UNIVERSITY OF Southampton

The technology behind data.gov.uk – an online resource sharing raw information from the central government – was developed with the help of researchers from the University of Southampton (among them Sir Tim Berners-Lee). Now university is using the same technology to share its own information to help the life of staff, students and visitors.

Applications designed to exploit university data include the event calendar, which combines 73 different information feed to provide a comprehensive overview of campus activities. And there is an interactive map app that shows all teaching, leisure and catering facilities and displays real-time information on buses.

The Open Data site also incorporates information from other sources, such as Unistats, to give students access to course information including National Student Survey scores; for staff, it includes details on facilities and major items of equipment available for use in research.

Chris Cobb, chief operating officer and university secretary at the University of London and one of our judges, said that Southampton's development of open standards was going from strength to strength. "This innovation demonstrates a practical application for their web service protocols – a real case of "walking the talk" and leading by example. It's even more impressive that it's been adopted so widely on campus."