



Royal Veterinary College  
University of London

# Equity, Opportunity and Success in Higher Education

A case study on the Royal Veterinary College

# MAINSTREAMING WP + EQUITY

THE RVC IS ANSWERABLE TO:

HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING COUNCIL

ROYAL COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SURGEONS

BUT IT IS “FREESTANDING”

ITS POLICIES AND STRATEGIES ARE NOT ORDAINED BY A HEI

# The Past

Ten Years ago little sense of need, of obligation, of altruism.

A Single Degree Institution beholden to a Professional Body rather than to a wider funding council.

Very little curriculum diversity

Very little staff – student diversity

A conservative profession

# The Present

Today there is greater student diversity in terms of educational background and achievement.

Greater curriculum diversity

Greater staff diversity

Whereas most staff remain conservative, there is an essential commitment to WP and Equity

# WHY ?

Embedding of WP Activity

Success of WP Activity

Realisation that WP is not Recruitment

Acceptance of weaknesses in the Profession

# Policies, Processes and Practices

Opening Doors

Activities

Curriculum Diversity

Professional Diversity

Gateway

# Enabling Factors – Challenging Issues

Government Policies and Funding

Professional Awareness

Success breeds Success

A society change amongst Staff

# Challenging Issues

Entrenched beliefs / Inaccurate information

Scepticism

Professional Images and Stereotypes

Cultural Attitudes

Future Stratification of Higher Education

# Success and Aspirations

Measurable success of WP initiatives

The external view of the institution

A more “open” institution

Staff awareness

# Aspirations

Styles of Teaching

APEL

Public Engagement

Contributing to the wider debate on Scientific Education