

# THE AWARDS 2020

## University of the Year

<b>Institution name</b>	The Open University
<b>Submission title or project name</b>	50 years of opening up education for all #OU50
<b>Nominee/key personnel</b>	
<b>URL</b>	<a href="http://50.open.ac.uk">50.open.ac.uk</a> and <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sr5hgy-2Flo&amp;feature=youtu.be">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sr5hgy-2Flo&amp;feature=youtu.be</a>
<b>Submission</b>	<p>2019 was a landmark year for The Open University. We marked our 50th Anniversary with a year-long campaign that celebrated our pioneering social mission to make education open to all.</p> <p>We delivered unique and creative initiatives and partnerships to widen participation, including partnering with Uber so drivers and their families can access free education; and innovative OpenSTEM Labs which allow students to explore the universe from their kitchen tables.</p> <p>New £50 million investment for FutureLearn and the continued development of our freely accessible OpenLearn platform will drive significant global growth in a time where flexible, accessible education is more important than ever.</p> <p>We also launched the 50th Anniversary Scholarships Fund, which helped us to achieve our five-year £50 million fundraising target by close of 2019. This, coupled with our continued UK-first fundraising initiatives, will ensure disadvantaged students, carers and disabled veterans can transform their lives through higher education.</p>