

Bath Spa University

About Bath Spa University

Bath Spa University (www.bathspa.ac.uk) is one of the UK's new generation of 'teaching led' universities, where teaching of the highest quality is the top priority.

The University offers pre-degree study, undergraduate degrees and postgraduate degrees in a wide range of programmes and is linked with over 50 institutions in Europe, Asia and the USA and Africa. Bath Spa University has grown significantly in recent years, both in the number of students who study there and in the range of courses on offer. Applications to undergraduate courses have doubled in the past five years and each year more students, from the UK and abroad, want to study there.

The Challenge

Monitoring student admissions and withdrawals has become increasingly important as student numbers rise and a wider range of courses are on offer.

This put a strain on the University staff using the existing central student record system, SITS. Users were extracting and interpreting data in different ways and the answers to straightforward questions like the number of students currently enrolled would vary from user to user.

The University needed to invest in software that would provide a consistent view of the data available. This data also needed to be accessible to users with a range of abilities.

“We needed a software system that would provide us with a consistent view of the data we have. IcanCiT gave us a common solution for all the University's reporting needs that was easy to use by all the staff ”

Keith Dancey, Development Manager at Bath Spa

IcanCiT provided the solution

In 2004 IcanCiT was selected as the software solution that could handle the needs of Bath Spa University. Implementation was a straightforward process and IcanCiT was quickly rolled out across the University departments.

Users of all abilities and with a wide range of reporting needs make use of IcanCiT in the University, from managers needing full reporting facilities to departmental assistants extracting student names for mailing lists.

Business Profile

Bath Spa University offers pre-degree study, undergraduate degrees and postgraduate degrees in a wide range of programmes. With around 5,500 students the University is small enough for students to benefit from a supportive and friendly study environment, but large enough to provide excellent facilities and resources. Its campuses are superb.

Business Challenge

As the University was becoming more and more popular, Bath Spa needed to invest in easy to use, reliable software that would provide a consistent view of the data available. At the time, there were no standard reports available and so users were forced to run and create their own reports to extract essentially, the same data - this was time consuming and brought about errors.

Solution

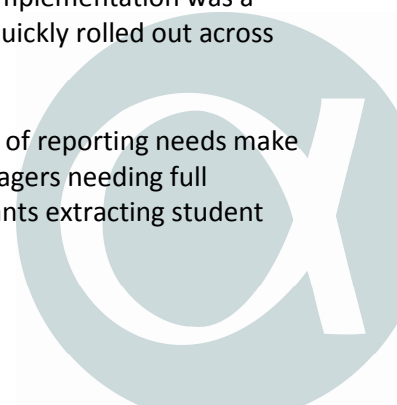
IcanCiT Business Reporting

Benefits

- Staff have the access to the information they need, when they need it.
- Ability to extract relevant data quickly.
- Export to Excel with ease.



Newton Park Campus, Bath Spa University



IcanCiT Success Story | Bath Spa University



Flexible and consistent reporting

Prior to IcanCiT there were no standard reports available. Different users were creating and running reports to extract the same information, this was time consuming and prone to errors.

IcanCiT provided Bath Spa with a centralised reporting system and control of their reporting, giving users access data and reports when they need it.

The University has key requirements relating to student enrolment; withdrawals and admissions. Each academic year admissions are monitored to ensure courses aren't over subscribed and to see the most popular and least popular course subjects. In a proactive move, any withdrawals are also monitored so that the University can determine any trends in the number of students leaving and why; is it the tutor? The course content? Can something be changed to reduce the number of withdrawals?

This information is key for the University to continue to attract new students and to grow and expand in the right directions. The introduction of IcanCiT has considerably reduced the time it takes to process and distribute this information to the people that actually need it.

“I have just had the IcanCiT program installed. I have only scratched the surface but it has the potential to make life so much easier for us all. In essence, it is able to organise all the SITS data - applicants and students - and allow you to extract useful data for recruitment, annual reports etc. Data can be exported to Excel with ease.

Highly recommended!

IcanCiT User, Bath Spa University

The **IcanCiT Push Scheduler** is what enables Bath Spa to automatically run and distribute reports on a regular basis, such as the admissions and withdrawal reports.

The 'Widening Participation' at Bath Spa aims to encourage under represented groups to study at a higher education level.

IcanCiT reports enable staff to look at students characteristics like Home Address, Contact Address, Disability, Social Background, Ethnicity, Course, Route, Personal Tutor; simply show or hide the columns on reports you want to see.

Easily filter the information to get just the students you require and then simply export to Excel to create mailing lists. They are ideal for targeting specific groups of students both before and after they arrive at the University.

“Key IcanCiT reports can be set to run regularly and be delivered to the people that need the information, when they need it. Our admissions and withdrawal reports are run on a weekly basis so that when staff arrive on a Monday morning, the results of each report are ready and waiting in their inbox. Our reports are always accurate and never arrive late.”

Keith Dancey, Development Manager

Using IcanCiT to plan for the future

Bath Spa is a popular and expanding university. A programme of expansion is well underway, with a new Students' Union building, new refectory, improved library and IT facilities, and new teaching facilities in areas as diverse as performing arts and creative writing.

IcanCiT will develop and change with the University as it grows. New departments and facilities will generate new sets of reporting requirements which IcanCiT will be able to satisfy.

New standard IcanCiT reports are being produced every week, there is currently a repository of over 25 reports and staff are encouraged to contribute with ideas for new reports. IcanCiT is initially being used over the SITS database but in time the University hopes to incorporate other systems like Finance and Personnel.

If you would like more information about Answer Enterprise please contact us, we'd be very pleased to hear from you.

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