funded project holders) – 19 April 2011
- Details of applications provided to interested charities to decide which they would like to top up
- Studentships assessed by BBSRC Training and Awards Committee and CIRC Steering Group
- Successful projects announced May 2011
- First CIRC dissemination event October 2011 (opportunity to meet with researchers, students and businesses)