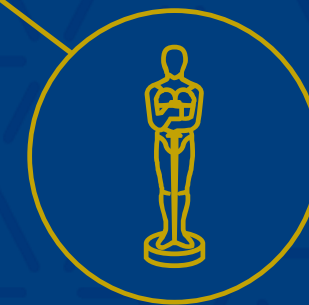


# Challenging assumptions and unlocking the last treasure trove of scholarship

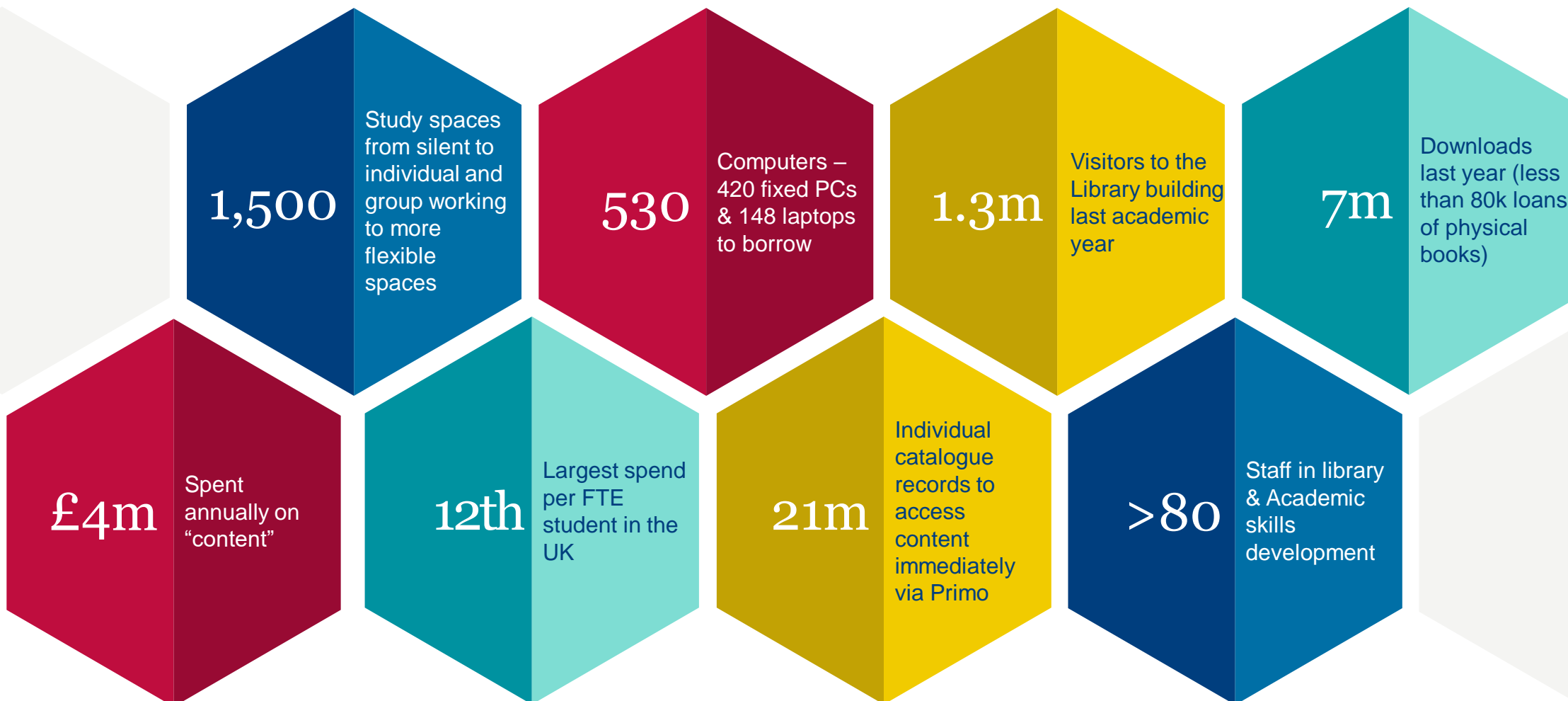
BID 19 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019



# About us

- » Located just south west of London
- » 17,500 Full time equivalent students, researchers and staff
- » 3 Faculties covering 18 Schools and large research departments
- » Teach from Undergraduate through to PhD & equivalent
- » Significant research portfolio with partnerships and funding from Government and industry
- » Mix of stringent academic and experiential learning

# Some statistics





“The average PhD thesis is nothing but a transference of bones from one graveyard to another.”

**J. Frank Dobie**



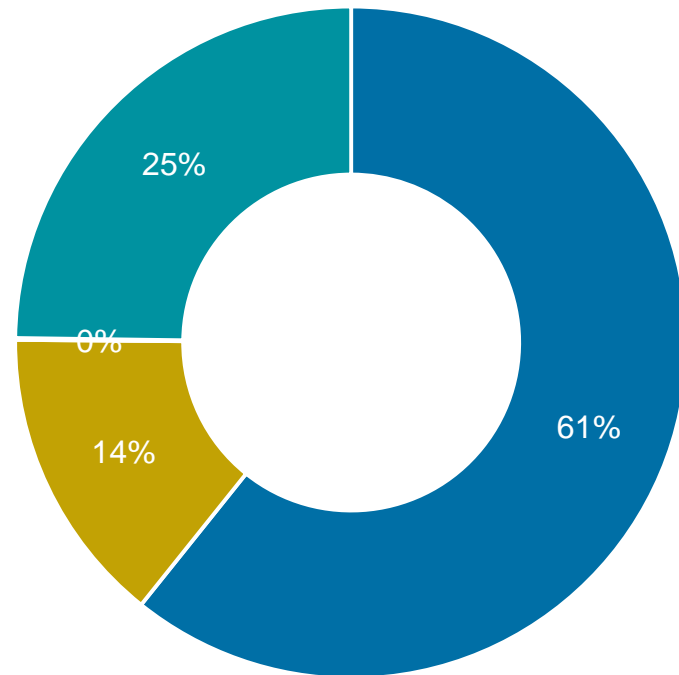
# The Surrey “open thesis” quest



- » Library always received a copy of the bound thesis and sent details to the British Library
- » From 2010 we accepted thesis with a disc of the digital work
- » 2011 found historic thesis in a box file (from 1920's)
- » From 2013 actively sought electronic copies and uploaded them to the repository
- » Feb 2015 digital copy **only** accepted by Library
- » 2016 ProQuest digitised 2,000
- » 2017 – 2019 digitising the remaining collection

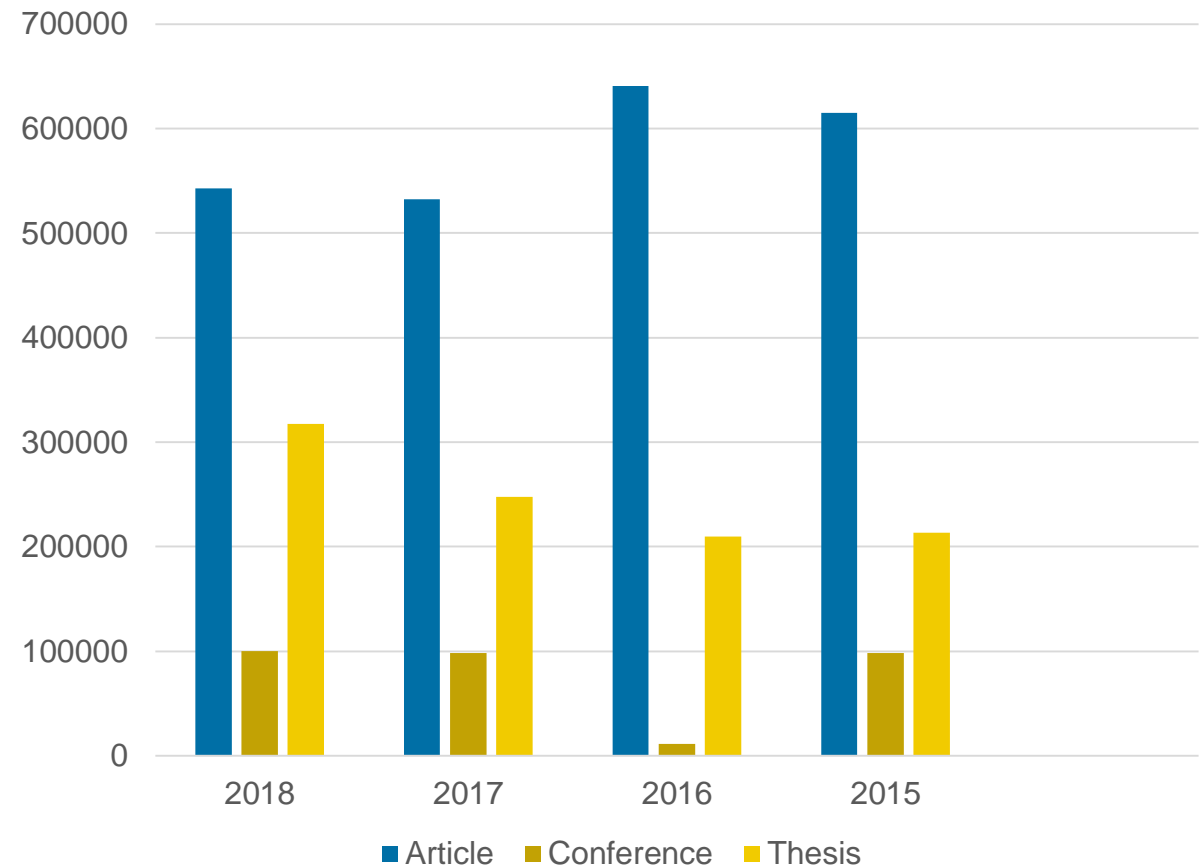
# Open Access at Surrey in numbers

## % of full text items of different types



■ Articles ■ Conference ■ Working papers ■ Thesis ■

## Download statistics



# Finding your way ...



# Assumptions ...





# Rights

## » Who owns the Copyright?

- At Surrey the Student owns the rights to the thesis – but as part of their agreement to undertaking the programme they must deposit a copy in the Library
- The thesis is part of the public record and so the expectation is that public are able to access it

## » What about 3<sup>rd</sup> party Copyright?

- Do not stress too much – fair dealing covers most things
- Students are required to remove 3<sup>rd</sup> party Copyright – it is their responsibility not the Library
- But ... worth doing some checking to mitigate any major risks
- And the final tactic have a robust “Take-down” policy

## » What happens if it has sensitive, potentially commercial information or was externally funded?

- Can request an embargo, but only under certain conditions and for a set period of time.
- Any extension has to be signed off by Dean of Faculty

# Author clearance

- » You have to get the authors permission to digitise right?
  - Why? This is just a format shift
  - We did not get permission to share the physical item
  - Or when the British Library created a microfiche to send to anyone who made a request
  - Or indeed when the British Library launched the [EThOS](#) service

Remember this is a public obligation – they can't refuse

# Additional benefits



- » We have worked with ProQuest as a partner
  - Expands the indexes our thesis are recorded
  - Linked into subject specific databases
  - Puts our research in front of a specialised audience (they are looking for thesis)
  - Last but by no means least – allowing ProQuest to harvest our thesis means there are multiple preservation copies. That is something we would never have in the old paper artefact world!

So unlock that box





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