Lit Review Summary

The literature review looked at a selection of papers and journal extracts, with the Internet in Higher Education being of significance in offering the most suitable research. Extracts from substantial texts sourced from JISC, Unesco or others were also reviewed. Criteria for selection was the year published, with nothing older than 2007 (by reason of the exponential growth in use of technology since then, see Aims, Focus and Methods for more), as well as an orientation towards research around use of internet and web 2.0 applications, or social media, as these were perceived as most relevant to gaining an overall picture of the future digital landscape for any university. Other learning technology studies, for example use of interactive whiteboards, second life or uses of learning management systems were not included as these were perceived as largely web 1.0 or increasingly less popular technologies (this is evident in the number of papers available, as well as some content of papers reviewed).

Themes most commonly found in the literature were often of relevance to metropolitan universities by virtue of the nature of the student body present in a metropolitan university, i.e. being diverse, with numerous other commitments and requirements. There were 16 most common themes, these were then divided into Strategy types and Learning and Teaching types, with Assumptions summarised to conclude. The top 6 themes were then analysed (compared and contrasted) further using primary data established from the other sections of this research.

The Sixteen themes:

- INSTITUTION SUPPORT
- SOCIETAL CHANGES
- ICT SUPPORT (Provision)
- ELEARNING SUPPORT (Provision)
- SKILLS AND TRAINING (All aspects, Students & Staff)
- COST (All aspects)
- DEPENDENCIES (Infrastructure & Systems)
- COMPLIANCE
- DIGITAL DIVIDE (Inc Device Divides)
- PEDAGOGY / LEARNING DESIGN
- STUDENT CENTRED LEARNING
- LEARNING QUALITY
- CONVENIENCE / WORK LIFE BALANCE
- SHARED RESOURCES (All aspects)
- ACCREDITATION
- ASSUMPTIONS (idealism)

Top themes:

- INSTITUTION SUPPORT
- SOCIETAL CHANGES
- PEDAGOGY / LEARNING DESIGN
- STUDENT CENTRED LEARNING
- LEARNING QUALITY
- CONVENIENCE / WORK LIFE BALANCE